

**Village of Misenheimer**  
**Council Meeting - Community Building**  
**October 14, 2019**

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

**Staff:** Anita Blair, Administrator/Clerk  
Erik McGinnis, Police Chief

**Vistors:** Mike Riemann  
Lee Snuggs, RRRPO Director  
Scott Miller, NCDOT Corr Dev Eng

**Council Absent:** None

**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 welcomed Scott Miller, Lee Snuggs, and Mike Riemann.

**5. Approval 10/14/19 Agenda:** Peter Edquist moved to approve the agenda as presented. Mike Burrage seconded the motion and it was approved by a 5/0 vote.

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

**7. Public Comment Period:** No public comments were offered.

**8. Rocky River Regional Planning Organization (RRRPO) Project Updates –** Lee Snuggs, RRRPO Director and Scott Miller, NCDOT Divison 10 Corridor Development Engineer visited to gain an understanding of the needs of Misenheimer. They reported that the State Transportation Improvement Plan (STIP) deadline had been extended due to budgetary constraints. Projects are now due May 1, 2020. This allows more time to discuss the needs of each municipality and glean a better understanding of them in order to rank potential projects.

Focus for potential projects should be congestion, crashes, densities that have changed and pedestrian safety. Greater problems score best. Multiple pieces can be put together to create a project.

Areas of concern that were noted by Council were:

- 1) The “sidewalk to nowhere” that abruptly ends at the southernmost point of the Village is a safety concern for Pfeiffer University students walking to and from Richfield.
- 2) The angle at which Wesley Chapel Road and Highway 49 intersect is a safety concern. It is difficult for large trucks to make a southbound turn onto Hwy 49. The angle forces trucks to pull out into the lane of oncoming traffic and it also makes it difficult to judge distance and timing of the oncoming traffic. It is also difficult for large trucks to turn left onto Wesley Chapel while heading north on Hwy 49 due to the angle of the turn. There is also an elevation issue at the stop sign that makes it difficult to see if there is oncoming traffic on Highway 49 without pulling almost out onto Highway 49. The stop sign has been knocked down multiple times due to trucks trying to make the turn. Speeding is excessive in this area per documented Misenheimer police records which creates additional risk.

Lee Snuggs noted that projects can also fall into other pools of money, another being safety. Multiple pools of money can be used for one project. Although not required, scoring is also improved if additional money is supplemented, even a nominal amount. He also stated that sometimes all of the railroad slots are not used.

Mike Riemann reviewed that Misenheimer, Richfield, and New London were the joint recipients of a NCDOT Bicycle Pedestrian Grant Plan. The top priority of the plan is to complete the Falcon Trail. The completion of the "sidewalk to nowhere" ranked 3<sup>rd</sup> in the plan. He reported that he has been working with Norfolk Southern Railway Company (NSRC) and has now received permission from them to cross the railroad on Wesley Chapel Road as part of the Carolina Thread Trail project. He is also working with the NCDOT for a crossing on Hwy 49 at Richfield Park. These two projects are estimated to cost \$82,000-\$120,000 which are impediments to extending the Falcon Trail.

A future meeting with Mr. Snuggs and Mr. Miller will be scheduled to discuss Misenheimer projects further. Including Pfeiffer University and Gray Stone Day School in the discussion would give additional leverage to our requests per Mr. Snuggs.

Lee Snuggs and Scott Miller left at 6:47 pm

Mike Riemann reported that the NSRC estimated cost to cross the railway is \$57,000. This cost will cover track work between the rails and 2 feet beyond the outside edge of each rail, construction engineering, protective services (flagging the whole project) and accounting costs. The Village must extend the asphalt 13 feet off the rail with 0 degree fall. Mr. Riemann estimates the total cost to be around \$72,000. As a note, the Village has not yet received the bill from NSRC for the "Agreement for Preliminary Engineering Services approved 7/9/18 in the amount of \$12,492.

Mayor Herron stated that once the railroad crossing is complete, this can also be used for the sidewalk. Mr. Riemann noted there is no future of a sidewalk on Wesley Chapel unless pedestrians can cross the railroad tracks safely.

Mike Riemann left at 6:58 pm.

**9. Review Unaudited Financial Status at 09/30/19:** Micah Edquist reported the following reconciled bank balances at 09/30/19 as follows:

General Fund	\$495,243
Powell Bill Fund	\$ 93,293
Carolina Thread Trail	\$ 6,818 (Grant #2) Trail Acquisition Grant (Village, Richfield & New London)

Anita Blair noted that adjusting entries have not been made for FY 18/19; therefore, the FY 19/20 net general fund impact reported on the "Unaudited Est Budget Vs. Actual" for 3 months ending 9/30/19" was much less than reflected on the report. An additional section was added to the report to reflect a more accurate estimate of the "Net Unrestricted General Fund Impact" for Council which was \$-36,672.

**10. Health Insurance Renewal:** Anita Blair reported that the Village BCBS Health, Dental, and USABLE Life & AD&D insurance was again grandfathered this year. Health insurance increased .10%, dental increased 2.82% and there was no increase on the life insurance and AD&D insurance. The overall increase for all insurance is .33%.

**11. Police Report – September, 2019:** The police report reflected 93 traffic stops, 77 total charges, and 2 arrests during the month of September along with 16 written warnings and 7 mutual aid requests from the Stanly County Sheriff's Office and State Highway Patrol. Chief McGinnis presented data on July, August, and September speeding citations written on Highway 49. The average speed across the 3 months was 74 mph with 97 mph being the highest and 70 mph being the lowest speed in a 55 mph zone.

**12. Other Business:** Mayor Herron reported that the Gladstone sign has been installed. He suggested that we consider landscaping measures to take care of the backslash of mud on the Gladstone building. Grass, gravel and river rock were all discussed with Council leaning toward gravel/river rock.

Peter Edquist moved to have Anita Blair handle this project. Jeff Watson seconded the motion and it was approved 5/0. Micah Edquist requested permission to help, if needed.

**13. Adjournment:** The meeting adjourned at 7:16.

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Mayor Michael "Frizbee" Herron

Date

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Anita Blair, Administrator/Clerk

Date