CITY OF MONROE OHIO

Monroe Council Agenda
Regular Meeting of Council
February 25, 2025 – 6:30 PM
233 South Main Street, Monroe, Ohio

Pledge of Allegiance

Roll Call

Approval of the Minutes

Council Minutes of February 11, 2025

Visitors

Committee Reports

Public Works Committee

Finance Committee

Administrative Liaison Committee

Technology Committee

Public Involvement Committee

Public Safety Committee

Old Business

Ordinance No. 2025-02. An Ordinance amending and supplementing Sections 286.08 and 286.09 of the Codified Ordinances to change the planning, zoning, and building permit fees. (Second Reading)

New Business

Resolution No. 16-2025. A Resolution authorizing the City Manager to enter into a professional services agreement by and between the City of Monroe and Fishbeck Engineering to provide professional floodplain management services.

Sponsor: Gary Morton

Strategic Priority: Well Managed Services and Infrastructure

Background: This agreement establishes a contract between the City of Monroe and Fishbeck Engineering for professional floodplain management services, set to begin March 1, 2025. The purpose is to ensure our city maintains compliance with FEMA requirements and the National Flood Insurance Program (NFIP).
Key aspects of the agreement include:
The scope of services covers four main areas:

1. Permit review and development - Fishbeck will review all development permits in flood hazard areas within 10 business days
2. Administration and coordination - They will serve as our designated floodplain manager and coordinate with state/federal agencies
3. Technical services - Including flood map interpretation and processing map changes
4. Public assistance - Providing technical guidance to property owners and developers

The financial terms are structured as follows:

- An annual administrative allowance of $12,000, billed monthly (max $1,000 per month)
- Additional review services are billed separately at hourly rates
- The consultant bears all costs for required certifications and training

Important protections for the city include:

- Required insurance coverage ($1M professional liability, $2M general liability)
- Indemnification provisions protecting the city from third-party claims
- The ability to terminate at 30 days notice
- All services must be performed by qualified personnel with appropriate certifications

The agreement is for a 12-month term ending February 28, 2026. This arrangement allows us to maintain professional floodplain management services without having to employ a full-time specialist, while ensuring we meet all federal and state requirements for flood management.

Resolution No. 17-2025. A Resolution of the City Council of the City of Monroe, Ohio declaring support for the preservation of the federal tax exemption of municipal bonds.

Sponsor: Jake Burton

Strategic Priority: Good Governance

Background: The Ohio Municipal League (OML) issued a Federal Call to Action on February 12, 2025 titled "Protecting the Tax-Exempt Status of Municipal Bonds", requesting municipalities to pass a resolution declaring support for the preservation of the federal tax-exempt status of municipal bonds. A copy of the member alert issued to Ohio municipalities is included for review.

Communities of all sizes, including the City of Monroe, rely on tax-exempt municipal bonds as a critical tool to finance infrastructure projects and essential public services. These bonds help fund everything from municipal buildings to roads and utilities projects. These bonds are unique because the interest earned by investors are typically exempt from federal income taxes, and often from state and local taxes as well. This tax-exempt status makes bonds attractive to investors, allowing governments to borrow at lower interest rates. The savings on these lower interest rates are passed along to communities, allowing local governments to stretch their dollars further when investing in long-term projects that improve quality of life, spur economic growth, and build stronger communities. The National League of Cities (NLC) anticipates that tax-exempt municipal bonds may be at risk as Congress is expected to focus on sunsetting tax provisions. NLC recently collaborated with the Government Finance Officers Association (GFOA) to launch the #BuiltByBonds campaign to undeniably demonstrate the importance of tax-exempt municipal bonds in every congressional district nationwide. A document created by NLC and GFOA titled "Understanding Financing Options Used for Public Infrastructure" has been included for review.

Passage of this legislation will declare the city's support for the preservation of the federal tax-exempt status of municipal bonds.

Administrative Reports

63 Corridor Safety Study Discussion

Executive Session - to consider the purchase and/or sale of property, employment, and compensation of a public employee and public officials.

Adjournment