

CITY OF MONROE
REGULAR COUNCIL MEETING
MONDAY, APRIL 21, 2014

Regular meeting of the City Council of the City of Monroe, Michigan held on Monday, April 21, 2014 at 7:30 p.m. in the City Hall Council Chambers.

Present: Council Members Molenda, Rafko, Sisk, Hensley, Iacoangeli, Vining and Mayor Clark.

Michelle J. LaVoy, City Clerk-Treasurer gave the invocation.

Mayor Clark led the pledge of allegiance to the flag.

Public Hearing.

53 This being the date set to hear public comments on proposed Ordinance No. 14-001, an ordinance to adopt the fiscal Year 2014-2015 Budget for the City of Monroe and there being five (5) comments on file in writing in the Clerk-Treasurer's Office, the Mayor declared the hearing open.

George Brown, City Manager noted that in the month of March, Council held a goal setting work session and several budget work sessions and all were open to the public. He continued that as required by City Charter, a proposed FY 2014-2015 Budget was presented to Mayor and Council during the first week of April and the first reading of the Budget Ordinance was held on April 7th. He further stated that considering additional inputs and requests from Council regarding the budget and operating priorities some modifications were made to the proposed general fund budget in order to fund those initiatives and efforts. He said that the budget proposed is balanced and he cited projects, public services, other areas of the budget along with their costs. He cited areas that are proposed to increase funding to the budget.

Mayor Clark gave a brief overview of what has been covered during budget discussions on Public Safety, the Monroe Multi-Sports Complex and Parks & Recreation. He asked Ed Sell, Finance Director to help with a PowerPoint Presentation to show information regarding those areas. He noted that there are comments on file in writing in the Clerk-Treasurer's Office and asked Michelle J. LaVoy, Clerk-Treasurer to read those comments into the record.

Michelle J. LaVoy, Clerk-Treasurer read a letter from Ralph Mahalak Jr., City of Monroe, a letter from Ellen Ivey, Frenchtown Township, a letter from Mike Shatley, Frenchtown Township, a letter from Susan Keshen, Monroe Township and a letter from Kelly Gotha, LaSalle Township into the record.

Dawn Godo, 8898 Armstrong Road, Newport, President, Journey Figure Skating Club introduced a few members of the club. She explained how figure skating has grown at the MMSC and asked Council approve the repair of the compressor so that the club can continue.

Ginger Stuck, 1326 Union Street said that she worked at MMSC and all five (5) of her children utilize the facility. She also noted some of the benefits it provides within the community.

Sheri Enwood, 727 Roeder Street said she has two (2) children who are members of the Journey Skating Club and participate in various other activities. She spoke in favor of keeping the MMSC open as a recreation facility.

Brian Huges, 12800 Eggert Road, Dundee Head Coach St. Mary's Hockey Team spoke in favor of the MMSC and of the additional revenue that visitors bring to other business within the city.

Pauline Fick, 3340 Reinhardt Road asked if Council has taken a vote on the request to repair the compressor.

Mayor Clark explained that the City Manager presents a proposed budget to Council for approval which includes funding for the MMSC and will be voted on during this agenda. He noted that also on the agenda is the maintenance service contract for the compressor at the MMSC and said that item will also be voted on this evening.

Adam Yeager, 1833 S. Custer Road spoke against the MMSC and asked that Council eliminate it because it has nothing for senior citizens.

Matt Vittoe, 114 Glendale Court clarified that there are 56 positions for Public Safety, three (3) of them are management positions and said he does not understand why there are three (3) management positions. He said that City Charter contemplates two (2) positions, Chief of Fire and Chief of Police and said the funds used for the third position could be used to add another Firefighter or Police Officer. He noted that the current budget includes funding for the MMSC but in the proposed budget it seemed as though Council was going to repurpose the MMSC for something else.

Mayor Clark said that during a work session there was discussion regarding the MMSC but that at no time during the work session was there discussion about closing the MMSC. He explained that Council had discussion about sustainability and alternatives but that is with any business when you look at current issues. He said that no decisions were made at a work session on a repurposing plan for the MMSC.

