Monroe City Council Minutes
Regular Meeting of Council
January 8, 2018 – 6:30 p.m.
233 South Main Street, Monroe, Ohio

Pledge of Allegiance

Mayor Routson opened the regular meeting with the Pledge of Allegiance at 6:30 p.m.

Roll Call

The following members of Council were present: Dan Clark, Jason Frentzel, Keith Funk, Anna Hale, Todd Hickman, and Robert Routson.

Nomination and Vote for Mayor

Mr. Clark moved to appoint Robert Routson as Mayor; seconded by Mrs. Hale. Roll call vote: five ayes; one nay (Hickman). Motion carried.

Nomination and Vote for Vice Mayor

Mr. Frentzel moved to appoint Dan Clark as Vice Mayor; seconded by Mr. Hickman. Roll call vote: six ayes.

Approval of the Minutes

Mr. Clark moved to approve the Finance Committee and Council Minutes of December 19, 2017; seconded by Mr. Funk. Voice vote. Motion carried.

Visitors

None.

Committee Reports

None.

Old Business

None.

New Business

Emergency Resolution No. 01-2018. A Resolution authorizing the City Manager to enter into an agreement by and between the City of Monroe and KZF Design Inc. for professional architectural

services to determine the feasibility of utilizing 601 South Main Street, Monroe, Ohio, for the Department of Police and declaring an emergency.

Mr. Brock stated that this is to assess the structural integrity of the former IGA to determine a cost to be used as a police facility.

Mayor Routson questioned if it would be for lease or purchase and if the building was for sale. Mr. Brock advised it would be up to Council, but he would recommend purchasing the building as it is for sale.

Mr. Clark moved to suspend the rule requiring the reading of Emergency Resolution No. 01-2018 on two separate days, authorize its adoption on the first reading, and have it read by title only; seconded by Mrs. Hale. Voice vote. Motion carried.

The Clerk of Council read Emergency Resolution No. 01-2018 by title only.

Mr. Clark moved to adopt Emergency Resolution No. 01-2018; seconded by Mr. Hickman. Roll call vote: six ayes. Motion carried.

Emergency Resolution No. 02-2018. A Resolution authorizing the City Manager to enter into an agreement by and between the City of Monroe and The Kleingers Group for professional surveying and engineering services for the Butler Warren Road public roadway improvements and declaring an emergency.

Mr. Brock reported that as Park North developed, the bridge on Gateway Boulevard does not align with Butler Warren Road. He added that we do have opportunities for grants for this project.

Mr. Clark moved to suspend the rule requiring the reading of Emergency Resolution No. 02-2018 on two separate days, authorize its adoption on the first reading, and have it read by title only; seconded by Mr. Frentzel. Voice vote. Motion carried.

The Clerk of Council read Emergency Resolution No. 02-2018 by title only.

Mr. Clark moved to adopt Emergency Resolution No. 02-2018; seconded by Mr. Funk. Roll call vote: six ayes.

Emergency Resolution No. 03-2018. A Resolution directing the Director of Finance to request an advancement of taxes assessed and collected on behalf of the City of Monroe from the Auditors of Butler and Warren Counties and declaring an emergency.

Mr. Brock explained this allows us to receive the taxes from the Auditors when it is collected and not at a later date.

Mr. Clark moved to suspend the rule requiring the reading of Emergency Resolution No. 03-2018 on two separate days, authorize its adoption on the first reading, and have it read by title only; seconded by Mrs. Hale. Voice vote. Motion carried.

The Clerk of Council read Emergency Resolution No. 03-2018 by title only.

Mr. Clark moved to adopt Emergency Resolution No. 03-2018; seconded by Mr. Hickman. Roll call vote: six ayes.

Emergency Resolution No. 04-2018. A Resolution expressing Council's intent for the sale of personal property not needed for public use or is obsolete or unfit for the use for which it was acquired by internet auction and declaring an emergency

Mr. Brock advised this allows staff to sell property through internet auction; however, Council will still have to declare certain property valued over $1,000 to be declared as surplus.

Mr. Clark moved to suspend the rule requiring the reading of Emergency Resolution No. 04-2018 on two separate days, authorize its adoption on the first reading, and have it read by title only; seconded by Mr. Frentzel. Voice vote.

The Clerk of Council read Emergency Resolution No. 04-2018 by title only.

Mr. Clark moved to adopt Emergency Resolution No. 04-2018; seconded by Mr. Hickman. Roll call vote: six ayes. Motion carried.

Emergency Resolution No. 05-2018. A Resolution authorizing and directing the City Manager or designee to apply for any and all grant funds; provided that any grant funds, including matching funds, must specifically be approved by Council, and declaring an emergency.

Mr. Brock noted that this is an annual piece of legislation that allows staff to apply for any and all grants.

Mr. Clark moved to suspend the rule requiring the reading of Emergency Resolution No. 05-2018 on two separate days, authorize its adoption on the first reading, and have it read by title only; seconded by Mr. Funk. Voice vote. Motion carried.

