

COUNCIL MEETING

August 21, 2024

The Council met in regular session at 5:30 p.m. with Mayor Rick presiding.

Mr. Raddish asked everyone to join him in a moment of reflection for their own intentions. The Pledge of Allegiance to the Flag was recited by all.

The Council Meeting was held in the Council Chambers. The meeting was open to the public and was live-streamed on Facebook.

Roll Call: Council Members Present: Mr. Yoho, Mr. McDowall, Ms. Van Dike, Mr. Raddish, Mr. Tonsic, and Ms. Miller. Mr. Bauer was excused.

Others Present: Mayor Rick, Council Clerk Rachel Osborne, and Law Director Jason Dodson. Clerk-Treasurer Scott Varney and Village Engineer Matthew Glass were excused.

Motion by Mr. Raddish second by Ms. Van Dike for the approval of the agenda as presented. Vote. Unanimous ayes. Motion carried.

Motion by Mr. Raddish second by Ms. Miller to adopt the minutes from the August 7, 2024, Council meeting. Vote. Unanimous ayes. Motion carried.

COMMENTS FROM THE AUDIENCE ON PENDING LEGISLATION – No comments.

COMMITTEE REPORTS –

UTILITIES – Mr. Bauer was not present.

SAFETY – Mr. Yoho reported he has two pieces of legislation to read.

PARKS – Mr. McDowall has no report.

PLANNING AND ZONING – Ms. Miller has no report.

FINANCE/AUDIT – Ms. Van Dike reported she has one piece of legislation to read.

STREETS – Mr. Tonsic has no report.

Council President Mr. Raddish announced the August Work Session will be held next Wednesday, August 28, 2024, at 5:30 p.m. with all committees reporting.

OLD BUSINESS – None.

NEW BUSINESS –

Mr. Yoho presented Resolution 2024-56 sponsored by Safety Committee as follows:

A RESOLUTION AUTHORIZING THE MAYOR TO ACCEPT A GRANT AWARD IN THE AMOUNT OF \$42,675.00 FROM THE SUMMIT COUNTY SHERIFF'S OFFICE, AND DECLARING AN EMERGENCY.

Mr. Yoho made a motion to suspend the rules requiring three readings; Ms. Van Dike seconded the motion. Vote. Unanimous ayes. Motion carried.

A motion was made by Mr. Yoho to adopt Resolution 2024-56, a second was made by Mr. Tonsic.

Mayor Rick stated the Police Chief indicated this vehicle would be used by Sergeant Josef.

Mr. Yoho mentioned Sergeant Josef is the next officer for a new work vehicle and it would be utilized when he is called in for SWAT.

Vote. Unanimous ayes. Motion carried.

Mr. Yoho presented Resolution 2024-57 sponsored by Safety Committee as follows:

A RESOLUTION AUTHORIZING THE MAYOR TO ENTER INTO AN AGREEMENT WITH MONTROSE FORD TO PURCHASE A 2024 FORD F150 RESPONDER POLICE VEHICLE AT STATE-TERM CONTRACT PRICING WHICH WILL NOT EXCEED \$55,000.00, AND DECLARING AN EMERGENCY.

Mr. Yoho made a motion to suspend the rules requiring three readings; Ms. Miller seconded the motion. Vote. Unanimous ayes. Motion carried.

A motion was made by Mr. Yoho to adopt Resolution 2024-57, a second was made by Mr. Tonsic. Vote. Unanimous ayes. Motion carried.

Ms. Van Dike presented Ordinance 2024-58 sponsored by Mayor Rick as follows:

AN ORDINANCE AMENDING THE ANNUAL APPROPRIATIONS FOR THE CURRENT EXPENSES AND OTHER EXPENDITURES OF THE VILLAGE FOR THE FISCAL YEAR ENDING DECEMBER 31, 2024, AND DECLARING AN EMERGENCY.

Ms. Van Dike made a motion to suspend the rules requiring three readings; Mr. McDowall seconded the motion. Vote. Unanimous ayes. Motion carried.

A motion was made by Ms. Van Dike to adopt Ordinance 2024-58, a second was made by Mr. McDowall. Vote. Unanimous ayes. Motion carried.

COMMENTS from the Public: Carl Housley, 67 First Avenue, asked questions that were all related to the fire department. Housley asked if there were any promotions within the fire department for both full-time and part-time employees during 2023 and 2024, are there any full-time employees performing shift lead? Housley feels there is more being done for the part-time personnel than the full-time. Housley said the part-time personnel received a seventeen percent raise and an extra holiday. Housley feels the department is scurrying around the full-time personnel and not doing things that help the long-term longevity of the fire department. Housley asked if paying for the special training and certifications, are they utilizing it at the village or are they taking it back to their full-time department? Is the village paying to boost the resumes of some of the part-time people and we will never get the benefit of it? Instead of working to train and promote the full-time employees, the part-timers come and go and receive and seems that the hourly rate for some of the part-time people exceeds the hourly rate of the full-time people.