Council Member Molenda noted that year after year Council is confronted with deficits and that will always be a topic of conversation and that over the years Council has continued to recognize the benefit of the MMSC to the community. He said that one of Council's goals it to make the MMSC self sustaining although it may never be, so other options is always a topic. He cited how much the city subsidizes for the MMSC.

Council Member Hensley said he agrees that the MMSC is needed but Council needs to look at ways to change it and he recommended that an analysis be conducted to determine the best use of the facility.

Council Member Iacoangeli said he would like to see 15 Firefighters and a Fire Chief at the Fire Department and would like to see the Deputy Director of Public Safety position phased out. He said he would like to start looking for a new recruit for Police Chief but not to replace the Director of Public Safety. He said he is concerned about transition and succession because Fire Chief Hoskins is eligible to retire soon and Director Moore is on a Drop Program which could end in a couple of years. He would like to see a Police Chief position replace the Deputy Director of Public Safety position. He spoke in favor of continuing education in the Public Safety Division. He would like to see a formal request to the surrounding townships and a formal answer from the townships about their willingness to get involved and participate with the city in the operation and subsidiaries of the MMSC. He commented on reorganizing the Parks and Recreation Department but is concerned with lack of timing and wants to take action on it now.

Council Member Sisk spoke in favor of the MMSC. He told of 6 youth who approached him and said that they use the MMSC facility and they told him of their concern about the fate of the MMSC. He said he is in favor of removing funding for the Deputy Public Safety Director and to use the money to put another Firefighter in place. He said he agrees with the Fire Chiefs recommendation for staffing.

Council Member Rafko thanked those who came to speak at the public hearing and said she heard a lot of good ideas. She spoke about the cultural activities, the park system and the school system as being assets that will create desire for people to visit and to live in our community.

Council Member Molenda spoke to the recommendation from the Fire Chief regarding staffing levels for Firefighters and said he is if favor of filling those numbers with Public Safety Officers as opposed to hiring more firefighters.

Mayor Clark spoke to the concern about the Deputy Public Safety Director and the tasks and function that position is responsible for and where those duties be absorbed. He commented about Council Members concern with the

succession of each position. He spoke about funding, revenue, training of PSO's, firefighters, police officers and command officers.

There being seven (7) person present commenting and five (5) comments on file in writing in the Clerk-Treasurer's Office, the Mayor declared the public hearing closed.

69 This being the date set to hear public comments on FY 2013-14 Amendment to Community Development Block Grant (CDBG) Annual Action Plan and there being no comments on file in writing in the Clerk-Treasurer's Office, the Mayor declared the hearing open.

There being no person present commenting and no comments on file in writing in the Clerk-Treasurer's Office, the Mayor declared the public hearing closed.

Council Action.

53 It was moved by Council Member Molenda and seconded by Council Member Iacoangeli that Proposed Ordinance No. 14-001, an ordinance to adopt the Fiscal Year 2014-2015 Budget for the City of Monroe be placed on the floor for its final reading.

Ayes: 7 Nays: 0

Motion carried.

Council Member Sisk said that he cannot support the budget as it is and asked if Council honored Chief Hoskins staffing recommendation, how it would be funded.

George Brown, City Manager said that would take some review and study, to look at the scope of available revenue resources. He said it would be difficult with the available funding to add additional personnel without shifting resources from other areas of operations. He said he would need several days and the target of a work session next week to come back with some options with more specificity.

Council Member Sisk said he understands it takes a lot of staff hours and many work sessions to prepare a budget document like this but plans to take Chief Hoskins at his word as our Fire Chief and he thinks it is critical that we have staffing levels at his recommendation. He reinforced that Chief Hoskins said his recommendation provides the best safety for residents, for Firefighters and the Chief said he was more comfortable sending veteran Firefighters in as lead in collaboration with PSO's should there be an incident or a fire.

Mayor Clark noted that Chief Hoskins also said a PSO would be ok as well and said the Chief responded positively to both manners in which fire response could be delivered. The Mayor said that we're at 56 right now and we're not sure if the funding is available for 15 additional positions in one department.

Council Member Molenda noted that at the same work session Tom Moore, Public Safety Director also requested additional personnel, so if we are to consider one request we should consider both.

Council Member Rafko said that as she remembers it, Chief Hoskins said they could come from the ranks but that they would need to remain at the Fire Houses as a fulltime traditional Firefighter and that they be trained as a paramedic.

