Village of Misenheimer Council Meeting - Community Building Monday, January 13, 2024 6PM

Council Present: Michael "Frizbee" Herron, Mayor Staff: Anita Blair, Administrator/Clerk

Jeff Watson

Phil Burdge, Police Captain

Jamie Hammill

Peter Edquist (arrived at 6:08 pm) Visitors: Dr. Scott Bullard, Pfeiffer University

Jon Byers (appointed at meeting) President

Joe Bahr, Pfeiffer University Facilities

Operations Director

1. Call to Order: Mayor Herron called the meeting to order at 6:01 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. No conflicts were noted.
- **4. Introduction of Visitors:** Mayor Herron introduced Pfeiffer University President, Dr. Scott Bullard, and Pfeiffer University Facilities Operations Director, Joe Bahr.
- **5. Oath of Office Newly Elected Council Member Jamie Hammill:** Anita Blair administered the Oath of Office to Jamie Hammill.
- **6. Approval of 01/13/25 Council Meeting Agenda:** Jeff Watson moved to approve the agenda as presented. Jamie Hammill seconded the motion and it was approved by a 3/0 vote.
- **7.** Approval of 12/09/24 Council Meeting Minutes Regular & Closed Session: Jamie Hammill moved to approve the 12/09/24 Regular & Closed Session Minutes as presented. Jeff Watson seconded the motion and it was approved by a 3/0 vote.
- **8. Public comment Period:** No public comments were heard.
- **9. Village Council Member Vacancy Appointment:** Mayor Herron reported that Micah Edquist resigned on 12/13/24. Jamie Hammill moved to appoint Jon Byers to fill the vacated seat on the Village Council. Jeff Watson seconded the motion and it was approved 3/0.

Peter Edquist arrived at 6:08 pm.

Anita Blair administered the Oath of Office to Jon Byers.

10. Merner Terrace Roundabout Update and Planning Board Recommendation: The Planning Board met on January 2, 2025. Their recommendation to the Village Council was to continue researching and proceed with the roundabout, adding a 4th leg to accommodate Judy Hash Lane, and to bring back future NCDOT recommendations as soon as possible.

NCDOT staked out the proposed area for the roundabout per the Planning Board's request.

Pfeiffer University President, Dr. Scott Bullard and Facilities Operations Director, Joe Bahr expressed concerns about the traffic circle being placed so close to the Chapel. They feared it would damage the aesthetics, and reduce the sacredness of the space, as well as introduce unwanted traffic noise into the Chapel. The plan would eliminate nearly all of the trees

around the Chapel, approximately 10. Another significant issue was that the proposal would block access to Judy Hash Lane, impacting about 250 students and faculty who use the road daily.

Council members expressed support for Pfeiffer University, emphasizing their desire to prioritize the University's best interests. They agreed that the Chapel should not be encroached upon and that access to Judy Hash Lane should remain open.

Jamie Hammill moved to re-engage the design team to revise the project plans with the intention of moving away from the Pfeiffer Chapel, further south on Hwy 52, and limiting encroachment on the Rose Garden, relocating existing overhead utilities, while preserving access and keeping open Judy Hash Lane, ultimately enhancing, and not detracting from the beauty, functionality, and graceful appearance of Pfeiffer University. Mayor Herron seconded the motion and it was approved 5/0.

Dr. Scott Bullard and Joe Bahr left at 6:57 pm.

11. Ordinance Amending the Village Charter to Adopt the Council-Manager Form of Government: Jamie Hammill moved to adopt the Ordinance Amending the Village Charter to Adopt the Council-Manager Form of Government. Jeff Watson seconded the motion and it was approved 5/0.

As a result of this action, the current Village Administrator, Anita Blair, will assume the role of Village Manager.

12. Elect Mayor Pro Tem: Jeff Watson moved to appoint Jamie Hammil as Mayor Pro Tem. Jon Byers seconded the motion and it was approved 5/0.

Anita Blair administered the Oath of Office to Jamie Hammill.

- **13.** Ratify the Actions of **12/09/24** Council Meeting to Appoint: Jamie Hammill moved to ratify the actions of the Village Council on **12/09/24** to appoint Anita Blair as Finance Officer, and Peter Edquist and Jeff Watson as Deputy Finance Officers. Jeff Watson seconded the motion and it was approved 5/0.
- **14. Review Unaudited Financial Status at 12/31/24**: Anita Blair reported the following reconciled bank balances at 12/31/24 as follows:

General Fund \$ 668,366 Powell Bill Fund \$ 18,148

The Council discussed scheduling an upcoming budget meeting and agreed to move the March 10th meeting to March 3rd to ensure all Council members could attend. The budget meeting will take place immediately following the regular Council meeting. Budget priorities will be briefly discussed during the February 10th meeting.

- **15. Police Report December 31, 2024:** Captain Phil Burdge reported 11 traffic stops, 8 warnings, 3 total charges, 1 death, 1 missing person, 3 alarms and 182 security checks.
- **16. Other Business:** No further business was discussed.
- **17. Adjournment:** The meeting adjourned at 7:26 pm.

Mayor Michael "Frizbee" Herron	Date	Anita Blair, Administrator/Clerk	Date