

**MINUTES OF A REGULAR MEETING OF MCDONALD BOROUGH COUNCIL
HELD ON SEPTEMBER 9, 2024**

Council President Tom Rockwell called the meeting to order at 7:00 p.m. Members answering roll call were Tom McQuillan, Amber Wasko, Mike Bish, and Tom Rockwell. Members Ray Miller, Kirk Inskipt and Jodi Robertson were unavoidably absent. Others in attendance were Mayor David Cooper, Police Chief Dennis Ahlborn, Kim Lauff, Dale Csonka, Joe Wilson, Sean Herron, Celestine Braxton, Morris and Sharon DeVos, Pam Luellen, Matt Cochran, Bill Ball, Sean Potts, online, Philip Boggs, 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.

Sean Herron stated that he is having a few problems with his driveway and Mario DeBlasio. Tom Rockwell stated that this is civil matter and that there is not much Council can do.

Phil Boggs, The Fire Chief asked about tax credits for volunteer fire fighters and a retention program that he wants to put into place. Discussion held. Council will discuss this at budget time.

Morris Devos asked about a motorcycle run benefit on 9/21/24 and said he heard that Barr Street is being shut down.

Pam Luellen voiced her concerns about the event as well.

Mayor Cooper addressed this event. Mayor Cooper stated that he is going to handle this matter.

Matt Cochran thanked Council and public works for the newly constructed storm sewer on North Street. Matt Cochran asked the mayor to contact him before planting a new Christmas tree.

Dale Csonka stated that they are continuing to work on the bridge that is going to be placed in Heritage Park. Tom Rockwell stated that they are still waiting for a response from the DEP.

Bill Ball and Sean Potts who own 101 East Lincoln Avenue reported some concerns that they have for the constant changing requirements from the building code officer Dennis Smith. Tom Rockwell stated that the owners should file an appeal application with the department of labor and industry.

Joe Wilson stated that Bennett Way needs a road bond from Wagner Development.

Philip Boggs stated that there will fire training in Heritage Park on October 9th.

Tom Rockwell stated that the visitor section of the meeting is closed.

CHANGES TO THE AGENDA: NONE

MINUTES: The minutes of the August 5, 2024, regular meeting of Council were presented for approval. Motion by Tom McQuillan seconded by Mike Bish and carried unanimously to accept the minutes of August 5, as written.

COMMITTEE REPORTS

PUBLIC SAFETY/CODE ENFORCEMENT: Mike Bish reported that they are still working on the police regionalization and an executive session has been called to discuss a few personal matters.

MAYOR: David Cooper gave the Mayors Report for August.

STREETS: Mike Bish gave the street report for August.

PARKS AND RECREATION: Amber Wasko reported that fall ball started last week and that two of the three fields will be used in the park as well as Hughey Field. Ms. Wasko reported that there are a few donations coming in from ball teams.

Amber Wasko stated that the Halloween Parade is going to be at 6 p.m. this year and trick or treating will be from 6:30 – 8:30 on October 31, 2024. Motion by Amber Wasko seconded by Tom McQuillan and carried unanimously to have the Halloween parade at 6:00 pm and Trick or treating from 6:30 – 8:30 on Halloween night October 31. 2024.

Amber Wasko stated that Council received the 2024 Tennis program report.

FINANCE: The Manager gave the Profit and Loss and finance report for August.

The Manager stated that the MMO's for each pension plan need to be accepted.

Motion by Mike Bish seconded by Tom McQuillan and carried unanimously to accept the 2025 Police Pension MMO in the amount of \$55,306.00.

Motion by Mike Bish seconded by Amber Wasko and carried unanimously to accept the 2024 Non-Uniform Pension MMO in the amount of \$7,200.

Discussion regarding pension buy back of part time hours for full time police officers. Dennis Ahlborn is asking if the study can be done. Motion by Mike Bish seconded by Amber Wasko and carried unanimously to authorize a study to be done.

BILLS: The bills were presented for payment. Motion by Mike Bish seconded by Tom McQuillan 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: Tom Rockwell stated that employee reviews are going to be soon.

The Manager stated that the ad for Administrative Assistant is going to be advertised on Facebook again.

COMMUNITY DEVELOPMENT/COMMUNICATIONS: Tom McQuillan asked if he can give a \$50.00 gift card to the winner of the best painted street marker. Motion by Tom McQuillan seconded by Mike Bish and carried unanimously to purchase a \$50.00 giant eagle gift card. Tom Rockwell would like to keep this going with a round two of best painted old street markers.

Discussion held regarding possible flooding on Barr Street due to a newly constructed parking lot by a business owner.

UNFINISHED BUSINESS:

NEW BUSINESS:

The Chair called for an executive session at 8:00 pm to discuss a personnel matter.

The meeting reconvened at 8:16 p.m. Motion by Mike Bish seconded by Amber Wasko and carried unanimously to offer Robinson Township a 6th month to year service contract prorated by month in the amount of \$250,000 for services and \$15,000 for the purchase of a police vehicle with fine money being split 50/50.

The meeting adjourned at 8:30 p.m. Motion by Tom McQuillan and carried.

Thomas Rockwell, Council President

Marie Maximovich, Borough Manager
Secretary-Treasurer