Mayor Clark said that Council has had conversation back and forth regarding Public Safety, fire response, police response and medical response and it seems to come back to the medical response structure. He noted that we have PSO's that are medical first responders. He explained that Chief Hoskins said having the people together and working together is going to be better response because you get familiarity, continuity and consistency. He further explained that would not happen if there are different shifts, a 24 hour shift employee and a 12 hour shift employee because it becomes a disassociation.

Council Member Hensley said he respects the Fire Chiefs recommendation on staffing levels at the Fire Stations although there is nothing to assure us that a new hire Fireman will be a veteran Firefighter.

Council Member Iacoangeli said it is apparent that the city doesn't have an actual consolidated policy because these departments are not functioning well together and there is constant upheaval in terms of who's going to be replaced, are we going to give them enough deployment staff, is leadership going to morph into something that's more consistent with the Operational Assessment. He noted that Council is not doing the community a favor by not making a decision.

Following lengthy discussion, it was moved by Council Member Sisk and seconded by Council Member Iacoangeli that the contract for the Deputy Director of Public Safety be terminated in 180 days from today, April 21, 2014 and that he be notified.

Following further discussion, a vote was taken on the motion.
Ayes: 5 Nays: 2 (Council Member Molenda and Hensley)
Motion carried.

Mayor Clark noted that Council is still working on item 53, to adopt the Fiscal Year 2014-2015 Budget for the City of Monroe.

It was moved by Council Member Iacoangeli and seconded by Council Member Rafko that the Administration presents to Council, by July 1, 2014, a plan to reorganize the current Recreation Department into a Parks, Recreation, and Cultural & Tourism Events Department.
Ayes: 7 Nays: 0
Motion carried.

It was moved by Council Member Iacoangeli and seconded by Council Member Hensley that Ordinance 14-001, the Fiscal Year 2014-2015 Budget for the City of Monroe be accepted, placed on file and the recommendation be carried out.

Following further discussion, a vote was taken on the motion.
Ayes: 7 Nays: 0
Motion carried.

64 This item was postponed at the April 7, 2014 meeting.

The communication from the Finance Director, submitting a Preventative Maintenance Service Contract for Refrigeration Systems at the Monroe Multi-Sports Complex (MMSC), and recommending that Council authorize Rink Management Services and/or the City of Monroe to enter into a three year preventative maintenance agreement with Toromont Cimco with a three-year price total of \$25,295. It was moved by Council Member Rafko and seconded by Council Member Hensley that item 64 be postponed to no later than May 19, 2014.

It was moved by Council Member Hensley and seconded by Council Member Iacoangeli that item 64 be placed on the floor for discussion.
Ayes: 7 Nays: 0
Motion carried.

It was moved by Council Member Hensley and seconded by Council Member Iacoangeli that item 64 be accepted, placed on file and the recommendation be carried out.
Ayes: 7 Nays: 0
Motion carried.

76 It was moved by Council Member Molenda and seconded by Council Member Rafko that Proposed Ordinance No. 14-002, an ordinance to amend Article I., Municipal Employees' Retirement System, Chapter 296, Section 127-13, and Section 127-51 of the Codified Ordinances of the City of Monroe be placed on its first reading and that the public hearing be set for Monday, May 5, 2014.

Ayes: 7 Nays: 0

Motion carried.

Proposed Ordinance No. 14-002, was then presented for the first time and laid over for its second reading and public hearing on May 5, 2014.

Mayor Clark noted that although there was a motion made and carried to pass the Budget Ordinance, the formal procedure was not followed. After the second reading, the Mayor asks "Shall this ordinance pass?" and that step in the process was lost in the discussion.

Tom Ready, Attorney suggested a redo.

Proposed Ordinance No. 14-001 was then presented for the second time after which the Mayor asked, "Shall this Ordinance pass?"

Ayes: 7 Nays: 0

Motion carried.

Consent Agenda.

Michelle J. LaVoy, Clerk-Treasurer noted that the Consent Agenda will be amended to add item 77.

