

**Village of Misenheimer**  
**Council Meeting - Community Building**  
**Monday, November 8, 2021 6PM**

**Council Present:** Michael "Frizbee" Herron, Mayor  
Micah Edquist, Mayor Pro Tem  
Mike Burrage  
Jeff Watson  
Peter Edquist

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

**Visitors:** Peter Ascitutto, Stanly County  
Commissioner

**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 Ascitutto.

**5. Approval 11/8/21 Agenda:** Micah Edquist moved to approve the agenda as presented. Mike Burrage seconded the motion and it was approved by a 5/0 vote.

**6. Approval 10/11/21 Council Meeting Minutes:** Mike Burrage moved to approve the Regular Session Council Meeting Minutes as presented from the 10/11/21 Council Meeting. Jeff Watson seconded the motion and it was approved by a 5/0 vote.

**7. Public Comment Period:** Stanly County Commissioner, Peter Ascitutto, expressed appreciation for the Village application for the Stanly County Municipal Recreation Capital Matching Grant Project which was approved by the Stanly County Commissioners. He was encouraged that \$10,000 from the County was ultimately going to be part of a \$50,000 project directed toward the Wesley Chapel Railroad Crossing as part of the Carolina Thread Trail.

He also spoke about current COVID statistics in Stanly County and encouraged vaccinations.

Mr. Ascitutto left at 6:15 pm.

**8. Review Unaudited Financial Status at 10/31/21:** Micah Edquist reported the following reconciled bank balances at 10/31/21 as follows:

General Fund	\$731,459 (General Fund \$610,991 + ARPA \$120,468)
Powell Bill Fund	\$113,639
Carolina Thread Trail	\$ 12,939 (Grant #2) Trail Acquisition Grant (Village, Richfield & New London)

The Mayor and Finance Officer expressed development ideas of a park, a building purchase, and/or building leases. Finance Officer, Micah Edquist suggested that we collectively prepare for capital expenditures in the budget next fiscal year to strengthen our community.

**9. Portable Radio Financing:** Last month, Council approved the purchase of 6 portable radios in the amount of \$37,786.12 to be paid in 5 equal payments over 5 years. Anita Blair presented a spreadsheet detailing Motorola financing vs. local financing along with monthly payments vs. yearly payments. Micah Edquist recommended that we pay for the radios rather than financing in order to save \$2,638.54 over the life of the loan.

Micah Edquist moved to purchase the radios without financing. Jeff Watson seconded the motion and it was approved 5/0.

**10. Police Report – October, 2021:** Chief McGinnis reviewed the police report which reflected 51 traffic stops, 17 total charges, 34 warning citations and 1 arrest for the month of October, 2021. There were 6 mutual aid requests from the Stanly County Sheriff's Office and State Highway Patrol. Thirty-four written warning citations were issued.

Last month, Council met prospective limited-service officer Clyde Malone "Kip" Cupples. Chief McGinnis also reported the desire to transfer limited-service officer Danny Belcher to reserve officer, and former police officer Matt Flanagan to limited-service officer; however, Council did not formally vote on these.

Micah Edquist moved to approve the hiring of Kip Cupples as a limited-service officer, the transfer of limited-service officer Danny Belcher to reserve officer, and former police officer Matt Flanagan to limited-service officer. Peter Edquist seconded the motion and it was approved 5/0.

Chief McGinnis requested that Council consider allowing out of warranty vehicles to be repaired at shops other than a dealership, especially for smaller repairs that would allow cost savings.

Micah Edquist moved to allow the Police Chief to use discretion on places of repair for small vehicle repairs and routine service for the out of warranty vehicles. Jeff Watson seconded the motion and it was approved 5/0.

**11. Zoning Officer Replacement:** The Zoning Officer position is currently vacant due to officer Matt Flanagan's resignation from the Police Department. The Village Council asked Chief McGinnis about resuming the Zoning Officer position. Contracting zoning through the County was also discussed as an option.

Mike Burrage moved to contract with the County to handle Misenheimer's zoning. The motion was withdrawn in order to first find out the scope of work, cost, and to obtain feedback from other communities that contract with the County.

Chief McGinnis offered to answer zoning questions in the interim until a decision could be made next month.

**12. Decriminalization of Village Ordinances in accordance with Session Law 2021-138:** This year legislature removed the default criminal penalty and modified local governments' authority to enforce ordinances criminally. All of the Village ordinances were reviewed by Village Attorney, Mac McCarley, and an associate to determine if they impose a criminal penalty for violations. Three were identified. An "Ordinance Amending the Village of Misenheimer Subdivision Ordinance, Noise Ordinance and Flood Damage Prevention Ordinance to Comply with G.S. 160A-175" was presented.

Peter Edquist moved to approve the above ordinance as presented. Mike Burrage seconded the motion and it was approved 5/0.

**13. Gladstone – Updates:** Anita Blair reported that the North Carolina State Historic Preservation Office approved the Gladstone Academy Study List application in October, 2021. This was a preliminary assessment of the property's eligibility for the National Register of Historic Places. The committee determined that this property is potentially eligible for the National Register and warrants further study. The property has been added to the Study List of potential nominations to the National Register.

The application for Certification as Historic under the State Building Code was also approved. It is the responsibility of Stanly County building inspections authority to decide what, if any, code exceptions are appropriate given the special historic character of the property.

The next step is to prepare a formal National Register nomination document. This is a written research report prepared to National Register standards, which describes and evaluates the property and its history. This would require hiring a professional consultant to prepare the nomination materials.

Also presented was a “next steps” letter from David Maurer, President of Maurer Architecture, PA in Raleigh, NC, that graciously provided complimentary guidance on potential uses and considerations for the Gladstone property. This connection came as a result of the Study List application through the help of the State Historic Preservation Office.

Micah Edquist moved to get pricing from professional consultants to prepare the National Register nomination. Peter Edquist seconded the motion and it was approved 5/0.

**14. Speed Sign:** Anita Blair reported that the solar speed sign at the north end of the Village has not been recovered after its disappearance from the side of the road after it fell. The sign was insured and carries a \$1,000 deductible. Council instructed to file an insurance claim and to get replacement costs for the sign and installer for Council to review next month for potential replacement of the sign.

**15. Other Business:** Anita Blair reported that Mike Riemann inquired about using asphalt in place of the proposed sidewalk at the Wesley Chapel railroad crossing as part of the Carolina Thread Trail. This suggestion was in order to save money, primarily for flagging costs quoted by Norfolk Southern.

Council members inquired about how the walking path would be delineated from the road, how much it would actually save on flagging costs, and even whether this needed to be done. A decision was not made regarding asphalt versus concrete for the sidewalk.

**16. Adjournment:** The meeting adjourned at 7:46 pm.

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Mayor Michael “Frizbee” Herron

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Date

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Anita Blair, Administrator/Clerk

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Date