

Village of Misenheimer
Council Meeting - Community Building
Monday, February 10, 2025 6PM

Council Present: Michael “Frizbee” Herron, Mayor
Jeff Watson
Jamie Hammill
Peter Edquist (arrived at 6:20 pm)
Jon Byers

Staff: Anita Blair, Administrator/Clerk
Markus Lambert, Police Chief

Visitors: Joe Bahr, Pfeiffer University Facilities
Operations Director
Travis Preslar – NCDOT
Lee Snuggs – RRRPO Director

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. No conflicts were noted.

4. Introduction of Visitors: Mayor Herron introduced Pfeiffer University Facilities Operations Director, Joe Bahr and NCDOT Representative, Travis Preslar.

5. Approval of 02/10/25 Council Meeting Agenda: Jeff Watson moved to approve the agenda as presented. Jamie Hammill seconded the motion and it was approved by a 4/0 vote.

6. Approval of 01/13/25 Council Meeting Minutes: Jeff Watson moved to approve the 01/13/25 Council Meeting Minutes as presented. Jamies Hammill seconded the motion and it was approved by a 4/0 vote.

7. Public comment Period: No public comments were offered.

8. Roundabout Revision Discussion: A revision to the original roundabout plan was received from NCDOT. This revision moved the roundabout south to the vacant area in front of the Rose Garden Apartments.

Joe Bahr presented opposition on behalf of Pfeiffer University. He stated that the new plan brings traffic within 28 feet of the Rose Garden Apartments. This design takes up 1 ¼ acres of the 1 ½ acre lot which could be used for future expansion. It makes the entire land area in front of the apartments unusable and takes away the parking lot for the Rose Garden residents. Pfeiffer believes it would negatively impact student recruitment if this is the first sight prospective students encounter during their initial visit, as it is the least appealing area of the campus.

Council discussed other possible options with the ideal solution being a Gray Stone Day School exit on the back side of their campus. A roundabout further south at Holt Road, a right turning lane on Highway 52 N entering Merner Terrace and a right turning lane exiting Merner Terrance onto Highway 52 N were also suggested as possible alternate solutions.

Lee Snuggs reminded everyone that the sidewalk to Richfield would still qualify for the funds and encouraged everyone to think of other ways these funds could be used if a roundabout does not work.

The funding sources for the roundabout are the Carbon Reduction Program (CRP) and Congestion Mitigation and Air Quality (CMAQ). Significantly changing the project at this point would likely run into the sunset period before the project could be completed.

Peter Edquist arrived at this time, 6:20 pm.

Travis Preslar stated that turning lanes are often not a successful modification and that likely the funds could not be used for this, but he would investigate. He encouraged Council to decide about the roundabout and stated that it was not NCDOT's intent to force something that was not wanted.

The Village Council opposed approving anything that would be detrimental to Pfeiffer University.

Jon Byers made a motion against putting the roundabout at Merner Terrace. Jeff Watson seconded the motion and it was approved 5/0.

Jamie Hammill made a motion to ask NCDOT to seek alternative projects that remain within the scope of the current funding, including potential modifications or continuing conversations without completely closing the door on the current roundabout project, as well as evaluating the scope and possibility of using current funding for the completion of the sidewalk from the front of the chapel moving south to connect with the rest of the existing sidewalk and continuing the sidewalk to Richfield. Jon Byers seconded the motion and it was approved 5/0.

Chief Lambert was asked to speak with Helen Nance about their progress and funding for an exit on the back side of Gray Stone Day School.

9. Deputy Finance Officer Confirmation/Appointment: Jon Byers moved to nominate Mayor Herron as Deputy Finance Officer. Jeff Watson seconded the motion and it was approved 5/0.

Oath of Office: Anita Blair administered the Oath of Office to Mayor Herron as Deputy Finance Officer.

10. Review Unaudited Financial Status at 01/31/25 : Anita Blair reported the following reconciled bank balances at 01/31/25 as follows:

General Fund	\$ 675,689
Powell Bill Fund	\$ 18,186

FY 24/25 Budget Amendments: A budget amendment to increase sales tax reimbursement revenue for \$3,000 and increase clerk health insurance for \$3,000 was presented.

Jamie Hammill moved to amend the budget \$3000 to cover the health insurance and increase sales tax reimbursement revenue. Jeff Watson seconded the motion and it was approved 5/0.

Certificate of Deposit: Anita Blair proposed to move \$250,000 from the general fund into a CD for 4 months at an APY of 4.25%. Jon Byers moved to approve moving \$250,000 to a CD. Peter Edquist seconded the motion and it was approved 5/0.

Budget Focus/Priorities – The budget meeting will take place at the end of the next Council meeting on March 3, 2025.

11. Village Square Discussion: Council discussed possibly reducing or waiving the monthly license agreement and annual permit fees to attract food truck vendors. They also recommended getting a temporary sign to advertise for food truck vendors. Anita Blair was asked to contact the Village attorney to discuss the fees and amounts that were set. Council will make the adjustment next month.

12. Police Report – January 31, 2025: Chief Lambert reported 1 charge and 254 total calls which included 2 suspicious activities, 3 investigations, 1 traffic accident and 1 breaking and entering. The officers have been tasked with clearing six years of backlog evidence. Plans are to conduct quarterly staff meetings, monthly emails addressing different topics with the officers, and reviewing all policies for the North Carolina League of Municipalities risk review audit.

Jamie Hammill moved to amend the current accepted practice of only meeting and vetting candidates at the monthly council meeting, instead allow for ad hoc introductory meetings, if necessary, as determined at the discretion of the Manager and Police Chief, and to allow the Manager and Police Chief to proceed on hiring decisions. Jeff Watson seconded the motion and it was approved 5/0.

13. Village Council Meeting Schedule Changes – The following changes to the monthly meeting schedule were proposed:

Move March 10, 2025 meeting to March 3, 2025

Move July 14, 2025 meeting to July 21, 2025

Move December 8, 2025 meeting to December 15, 2025.

Jon Byers moved to approve the proposed meeting dates. Peter Edquist seconded the motion and it was approved 5/0.

14. Other Business: The Gladstone Academy nomination is scheduled for presentation to the NC National Registry Advisory Committee on 2/13/25. The information to watch online was presented to the Village Council. This committee determines if the nomination will be sent on to the National Registry Committee for approval or disapproval.

15. Adjournment: The meeting adjourned at 8:28 pm

Mayor Michael "Frizbee" Herron

Date

Anita Blair, Administrator/Clerk

Date