- A. Approval of the Minutes of the Work Session held on Monday, March 31, 2014, the Minutes of the Work Session held on Tuesday, April 1, 2014, the Minutes of the Work Session held on Wednesday, April 2, 2014, and the Minutes of the Work Session held on Monday, April 7, 2014.
- B. Approval of payments to vendors in the amount of \$521,438.08.
Action: Bills be allowed and warrants drawn on the various accounts for their payment.

65 Relay for Life of Monroe Banner Request.

- 1. Communication from the City Manager's Office, reporting back on a request from the Relay for Life of Monroe for permission to display a banner across Monroe Street from May 19 – June 9, 2014 announcing the Monroe Relay for life on June 7-8, 2014, and recommending approval of the request subject to meeting qualifications outlined in the banner policy.
- 2. Supporting documents.
- 3. Action: Accept, place on file and the recommendation be carried out.

66 Downtown Development Authority – Second Annual Downtown Monroe Flea Market.

- 1. Communication from the City Manager's Office, submitting a request from the Downtown Development Authority to hold the second annual Downtown Monroe Flea Market on Saturday, June 14, 2014 from 9:00 a.m. – 2:00 p.m., to use the sidewalks within the DDA district, the on-street parking space areas in the 0-100 block of East Front Street, the 0-100 block of Washington Street, as well as the sidewalks on the east and west side of the 0-100 block of South Monroe Street for the outdoor display of products offered by District business and other vendors, and recommending that Council approve this request contingent upon items being met as outlined by the administration, subject to emergency vehicle

access being maintained, and that the City Manager be granted authority to alter/amend the event due to health and/or safety reasons.

2. Supporting documents.
3. Action: Accept, place on file and the recommendation be carried out.

67 FY 2014-15 Community Development Block Grant (CDBG) Annual Action Plan.

1. Communication from the Director of Economic & Community Development, submitting the Community Development Block Grant Annual Action Plan for Fiscal Year 2014-15 as required by the Department of Housing and Urban development (HUD), and recommending that Council approve distribution of the draft FY 2014-15 CDBG Annual Action Plan for a 30-day public comment period and schedule a public hearing and action item for the May 19th meeting agenda.
2. Supporting documents.
3. Action: Accept, place on file and the recommendation be carried out.

68 Approval of the Sub-recipient Agreement with the Monroe Housing Commission (MHC) for Recreation Services at Greenwood Housing Complex.

1. Communication from the Director of Economic & Community Development, submitting a Sub-recipient Grant agreement with the Monroe Housing Commission for Recreation Services at Greenwood Housing Complex, and recommending that Council approve the proposed CDBG sub-recipient agreement with the MHC for the summer of 2014 and authorize the City Manager to execute the agreement.
2. Supporting documents.
3. Action: Accept, place on file and the recommendation be carried out.

69 FY 2013-14 Amendment to Community Development Block Grant (CDBG) Annual Action Plan.

1. Communication from the Director of Economic & Community Development, submitting an amendment to the Fiscal Year 2013-14 Community Development Block Grant Annual Action Plan to add a \$17,000 budget for streetlight upgrades in low and moderate income neighborhoods, and recommending that Council approve the proposed amendment after the public hearing to be held at this meeting.
2. Supporting documents.
3. Action: Accept, place on file and the recommendation be carried out.

70 COMEA UNIT I (City of Monroe Employees Association).

1. Communication from the Director of Human Resources, submitting an agreement with COMEA Unit I to extend the current collective bargaining agreement dated November 21, 2011 through December 31, 2014 for one additional year, and recommending that Council approve the attached extension of the COMEA Unit I Collective Bargaining Agreement.
2. Supporting documents.
3. Action: Accept, place on file and the recommendation be carried out.

71 Approval of a Proposed Consent Judgment with the Property Owner at 49 Scott Street.

1. Communication from the Director of Economic & Community Development, submitting a request for approval of a Consent Judgment, proposed by the City with the acceptance of the property owner at 49 Scott Street, and recommending that Council approve the proposed Consent Judgment with the property owner at 49 Scott Street.

