

COUNCIL MEETING

October 2, 2024

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

Mr. McDowall 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, Ms. Miller, and Mr. Bauer.

Others Present: Mayor Rick, Council Clerk Rachel Osborne, Clerk-Treasurer Scott Varney, and Law Director Jason Dodson. Village Engineer Matthew was 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 Ms. Van Dike second by Mr. Raddish adopt the minutes from the September 18, 2024, Council meetings. Vote. Unanimous ayes. Motion carried.

COMMENTS FROM THE AUDIENCE ON PENDING LEGISLATION – No comments.

COMMITTEE REPORTS –

UTILITIES – Mr. Bauer had no report.

SAFETY – Mr. Yoho had no report.

PARKS – Mr. McDowall had no report.

PLANNING AND ZONING – Ms. Miller reported there will be a Zoning Board of Appeals Meeting on Monday, October 28th here in council chambers at 7 p.m.

FINANCE/AUDIT – Ms. Van Dike had no report.

STREETS – Mr. Tonsic had no report.

Council President Mr. Raddish announced the October Work Session will be held Wednesday, October 23rd at 5:30 p.m. with all committees reporting.

OLD BUSINESS – None.

NEW BUSINESS – None.

COMMENTS from the Public: Carl Housley, 67 First Avenue, asked how much has been applied for in reimbursement for the SAFER Grant and how much has been received. How much has the Village received on the Levy and what is the balance of the account?

Mayor Rick stated Scott Varney would look at it and get back to him.

Housley asked what kind of curbs will be installed in the new allotment for the Testa Development.

Dodson stated there were no variances granted so they are standard curbs that conform to newer construction.

Joe Henico, 3773 Argonne Street, commented on how nice the new playground equipment looked at Lions Park.

Jill Kirsch, 948 Pontius Road NW, Hartville, gave an update on the status of cats that have been surrendered to Summit County Animal Control. Kirsch stated as of September 30th thirty-nine cats were taken to SCAC, fifteen of those cats were killed, and the rest were transferred to One of A Kind. This is not a solution; this is a transfer of your problems to someone else. The cats taken by One of A Kind only because they value their lives and do not want them to be killed is an unneeded burden on a shelter that is not designed to house feral cats. One of A Kind has incurred great costs to spay, neuter, vaccinate, feed, and pay their employees to take care of. Kirsch has spoken to the businesses about the cats and the TRN plan and has not received any opposition. No one wants the cats harmed or starved, and has received positive feedback on Facebook and Nextdoor as well. Kirsch finds it disrespectful of the council not to address the issue and efforts put forth not only by private citizens but one of your council members Mr. McDowall, and since this is not being discussed at council meetings nor work sessions, talks must be going on privately. Kirsch encourages anyone in Mogadore that is missing a cat to contact Cripple Creek Ferals and Friends on Facebook. Kirsch questions how it's not illegal to take someone else's property and sign it over as their own. Kirsch asked the council why this issue which drew the attention of three News stations, and was brought up by Mr. McDowall at the last council meeting not discussed at the last work session, and now that you have expended \$975.00 of the allotted \$1,000.00 of the taxpayers money, what is your plan moving forward.

Chris Riggi, Co-founder of Riggi Rescue out of Akron, proposed TRN again to the council members. Mr. Riggi and his rescue trapped forty-seven cats last week and spent over \$3,000.00. Mr. Riggi suggested not renewing their contract with SCAC, and investing in a TNR program that is a much better solution and much more effective. We will come in and train everyone.

Edward Plotts, 45 Meadowridge Road, pointed out that citizens have come together and raised more than \$2,000.00 so far for a TNR program to help the cats, and at least five different organizations have come in to offer their help so far. Plotts hopes council members seriously consider this alternative approach.

Georgia Lecorchick, Uniontown, stated the people of Mogadore have created a problem. Instead of finding a solution to fixing the problem in a humane way, the council has pushed this problem away to other people and communities. It is not the job of rescues that were already overcrowded to take in more cats because they fear they will be killed by SCAC. Many people and clinics have offered their support and raised over \$2,000.00, and a \$1,200.00 grant to vet the cats and educate the residents and the council members still chose to ignore it. Lecorchick asked the council to set aside their discontent for the cats in order to fix the problem in the Village that will be a long turn from TNR, education all offered by several people, clinics, rescues, and non-profit organizations.

Heather Gilford, Firestone Park, Akron, asked how many written complaints and verbal complaints would the council need to get to counteract the complaints from people who do not want the cats.

Mayor Rick stated he could not answer that, he was not the one to change legislation.

Gilford asked if the council members could answer.

Mayor Rick stated if they wish to when it is their turn to speak.

Gilford then asked what more information, documentation, and commitment the council members needed for them to rescind the trapping and feeding ban.

Mayor Rick stated that it would be up to the council members if they wish to reach out.

COMMENTS from the Council: No Comments.

COMMENTS from the Law Director: No Comments.

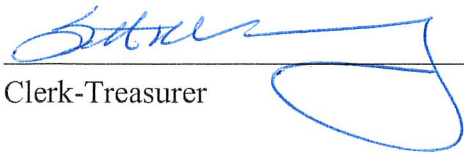
COMMENTS from the Village Engineer: Not present.

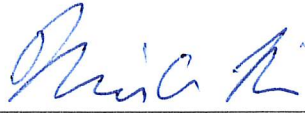
COMMENTS from the Clerk-Treasurer: No Comments.

COMMENTS from the Mayor: Mayor Rick announced limb pickup will run from October 7th through October 11th, and the Historical Society is having its soup and sandwich luncheon next Wednesday from 11 a.m. to 1 p.m.

Meeting adjourned at 5:45 p.m.

Attest:


Clerk-Treasurer


Mayor

10-16-24

Date