

**Monroe Council Minutes
Regular Meeting of Council
February 27, 2018 – 6:30 p.m.
233 South Main Street, Monroe, Ohio**

Pledge of Allegiance

Mayor Routson opened the regular meeting of Council 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, Christina McElfresh, and Robert Routson.

Staff members present: City Manager/City Engineer William J. Brock
Assistant Finance Director Deborah Armitage
Director of Public Works Daniel J. Arthur
Chief of Police Robert Buchanan
Fire Chief John P. Centers
Director of Development Kevin Chesar
Assistant to the City Manager/Clerk of Council Angela S. Wasson

Approval of the Minutes

Mr. Clark moved to approve the Council Minutes of February 13, 2018, and the Public Safety Committee Minutes of February 20, 2018; seconded by Mr. Funk. Voice vote. Motion carried.

Visitors

Chief Buchanan presented Officer Doug Leist with the Medal of Merit.

Committee Reports

None.

Old Business

None.

New Business

Emergency Resolution No. 13-2018. A Resolution authorizing the City Manager to enter into a contract by and between the City of Monroe and R. B. Jergens for the construction of Jerry Couch Boulevard and declaring an emergency.

Mr. Brock stated that this is an emergency so that the construction of Jerry Couch Boulevard can be completed when Butler Tech opens on that site.

Mr. Clark moved to suspend the rule requiring the reading of Emergency Resolution No. 13-2018 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. 13-2018 by title only.

Mr. Clark moved to adopt Emergency Resolution No. 13-2018; seconded by Mrs. Hale. Roll call vote: seven ayes. Motion carried.

Ordinance No. 2018-03. An Ordinance amending and supplementing Exhibit “1” of Ordinance No. 2017-30 to establish the position and salary range of Police Captain; increase the permitted number of positions for Police Lieutenant to 3, Patrol Officer to 26, Dispatcher II to 8, Community Services Specialist to 3, Crew Leader Street Department to 4, and Operator/Laborer II to 15; eliminate the position of Receptionist; and change the position of City Engineer to Assistant Public Works Director/City Engineer.

Mr. Brock reported that this is to add new employees to the Police Department, Public Works Department, and Administration.

Mr. Clark moved to consider this the first reading of Ordinance No. 2018-03 and have it read by title only; seconded by Mr. Funk. Voice vote. Motion carried.

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

Mr. Clark moved to approve the first reading of Ordinance No. 2018-03; seconded by Mrs. Hale. Roll call vote: seven ayes. Motion carried.

Emergency Ordinance No. 2018-04. An Ordinance amending and supplementing Chapter 887 of the Codified Ordinances of the City of Monroe to change the title of Tax Commissioner to Tax Administrator in certain sections, adopt Sections 718.80 through 718.95 of the Ohio Revised Code, and declaring an emergency.

Mr. Brock advised these are updates to the tax code following the lawsuit related to House Bill 49. Since the action taken in court last week it was recommended that we make these changes.

Mr. Clark moved to suspend the rule requiring the reading of Emergency Ordinance No. 2018-04 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 Ordinance No. 2018-04 by title only.

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

Administrative Reports

Mr. Brock informed Council that he received a call from the Superintendent of the Monroe Local School District requesting that the City consider adding an additional School Resource Officer.

Mr. Clark and Mr. Funk felt that it was a good idea as we should do everything we can to increase the safety of the students.

Mayor Routson and Mr. Hickman wanted to make sure it was a good fit financially for the City to do this. Mr. Hickman asked Chief Buchanan if there are schools that hire outside contractors for security. Chief Buchanan replied that it is not an uncommon thing. Mayor Routson advised that in Butler County retired officers are utilized in different schools. Mr. Hickman thought there were other options that may accomplish this without hiring an additional officer. Mr. Clark understood that the benefit of having an additional officer as a School Resource Officer is that they would be on the same radio frequency and the same tactical plan.

Mr. Brock confirmed Mr. Funk's understanding that an additional School Resource Officer would be a shared expense.

Mr. Hickman would like to the school to look at all options and agreed that something needs to be done because there are too many buildings for one School Resource Officer to take care of.

Mr. Brock stated that Chief Buchanan will put together different options and figures for presentation to the Committee.

Mr. Brock stated that the Warren County Chamber Alliance breakfast is coming up if members of Council are interested in attending.

Mayor Routson referred to an email from someone about flooding on Garver Road. Mayor Routson noted that this property is located directly in the flood plain and Public Works is currently looking at the situation to see if they can assist.

Adjournment

Mr. Clark moved to adjourn; seconded by Mrs. Hale. Voice vote. Motion carried.

The regular meeting of Council adjourned at 6:54 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,

Angela S. Wasson, CMC
Clerk of Council