2. Supporting documents.
3. Action: Accept, place on file and the recommendation be carried out.

72 Approval of a Revocable Encroachment Easement for Property at 78-84 West Front Street.

1. Communication from the Director of Economic & Community Development, submitting a request for approval of a Revocable Encroachment Easement for property at 78-84 West Front Street, and recommending that Council approve the attached Grant of Revocable Encroachment Easement to the property owner at 78-84 West Front Street (currently JDK, LLC); and authorize the City Manager to execute the Easement, and further recommending that the City Manager be authorized to make minor amendments to the easement that may be necessary due to unanticipated conditions, subject to review and approval by the City Attorney.
2. Supporting documents.
3. Action: Accept, place on file and the recommendation be carried out.

73 Approval of the Agreement for Donation of Lands with the U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service.

1. Communication from the Director of Economic & Community Development, submitting a request for approval of the agreement for Donation of Lands with the U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service, and recommending that Council approve the attached Agreement for Donation of Lands with the United States of America [U.S. Department of the Interior, U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service] for the donation of the City's interest in the parcel of property totaling 16.64 acres generally bounded by North Dixie Highway on the north, East Elm Street on the south, Canadian National railway on the west, and Interstate 75 on the east; and authorize the Mayor and Clerk-Treasurer to execute the Agreement and any other documentation necessary to complete the donation of lands (Exp. Deed).
2. Supporting documents.
3. Action: Accept, place on file and the recommendation be carried out.

74 Hydrofluosilicic Acid Bulk Tanks Removal and Replacement – Water Treatment Plant Bids.

1. Communication from the Director of Water & Wastewater Utilities, reporting back on bids received for the Hydrofluosilicic Acid Bulk Tanks removal and replacement, and recommending that a purchase order in the amount of \$60,880 and a total amount of \$70,000 be encumbered to include a 15% contingency, be awarded to TSP Environmental out of Redford, MI for the Removal and Replacement of the two HFS Bulk Tanks at the WTP as part of the FY 2014-15 CIP project in accordance with the bid specifications, and further recommending that the Finance Director advance the project funding to FY 2013-2014 in an effort to complete the project on time and meet the MDCH grant requirements.
2. Supporting documents.
3. Action: Accept, place on file and the recommendation be carried out.

75 Installation of New Public Sanitary Sewer – West Fourth Street Between Hubble and Harrison Streets – Special Assessment Resolution Number 2 – Sewer SAD #232.

1. Communication from the Director of Engineering & Public Services, submitting Resolution No. 2 in the special assessment process declaring the installation of a new public sanitary sewer to service the properties located on West Fourth Street between Hubble and Harrison Streets, and recommending that the attached Resolution 2 be adopted, and that the public hearing be scheduled for May 5, 2014 at 7:30 p.m. in the City Council Chambers.
2. Supporting documents.
3. Action: Accept, place on file and the resolution be adopted.

77 Emergency Repairs to Traffic Signals at Front and Roessler Streets – Funding allocation and Potential Contractor Award.

1. Communication from the Director of Engineering & Public Services, reporting back on funding allocation and potential contractor award for emergency repairs to traffic signals at Front and Roessler Streets, and recommending that up to \$25,000 be appropriated from the Major Street Fund to Provide for the emergency repairs to the traffic signals at the intersection of Front and Roessler Street, and that the Director of Engineering and Public Services and/or City Manager be authorized to award a contract to the most advantageous vendor following solicitation of additional quotes.
2. Supporting documents.
3. Action: Accept, place on file and the recommendation be carried out.

It was moved by Council Member Molenda and seconded by Council Member Sisk that items 65, 68, 69, 70, 71, 72, 73, 74 and 75 of the Amended Consent Agenda be approved as presented and that item 66, 67 and 77 be removed and considered separately.

Ayes: 7 Nays: 0

Motion carried.

66 The communication from the City Manager's Office, submitting a request from the Downtown Development Authority to hold the second annual Downtown Monroe Flea Market on Saturday, June 14, 2014 from 9:00 a.m. – 2:00 p.m., to use the sidewalks within the DDA district, the on-street parking space areas in the 0-100 block of East Front Street, the 0-100 block of Washington Street, as well as the sidewalks on the east and west side of the 0-100 block of South Monroe Street for the outdoor display of products offered by District business and other vendors, and recommending that Council approve this request contingent upon items being met as outlined by the administration, subject to emergency vehicle access being maintained, and that the City Manager be granted authority to alter/amend the event due to health and/or safety reasons.

Council Member Molenda said the original document does not request a closure of West Front Street and the final recommendation does so he would like clarification of what Council is approving.

