

Village of Misenheimer
Council Meeting - Community Building
Monday, January 13, 2020 6PM

Council Present: Michael “Frizbee” Herron, Mayor
Jeff Watson, Mayor Pro Tem
Micah Edquist, Finance Officer
Mike Burrage
Peter Edquist

Staff: Anita Blair, Administrator/Clerk
Erik McGinnis, Chief of Police
Guests: Wil Huneycutt, Auditor
Peter Ascutto, County Commissioner
Candidate

1. Call to Order: Mayor Herron called the meeting to order at 6:00 pm.

2. Moment of Silence: Mayor Herron requested that a moment of silence be observed.

3. Ethics Statement: Anita Blair read the Ethics Statement asking if any Council members present may have any potential conflict(s) of interest or any known or perceived conflict(s) of interest related to the meeting Agenda presented. None were noted.

4. Introduction of Visitors: Mayor Herron introduced Peter Ascutto, County Commissioner Candidate, and Wil Huneycutt, CPA and Village Auditor.

5. Approval 01/13/19 Agenda: Peter Edquist moved to approve the agenda as presented. Micah Edquist seconded the motion and it was approved by a 5/0 vote.

6. Approval of 12/09/19 Council Meeting Minutes: Mike Burrage moved to approve the 12/09/19 Council meeting minutes as presented. Jeff Watson seconded the motion and it was approved by a 5/0 vote.

7. Public Comment Period: Peter Ascutto informed Council that he was running for County Commissioner. He highlighted activities from his previous term in office. He stated that, if elected, he would like to try and locate funds to complete the sidewalk to Richfield and establish a parks and recreation grant fund to help municipalities with long term capital improvements since municipalities bear the cost of the parks and recreation, not the County.

Peter Ascutto left the meeting at 6:12 pm.

8. Audit Report Presentation & Acceptance – William R. Huneycutt, CPA, PLLC: Wil Huneycutt distributed copies of the FY 2018/2019 audit and reviewed for the Village Council. He reported an unmodified (clean) opinion meaning there were no material findings or misstatements. At the end of the fiscal year, unassigned fund balance for the General Fund was \$476,049, with a net increase of \$72,398. Combined ending fund balances were \$680,751 with \$184,400 of the total being restricted, or 27% of the total amount. He commented that net pension and total pension liability are balances accrued by actuaries related to the Local Government Employees’ Retirement System (LGERS) and the Law Enforcement Officer’s (LEO) Separation Allowance. These are potential future liabilities but not a liability that can actually be paid. Capital assets were \$488,979 at year end.

Micah Edquist moved to approve the FY 2018/2019 audit as presented. Mike Burrage seconded the motion and it was approved 5/0.

9. Review Unaudited Financial Status at 12/31/19: Micah Edquist reported the following reconciled bank balances at 12/31/19 as follows:

General Fund	\$484,201
Powell Bill Fund	\$101,550
Carolina Thread Trail	\$ 6,818 (Grant #2) Trail Acquisition Grant (Village, Richfield & New London)

10. Police Report – December, 2019: Chief McGinnis reported 103 traffic stops, 89 total charges, 18 warning citations and 1 arrest. There were 10 mutual aid requests from the Stanly County Sheriff’s Office and State Highway Patrol. There were 20 citations and 4 warnings written on Highway 49. The average speed was 74 mph with 85 mph being the highest and 70 mph being the lowest speed in a 55-mph zone. Totals for 2019 were 1,107 citations and 72 arrests.

11. Staff & Council Appointments: Peter Edquist moved to appoint Anita Blair as the North Carolina Department of Transportation/Rocky River Regional Planning Organization Technical Coordinating Committee (NCDOT/RRRPO TCC) representative and Erik McGinnis as the alternate, and Mayor Herron as the NCDOT/RRRPO Technical Action Committee (TAC) representative and Micah Edquist as the alternate. Micah Edquist seconded the motion and it was approved 5/0.

- **NCDOT/RRRPO TCC Representative (Staff)** - Anita Blair, Erik McGinnis-Alternate
- **NCDOT/RRRPO TAC (Elected Officials)** - Mayor Herron, Micah Edquist-Alternate

12. Planning Session – Capital Improvement Projects: Anita Blair reported updates from Lee Snuggs, RRRPO Director, on two proposed projects to be included in the State Transportation Improvement Plan (STIP). The projects are: 1) the sidewalk to Richfield and 2) a turning lane from Hwy 52 onto Merner Terrace at Pfeiffer University. These will be presented for a vote at the next RRRPO TCC meeting on January 14, 2020.

Regarding additional funding to help move projects along, Stuart Basham, Division 10 Planning Engineer with DOT, responded via email that additional funding will certainly help but he could not say how much it would advance the project. It would give it a slightly higher score and move it up the chain in terms of when it would be programmed in the STIP (assuming that it would make funding first.) The higher scoring projects are generally programmed first. Local funding is only effective when the project is literally sitting on the fence of staying in and being funded or falling out and not being funded. The formulas were intentionally set up so that local funding contributions would not make a huge impact in order to prevent municipalities from buying projects.

Upon an inquiry to Stanly County Manager, Andy Lucas, regarding the County running a sewer line from Pfeiffer University to Clearview Apartments, he stated that it was included in the Board’s 2019-2023 five-year capital plan. It was placed in year 5. The County Commissioners have an upcoming strategic planning session in February, 2020 for years 2020-2024. He said it could move up the list or completely drop out. Council members were encouraged to contact the County Commissioners.

Anita Blair reported that Thompson Environmental was contacted regarding the “Preliminary Soil and Site Evaluation” report from July 7, 2012 that reflected areas that would perk at Gladstone. Drawings of the proposed restrooms and facility from March, 2015 were given to Larry Thompson who prepared the report. Mr. Thompson expressed concern noting that the site is limited for septic and the flow rate can have a negative impact on what can or cannot be done with the property. When the study was done, there was no information regarding use of the property. He recommended that we evaluate what Gladstone will be used for and get a comparison from a similar facility to determine a flow rate and then perform a system layout on the property. We could also enlist an engineer who could help with flow adjustment based on water conserving fixtures or we may consider parking spaces as justification for a maximum capacity.

Council was presented with a list of projects that have been discussed over time. Each Council member prioritized the list and the individual lists were compiled to obtain an overall prioritization. The sidewalk projects were prioritized in the same manner.

The sidewalk from the Carolina Thread Trail head to the Post Office was the top priority in which Powell Bill funds could be utilized. More discussion will follow at the February meeting.

13. Other Business: No other business was noted.

14. Adjournment: The meeting adjourned at 8:13 pm.

Mayor Michael “Frizbee” Herron

Date

Anita Blair, Administrator/Clerk

Date