

**MINUTES OF A REGULAR MEETING OF MCDONALD BOROUGH COUNCIL
HELD ON JULY 1, 2024**

Council President Tom Rockwell called the meeting to order at 7:00 p.m. Members answering roll call were Ray Miller, Amber Wasko, Kirk Inskipt, Mike Bish, Jodi Robertson, and Tom Rockwell. Member Tom McQuillan was unavoidably absent. Others in attendance were Mayor David Cooper, Police Chief Dennis Ahlborn, Kim Lauff, Dale Csonka, Celestine Braxton, Kathy Berry, Becky Price, Solicitor John Hofrichter and Borough Manager Marie Maximovich.

Everyone joined the Council in the Pledge of Allegiance.

VISITORS

Kim Lauff stated that she was only observing.

Dale Csonka stated that the bridge is here and that he wanted to thank Tom McQuillan for removing all the planking.

Kathy Berry spoke about the possibility of offering LSA money to the municipality.

Celestine Braxton stated that she was observing.

Tom Rockwell stated that the meeting with the Army Corp was very productive.

Becky Price thanked the Borough for her 7 years of service as she is getting a new job.

Tris Neil of Johns Avenue introduced herself and stated that she spoke with the Manager about issues with her trash.

Mrs. Schultz stated that she got the letter stating that Bennett Way was being closed.

Robert Schultz of Johns Avenue asked if the residents could fix Bennett Way themselves. The council said no due to liability issues.

Discussion held regarding Bennett Way.

Matt Cochran stated that he was observing.

CHANGES TO THE AGENDA: NONE

MINUTES: The minutes of the June 3, 2024, regular meeting of Council were presented for approval. Motion by Ray Miller seconded by Amber Wasko and carried unanimously to accept the minutes of June 3, 2024, as written.

Tom Rockwell closed the visitor section.

COMMITTEE REPORTS

PUBLIC SAFETY/CODE ENFORCEMENT: Mike Bish stated that a Letter of Intent has been signed and sent to DCED regarding the police regionalization.

Mike Bish stated that Resolution 06-24 is to appoint two members of the Borough to the steering committee. Mr. Rockwell stated that Mayor Cooper and Mike Bish, with Jodi Robertson being the alternate, are the two officially appointed members to the steering committee. Motion by Mike Bish seconded by Amber Wasko and carried unanimously to pass resolution 06-24.

Mike Bish stated that the Borough sent a letter to Robinson Township wanting to discuss a new police contract proposal. Mr. Bish stated that a meeting was held with Robinson Township and that they will discuss this at their next meeting on Monday, July 8th.

Mike Bish stated that the Borough would like to hire a new part-time officer. Motion by Mike Bish seconded by Jodi Robertson and carried unanimously to hire part-time officer Kylee Cipolla. Motion by Mike Bish seconded by Jodi Robertson and carried unanimously to pass Resolution 05-24 giving Kylee Cipolla the authority to enforce the laws in all the Borough contracted municipalities.

Mayor Cooper gave the oath of office to Officer Cipolla.

Celestine Braxton gave the Council a synopsis of the Army Corp of Engineers meeting that was held at the Borough building on 6/27/24. Mayor Cooper stated that this was a very productive meeting. Tom Rockwell stated that federal money is available for these flood studies.

Mike Bish reported that there were two letters of resignation given to Chief Ahlborn.

Motion by Mike Bish seconded by Jodi Robertson and carried unanimously to accept the resignation of part time officer Bryce Graham.

Motion by Mike Bish seconded by Kirk Inskipt and carried unanimously to accept the resignation of Rebecca Price.

Mike Bish stated that an executive session has been requested at the end of this meeting to discuss a legal and personnel matter.

MAYOR: David Cooper gave the Mayors Report for June.

STREETS: Kirk Inskipt gave the street report for June. Mr. Inskipt stated that Grant and Washington Avenue have been paved. Mr. Inskipt stated that the catch basin has been backfilled on Station because there is no pipe. Mr. Inskipt stated that he would like to have Bennett Way paved when the other alley is done but now Bennett Way is closed.

PARKS AND RECREATION: Amber Wasko stated that the youth group from church re-spread the mulch at the new playground and planted flowers in the paid parking lot on Barr Street. Ms. Wasko stated that she donated some of the flowers and Renee Cook did as well.

Amber Wasko reported that free yoga in the park is scheduled for July 20th.

Amber Wasko stated that there are a few parents who are trying to take the Fort Cherry youth softball name from the McDonald Athletic Association and that they are trying to become their own separate organization.

Amber Wasko stated that one of the users of the fields is looking for help from the Borough because other teams are using his equipment. Amber will call the baseball team that is using his stuff and ask them to please stop.

FINANCE: Jodi Robertson gave the Profit and Loss for June. Jodi Robertson gave the finance report for June.

BILLS: The bills were presented for payment. Motion by Jodi Robertson seconded by Mike Bish and carried unanimously to approve payment of the bills as presented. The bills were as follows:

GENERAL FUND: CHECKS THROUGH	TOTAL
LIQUID FUELS: CHECKS THROUGH	TOTAL
GENERAL FUND EFT:	TOTAL

ADMINISTRATION & PERSONNEL: Ray Miller stated that the committee of Himself, Kirk, Marie and Tom McQuillan interviewed two people for the street department position. Motion by Ray Miller seconded by Kirk Inskipt and carried unanimously to hire George Beck as a full-time street department employee in the amount of \$15.00 per hour. Motion by Ray Miller seconded by Kirk Inskipt and carried unanimously to hire Blake Ward as the part time seasonal worker in the amount of \$12.00 per hour. Both workers are to be hired effectively June 12, 2024. Mr. Miller stated that all is working out well.

Amber Wasko asked if there were any service projects needed the last week in July. David will get with Amber regarding this.

COMMUNITY DEVELOPMENT/COMMUNICATIONS: The Manager spoke about the street markers in town. If anyone wants to paint them they can.

UNFINISHED BUSINESS: Council is tabling the UCC Rental property discussion until August.

NEW BUSINESS: Mike Bish stated that there is a class in Mount Pleasant on how to obtain a gun carry permit in Washington County.

The chair called for an executive session at 7:55 p.m. to discuss personnel hiring matters.

The meeting adjourned at 8:40 p.m. Motion by Tom McQuillan and carried.

Thomas Rockwell, Council President

Marie Maximovich, Borough Manager
Secretary-Treasurer