Mayor Clark said that the Fact Sheet lists the closure but the request from the DDA does not have the request.

George Brown, City Manager apologized for the discrepancy and recommended that Council authorize the closure of West Front Street. He said it seemed like they used that segment last year and if they don't use it, it could be left open but the authorization is there if they should need the closure.

It was moved by Council Member Molenda and seconded by Council Member Hensley that item 66 be accepted, placed on file and the recommendation be carried out.

Ayes: 7 Nays: 0

Motion carried.

67 The communication from the Director of Economic & Community Development, submitting the Community Development Block Grant Annual Action Plan for Fiscal Year 2014-15 as required by the Department of Housing and Urban development (HUD), and recommending that Council approve distribution of the draft FY 2014-15 CDBG Annual Action Plan for a 30-day public comment period and schedule a public hearing and action item for the May 19th meeting agenda.

Council Member Iacoangeli said he would like to see the FIX Program reduced which is used to rehabilitate four (4) homes for this segment and an additional seven (7) from previous years. He would like to see that reduced

from \$286,000 to \$270,000 with the \$16,000 being appropriated under the Hellenberg Field Plan and he wants to change that as well. He further explained he would like to bump the \$8,500 up to \$24,500 in order to do a contract with the firm to design Labor Park which is the Park that's adjacent to the Arthur Lesow Community Center and Father Cairns Park. He said those two parks are in the recently adopted Parks & Recreation Plan as a priority action item to do master plans for those two (2). He also noted that both of those areas are in low to moderated income neighborhoods.

It was moved by Council Member Iacoangeli and seconded by Council Member Rafko that item 67 be accepted, placed on file and the recommendation be carried out.

Ayes: 7 Nays: 0

Motion carried.

77 The communication from the Director of Engineering & Public Services, reporting back on funding allocation and potential contractor award for emergency repairs to traffic signals at Front and Roessler Streets, and recommending that up to \$25,000 be appropriated from the Major Street Fund to Provide for the emergency repairs to the traffic signals at the intersection of Front and Roessler Street, and that the Director of Engineering and Public Services and/or City Manager be authorized to award a contract to the most advantageous vendor following solicitation of additional quotes.

Council Member Molenda said he pulled this item because the City Engineer indicated that there was a revised fact sheet.

Patrick Lewis, Director of Engineering & Public Services apologized for the late add-on and said that there is a pole down at Roessler and Front Street that needs immediate attention to make the repairs. He said they just received their first quote and are still in process of soliciting quotes but it is apparent that Council approval is necessary to award one of the quotes. He noted that the correction on the Fact Sheet asks for an appropriation of up to \$25,000 from the major street fund. He said he hopes the number comes in better than that but as of right now the quote they have is a little under that amount. He said that they didn't want to reveal the vendor or their quote but unfortunately it was listed on page two of the fact sheet so the number now on the second page is \$25,000.

Council Member Hensley said that this downed pole is a result of a vehicle accident and asked if possibly insurance may cover it down the road.

Patrick Lewis, Director of Engineering & Public Services said that is correct, it is their intent to seek restitution from the at fault party because it was an issue beyond the City's control.

It was moved by Council Member Hensley and seconded by Council Member Iacoangeli that item 77 be accepted, placed on file and the recommendation be carried out.

Ayes: 7 Nays: 0

Motion carried.

Mayor Clark welcomed Dale Zorn, State Representative and invited him to address Council.

Dale Zorn, State Representative, 56th District and candidate for Michigan Senate said it is a privilege to visit Mayor and Council because it brings back memories of his days on the County Board. He said it's always exciting to see local government work as well as it does and that's why it is so important that government in Lansing make sure that local government remains strong. He said it's not about government making our lives better; it's about you, me and all of those who are in the audience which makes our communities better. He said this is government at its finest. He talked about revenue sharing ideas and going forward with a two year