The Clerk of Council read Emergency Resolution No. 05-2018 by title only.

Mr. Clark moved to adopt Emergency Resolution No. 05-2018; seconded by Mrs. Hale. Roll call vote: six ayes. Motion carried.

Emergency Resolution No. 06-2018. A Resolution accepting the recommendation of the Butler County Tax Incentive Review Council of November 8, 2017, and declaring an emergency.

Mr. Brock reported that the Butler County Tax Incentive Review Council reviewed all of our TIFs, RIDs, and CRAs and found them in compliance.

Mr. Clark moved to suspend the rule requiring the reading of Emergency Resolution No. 06-2018 on two separate days, authorize its adoption on the first reading, and have it read by title only; seconded by Mr. Hickman. Voice vote. Motion carried.

The Clerk of Council read Emergency Resolution No. 06-2018 by title only.

Mr. Clark moved to adopt Emergency Resolution No. 06-2018; seconded by Mr. Frentzel. Roll call vote: six ayes. Motion carried.

Consideration of Motion appointing a member of Council to serve on the Planning Commission.

Mr. Clark moved to appoint Robert Routson to serve on the Planning Commission; seconded by Mrs. Hale. Voice vote. Motion carried.

Mr. Routson announced that Mr. Funk has expressed an interest to serve on the CIC.

Mr. Clark moved to appoint Keith Funk to serve on the CIC; seconded by Mrs. Hale. Voice vote. Motion carried.

Administrative Reports

Mr. Hickman stated that he requested records for the Amazon business coming to Monroe. He received most of it and some is being held back. One of the reasons it was requested is when we were informed Amazon was coming to Monroe, several members of the community and the newspaper was already aware of it but, Council did not know about it. One of the things that I have always worked on is transparency. Now you have information that for some reason Council cannot have, but yet it can go from downstairs to Angie and Phil that cannot come to Council. There have been other times I have asked for things that I have not received. He questioned why Council is not getting the information when we ask for it. Mr. Hickman wanted to make a motion to have Phil release that information to Council.

Mr. Clark asked for additional background on what has taken place. Mr. Hickman explained he requested the information from and then she gave it to Phil and he was supposed to look at it, which has been a few months now. Mr. Hickman noted that he reads things in the newspaper that should have been told to us or have someone has asked him about it.

Mr. Funk's understanding is that the organization went to the newspaper and not the City. Mr. Hickman advised that they worked on this for 13 months and Council was not told and they were debating when to tell us. They should have told us first. We go to executive session on these types of things and they could have taken us back in executive session and let us know it was a possibility.

Mayor Routson stated that sometimes when a company comes in they will deal with our staff and their recommendation is you do not share this information with anyone until we make a decision. Amazon didn't tell staff that they were coming here before they told the newspaper. He requested any information Mr. Hickman had that shows it is untrue. Mr. Hickman advised that it is untrue

and is reflected in the emails. Angie is going to send all of the emails that have already been released to all members of Council.

Mr. Clark asked what is being held back and why.

Mr. Callahan's understanding is that it was a voluminous records request and most of the information has been released. There are certain documents in question as to whether they are public documents to be covered under a public records request. Mr. Callahan advised he has an appointment with the Clerk at 3:45 tomorrow to review these documents. There may be documents that could be covered under attorney-client privilege or trade secrets. He pointed out he is not trying to make excuses for why it has taken so long, but, there has been substantial compliance. If those documents are not public documents my recommendation to the Clerk is if Mr. Hickman wants to see those documents and we could go into executive session and share with all of Council. If Council wants to see what the Clerk has provided to Mr. Hickman she can send to all of Council. There are documents that I will be reviewing. If it is covered by attorney-client privilege Council, being the client, has a right to see those. He anticipates making a decision by the end of the week. Mr. Callahan recommended that if you are going to talk about any documents that will need to be discussed into executive session it would be the first meeting in February as he will not be present at the next meeting.

Mr. Hickman stated that there has been other times he has asked for things and never received it and just gave up. Council should be able to see and know what is going on in this City. Not through Ed Richter or the Dayton Daily News. We were elected by the people, we are supposed to represent them, and we need to know what is going on.

Mr. Frentzel and Mr. Clark agreed that we don't get the full story or there are things we do not know anything about. Mr. Clark understood Mr. Hickman's frustration.

Mayor Routson announced that we have an opening on the Audit Committee and Joe Grace expressed an interest in filling this vacancy.

Mr. Clark moved to appoint Joe Grace to the Audit Committee; seconded by Mr. Hickman. Voice vote. Motion carried.

Adjournment

Mr. Clark moved to adjourn the regular session of Council; seconded by Mrs. Hale. Voice vote. Motion carried.

The regular session of Council adjourned at 7:11 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,

Angela S. Wasson, CMC
Clerk of Council