

MINUTES OF A REGULAR MEETING OF MCDONALD BOROUGH COUNCIL HELD ON MAY 5, 2025

Council President Tom Rockwell called the meeting to order at 7:00 p.m. Members answering roll call were Tom McQuillan, Ray Miller, Amber Wasko, Kirk Inskipt, Mike Bish, Jodi Robertson and Tom Rockwell. Others in attendance were Kim Lauff, Dale Csonka, Philip Boggs, Maura Boggs, Adriane Ware, Adrienne Frazier, Colin O'Haulon, Matt Cochran, Celestine Braxton, Ronald Catrain, Jr., Mayor David Cooper, Solicitor John Hofrichter and Borough Manager Marie Maximovich.

Everyone joined the Council in the Pledge of Allegiance.

VISITORS: Kim Lauff stated that the Sewage Authority got a grow grant to reline the terra cotta sewage pipe on 6th Street.

Dale Csonka, Adriane Ware, Maura Boggs, Colin O'Haulon, Adrienne Frazier, Matt Cochran stated that they were only observing.

Phil Boggs gave the fire department report for April. Phil Boggs stated that Robinson Twp. gave the fire department funding to purchase a new drone. Mr. Boggs stated that there are three more people in the fire department who are going to get their FAA license.

Ron Catrain, Jr., stated that the field at East End Park needs a new drainage system. The council is not able to provide funding at this time. Mayor Cooper stated that grant money is coming in the spring.

CHANGES TO THE AGENDA: NONE

MINUTES: The minutes of April 7, 2025, regular meeting of the Council were presented for approval. Motion by Tom McQuillan seconded by Ray Miller and carried unanimously to accept the minutes of April 7, 2025, as written.

COMMITTEE REPORTS

PUBLIC SAFETY/CODE ENFORCEMENT:

Mayor Cooper thanked Tim Motte for everything that he is doing for the police department.

Tom Rockwell stated that an executive session has been requested.

Tom Rockwell stated that the Council did not get the code enforcement report for April.

MAYOR: Mayor Cooper gave the Mayors Report for April.

STREETS: Kirk Inskipt gave the street report for April.

PARKS AND RECREATION: Amber Wasko stated that resolution 07-25 needs to be passed for the grant in East End Park. Motion by Amber Wasko, seconded by Mike Bish and carried unanimously to pass resolution 07-25 which authorizes Harshman CE Group to obtain a GTRP grant up to \$200,000 for East End Park.

Motion by Amber Wasko seconded by Tom McQuillan and carried unanimously to authorize Harshman to obtain this grant not to exceed a fee of \$1,000.00.

Amber Wasko stated that the Easter Egg Hunt was a big success.

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

Mrs. Robertson stated that currently the Borough is at a \$56,000.00 negative balance.

BILLS: The bills were presented for payment. Motion by Jodi Robertson seconded by Amber Wasko 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: An Executive Session was requested to discuss an employee personnel matter.

COMMUNITY DEVELOPMENT/COMMUNICATIONS: Thomas McQuillan asked about a new sign at Hughey field.

UNFINISHED BUSINESS: The Manager stated that Comcast is asking if the new franchise agreement is ready for approval. The council would like a little more time to read through the changes. This will be tabled until June.

Everyone thanked John Hofrichter for his great service as solicitor for the Borough and wished him well with retirement.

Discussion again regarding telephone poles in the Borough.

NEW BUSINESS: No Report.

CORRESPONDENCE: No Report.

The Chair called for an Executive Session at 7:45 pm to discuss legal and personnel issues.

The meeting was reconvened at 8:20 p.m.

Motion by Mike Bish seconded by Jodi Robertson and carried unanimously to terminate part time officer Brad Walker from McDonald Police Department.

Tom Rockwell stated a letter will be sent to Joe Wilson concerning negotiations through is attorney for the exact demands which he is asking from McDonald Borough.

Tom Rockwell asked for a roll call vote from the Council on who they wanted as the new Borough Solicitor either Gaiten, Turturice or Tucker Arensberg.

Tom McQuillan	Tucker, Arensberg
Ray Miller	Abstained
Amber Wasko	Tucker, Arensberg
Kirk Inskipt	Tucker, Arensberg
Mike Bish	Abstained
Jodi Robertson	Tucker, Arensberg
Tom Rockwell	Tucker, Arensberg

Motion by Amber Wasko seconded by Jodi Robertson and carried to hire Tucker, Arensberg as the new solicitor for the Borough of McDonald. Motion carried with Ray Miller casting a NO vote.

Tom McQuillan asked the Council to hire a full-time street department employee. Tom McQuillan made a motion to advertise for a new full-time street department employee. Tom Rockwell asked if this matter please be tabled to run figures and ask if the part-time employee wants the full time position. Tom McQuillan rescinded the motion. Council will run the numbers and see what Council can afford to give the current full-time officer a raise and hire another full-time time employee.

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

Thomas Rockwell, Council President

Marie Maximovich, Borough Manager/Secretary-Treasurer