budget and said that Monroe's revenue sharing is about \$1.9 million dollars. He said that the Governors recommendation was \$1.6 million but with the Economic & Vitality Program added an additional \$294,000 for the City of Monroe and that is about \$40 million dollars more than what the City received for 2013. He said the Governor also has a supplemental appropriation which is another \$103,000 so the Governor's recommendation, if it passes, would be about \$2 million dollars for the City of Monroe which is certainly good news for the City. He said the House recommendation was at \$1.6 million, plus \$288,000 for the Economic Vitality Program which comes to about \$1.8 million dollars, so that's an increase of \$43,000. He said the Senate has not provided their numbers yet and explained that at this point, all of these numbers are fluid. He explained that once the Senate brings out their budget, they will all pass their budgets, they will all be rejected by each other and it will go into a conference committee, and that will be for the real meat of the budget discussion. He said that no matter what happens, the City of Monroe will see an increase in revenue sharing and the increases that are proposed are about 3% which is the largest increase we've seen in revenue sharing since 2002. He noted that they are looking to reform the Personal Property Tax but he said that 100% reimbursements will be made so the City will not lose any revenue from Personal Property Tax. He said it is a 10 year phase out that will help the City make decisions and time to deal with the process also. He said it will insure that schools and local governments have a reliable revenue source and said it all depends on an election in November, a referendum that will allow for the reform in the Personal Property Tax. He also explained that the Governor recommends an increase in the Homestead Property Tax Credit which is currently at \$50,000 and he wants to increase it to \$60,000 and that will include about 1.3 million more people that will receive that tax credit.

Council Comments.

It was moved by Council Member Iacoangeli and seconded by Council Member Sisk that correspondence be sent from the Mayor and Manager to Monroe Charter Township Supervisor and Frenchtown Charter Township Supervisor to request their participation and support in funding of Monroe Multi Sports Complex.

Ayes: 7 Nays: 0

Motion carried.

Mayor Clark said he would make sure the correspondence is comprehensive to include some background and detail of Council's discussion and findings.

Council Member asked Mr. Lewis to explain the issue with alleyway between Third and Fourth Streets/ Half and Kentucky and the plan for the area of roadway between the two sets of tracks at Eastchester and Railroad Street to Council and the public.

Patrick Lewis, Director of Engineering & Public Services said the challenge that he faces with the alleys is the grading is similar to the process that the County Road Commission does with unpaved roads. He explained that it is difficult to grade them in March and April because we're still getting frost and the ground is still pretty wet so they try to wait until May or June to do our first and usually only pass through each unimproved alley in town. He also explained that as part of the just approved budget East Railroad and Eastchester is a good candidate for spot patching but there is a 100 foot run that is just deplorable so he said that they will try and bid those with their resurfacing project this year to get better pricing. He said that he will not make promises as to specific roadways although he does acknowledge that area is high on the list for maintenance.

Mayor Comments.

Mayor Clark reminded everyone about the Comcast Care Days on Saturday, April 26 at the ALCC, a neighborhood clean up day. He also reported that Arbor Day is on Saturday, April 26, 2014 and the River Raisin National Battlefield Park will have 2000 native trees planted across the battlefield. He noted that May is

motorcycle awareness month and urged everyone to be aware of the increase of motorcycle traffic. He thanked the DDA and the volunteers who showed up for Cleanup day on April 12.

City Manager's Comments.

George Brown, City Manager commented on the relationship between the Director of Public Safety and the Deputy Public Safety Director currently and prior to establishment of the Public Safety Division when the two were Police Chief and Fire Chief. He also said that Joe Mominee, Deputy Public Safety Director's was one of our best credentialed instructors and we're grateful for his long service and his full career but also for the stint he has done here as Deputy.

Citizen's Comments.

Adam Yeager, 1833 South Custer Road noted that item 64 was under Council Action and asked if he could have made comment on the item.

Mayor Clark said that item 64 is an action item that had been postponed from the last Council Meeting.

Adam Yeager, 1833 South Custer Road said he is not supportive of the MMSC and doesn't think that \$28,285 should have been given to them. He said that there are not any programs for senior citizens and thinks if you have a recreation center, it should be for everyone in the community.

Adjournment.

It was moved by Council Member Rafko and seconded by Council Member Iacoangeli that the meeting adjourn at 10:35 p.m. until the Regular Meeting on Monday, May5, 2014 at 7:30 p.m.

Ayes: 7 Nays: 0

Motion carried.

Michelle J. LaVoy
City Clerk-Treasurer

Robert E. Clark
Mayor