Mayor Rick stated he would ask the Fire Chief and get back to him.

Vicki Henico, 3773 Argonne Street, asked for an update on the SAFE Route Grant that was passed back in March of this year, resolution 2024-20.

Mayor Rick stated the village did not qualify for this round, and that we would reapply for the next round.

Henico asked if anyone has been hired yet referencing the resolution of 2024-28, creating the part-time position of the police officer in training.

Mayor Rick stated he does not believe anyone has been hired at this time.

Henico asked for more information to be put on the village's webpage for the new administrative assistant at the police department, this way residents know how to contact them.

Mayor Rick, we will get that information on there.

Jason Dishong, 3724 Orchard Street, thanked Mayor Rick and the council members for their efforts regarding the cat problem in the village. Dishong is upset with the cats that are coming into his yard digging up his flower beds and with the cat poop. He said he lives two doors down from an infestation of these cats where the homeowner leaves bowls of food out, this is the reason that this is happening.

Edward Plotts, 45 Meadowridge Road, I am here tonight to also talk about the same issue, how did we get here? I'd be curious to know what options were considered. Obviously, this has a lot of people upset and concerned. Plotts expressed his concerns to the council. There can be solutions, but it takes committed citizens to get involved. Plott stated he would work with anyone who is interested in coming up with other humane options.

Joan Bauer, 3708 Louise Street, stated she has spoken to other people about the TNR of feral cats and does not understand why the feral cats that were taken to Summit County Animal Control weren't released back to Village. There is a more humane way, natural products you can buy to deter cats from digging and spaying. If cats are neutered, they are not going to spray or mate. Bauer does not think the council explored other options. Bauer states she has spoken with other people on discussions that took place and the complaints that were made, and there are other options that need to be taken, major rules in favor of these cats that do not have a voice. Bauer turns to Mr. Plotts and says count me in, she wants to help the cats.

Jill Kirsch, 948 Pontius Street NW, owner of Cripple Creek Feral and Friends non-profit organization, Ms. Kirsch shares her concerns about the community cats and how the Village is handling the issue. Kirsch states this is an issue in every community, not just the Village of Mogadore. Kirsch reached out to the mayor back in March to offer her services as someone who is highly experienced in her field and has had success with the TNR program. Kirsch states when she finally received a call back from the mayor, she felt it was very dismissive and was never contacted further. Kirsch states she has been contacted by several residents for her help, that might be afraid to speak up. Kirsch told the council she has applied for a \$1,200.00 grant for the community cats in the Village but won't know the outcome until December. Grants are available to apply for. Kirsch reads a letter from one of the doctors at the Mogadore Veterinary Clinic on South Cleveland Avenue. The letter was in favor of TNR and the vacuum effect if you don't return the community cats to the village. Kirsch tells the council there is a low-cost vet clinic in Canton that has made an offer to the Village for \$25 per cat for 12 months, they will provide spay/neuter, rabies vaccine, flea treatment, ear tip, and any additional services that might be needed. They would send a van to Mogadore once a month to get as many cats as they could to do TNR. The stipulation is legislation to rescind all feeding bans, penalties, and harm to community cats.

Chris Riggi, Co-founder of Riggi Rescue out of Canton. Mr. Riggi tells the council how important TNR is for the community cats. Riggi states he would love to work with the Village and the residents to help and educate everyone on TNR.

Heather Gilford, 545 Firestone Park, Akron, advocate for community cats shares her experience of the TNR program and how important it is. Gilford states the legislation passed by the council discounts the lives of the community cats and how inhuman it is.

June Long, 4061 Etter Road, stated she appreciates the concerns made regarding the cats, but she is more concerned about the impoverished families and children in the community.

COMMENTS from Council: Mr. Tonsic shared how the first day back to school was.

Mr. McDowall thanked everyone for attending and keeping it civil and respectful.

COMMENTS from the Assistant Law Director: No Comments.

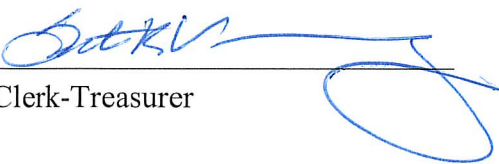
COMMENTS from the Village Engineer: Not present.

COMMENTS from the Clerk-Treasurer: Not present.

COMMENTS from the Mayor: Mayor Rick thanked everyone for coming.

Meeting adjourned at 6:21 p.m.

Attest:


Clerk-Treasurer



Mayor

9-18-24

Date