

Minutes for July 12, 2021

Commissioners Present: Crooks, Porter, Cameron
Staff Present: Susan Reese

RES 21-0651 Meeting was called to order at 10:00 a.m. on the motion of Commissioner Cameron and the second of Commissioner Porter.
Vote was Crooks, aye; Porter, aye; Cameron, aye. Motion carried.

Commissioner Cameron moved to approve the payment of bills, pending review.
Seconded by Commissioner Porter.
Vote was Crooks, aye; Porter, aye; Cameron, aye. Motion carried.

The Clerk reported that Pam Davis, Human Resources and Stan Lucas, Sewer Department Manager, would like to come in this morning.

- 11:15 a.m.

Commissioner Cameron reported that Jason Sturgeon from ODOT will come to update the Commissioners on projects in the County.

- The Clerk will arrange the meeting date and time
- Commissioner Cameron will contact Mark Eicher and the Mayor asking what they would like to discuss with Jason

Commissioner Crooks reported a call from Debbie Mohler of Orchard Hill Road saying that her elderly neighbor has over 20 cats.

- Commissioner Crooks thinks Theresa Hildebrand has already talked to her
- Ultimately, it's the property owner's responsibility

Commissioner Cameron reported that she will be out the morning of Thursday, August 5.

The Clerk asked how she should proceed with the Genesis autopsy meeting.

- Prosecutor Welch has not responded
- Commissioner Crooks will reach out to Prosecutor Welch, as a courtesy

Commissioner Crooks reported that she asked Mark Zanghi about the Hoppy's Bar property

- Even though the property is in the Commissioners' name, it is under the authority of the Prosecutor because of criminal forfeiture
- Commissioner Cameron would hope that they ask before demolishing the building
 - There have been several calls inquiring about the property and we owe it to those people to let the Prosecutor know
- The Prosecutor feels strongly about bringing it down because they feel it sends a message that criminal and drug activity will not be tolerated and if landlords allow this activity to happen in their building, we are going to take the building
- Commissioner Cameron asked if we would have the right to refuse any bid, if the purpose was questionable

Could the Board ask Ron Welch to come to session to discuss?

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Commissioner Crooks said she asked Mark Zanghi, Assistant Prosecutor, about the appropriateness of the Commissioners sponsoring the concerts in downtown.

- Mark will research
- Also, is the advertisement in the Fair Program book appropriate

There was discussion regarding Ron Welch's Golf Outing

- Commissioner Porter would be a no

Racing Blanket

- Commissioner Porter would be a no

Fair Program advertisement will be individual payment

The following legislation was considered:

RESOLUTION 21-0652 accept the specification and authorize the advertisement for bids for Thompson Run Road, TR 421 Bridge Replacement (OPWC assisted project) as requested by Mark Eicher, County Engineer. Advertisement will run in the July 16, 2021 edition of the Zanesville Times Recorder and bid opening will be Monday, August 2, 2021.

Motion made by Commissioner Porter, seconded by Commissioner Cameron.

Roll Call: Crooks, aye; Porter, aye; Cameron, aye.

Motion carried.

RESOLUTION 21-0653 approve the Supplemental Appropriation of Funds within Fund Numbers 118 and 001, for the Muskingum County Clerk of Courts, as requested by Wendy Sowers.

SUPPLEMENTAL APPROPRIATION OF FUNDS

| <u>Description</u> | <u>Account Code</u> | <u>Amount</u> |
|--------------------|---------------------|---------------|
| Transfer Out | 118-122-510002 | \$180,150.00 |

FUND TRANSFER OF MONIES

| <u>From Fund</u> | <u>To Fund</u> | <u>Amount</u> |
|------------------|----------------|---------------|
| 118-122-510002 | 001-000-414002 | \$180,150.00 |

SUPPLEMENTAL APPROPRIATION OF FUNDS

| <u>Description</u> | <u>Account Code</u> | <u>Amount</u> |
|--------------------|---------------------|---------------|
| Vehicle | 001-458-506010 | \$180,150.00 |

Pursuant to ORC 325.33 and upon mutual agreement of the Board of Muskingum County Commissioners and Muskingum County Common Pleas Clerk of Courts, an excess has been declared in the Certificate of Title Administration Fund to assist with the purchase of five 2021 Ford Police Interceptor Utility vehicles.

Motion made by Commissioner Cameron, seconded by Commissioner Porter.

Roll Call: Crooks, aye; Porter, aye; Cameron, aye.

Motion carried.

RESOLUTION 21-0654 accept in accordance with the Ohio Revised Code Section 5591.42 the weight limit changes for various bridges throughout Muskingum County as determined by Muskingum County Engineer Mark Eicher, as follows:

SFN6035582, TR 424, Elmville Road New Superstructure, Remove Load Limit

Motion made by Commissioner Porter, seconded by Commissioner Cameron.

Roll Call: Crooks, aye; Porter, aye; Cameron, aye.

Motion carried.

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RESOLUTION 21-0655 approve the Supplemental Appropriation of Funds within Fund Number 028, for the Muskingum County Recorder, as requested by Cindy Rodgers.

SUPPLEMENTAL APPROPRIATION OF FUNDS

| <u>Description</u> | <u>Account Code</u> | <u>Amount</u> |
|---------------------------------|---------------------|---------------|
| Housing Trust Fund – State Fees | 028-113-511317 | \$128,700.00 |
| 1% Admin Fees | 028-113-511105 | \$ 1,300.00 |

Motion made by Commissioner Cameron, seconded by Commissioner Porter.

Roll Call: Crooks, aye; Porter, aye; Cameron, aye. Motion carried.

RESOLUTION 21-0656 approve and authorize the ADVANCE of Funds from Fund 055 to Fund 173-Licking View Project, for the Muskingum County Sewer Department as requested by Peggy Taylor, Office Manager, as follows:

ADVANCE OF MONIES

| <u>From Fund</u> | <u>To Fund</u> | <u>Amount</u> |
|----------------------------|---------------------------|---------------|
| 055-372-510001 Advance Out | 173-000-414001 Advance In | \$198,000.00 |

SUPPLEMENTAL APPROPRIATION OF FUNDS

| <u>Description</u> | <u>Account Code</u> | <u>Amount</u> |
|--------------------|---------------------|---------------|
| Contract Services | 173-372-504001 | \$98,000.00 |
| Land | 173-372-506030 | \$50,000.00 |
| Contingency | 173-372-504999 | \$50,000.00 |

Motion made by Commissioner Porter, seconded by Commissioner Cameron.

Roll Call: Crooks, aye; Porter, aye; Cameron, aye. Motion carried

RESOLUTION 21-0657 authorize Mollie S. Crooks to sign on behalf of the Board of Muskingum County Commissioners Pay Request #9 for Reimbursement for expenses paid by the County for the Water Main Extensions to North Moose Eye, Lodge, Maplebrook, Nel-Da-Mar, Tammy, McKinley & Tavenner Roads payable to Muskingum County Treasurer in the amount of \$36,698.31 for reimbursement to the Muskingum County Water Department.

Motion made by Commissioner Cameron, seconded by Commissioner Porter.

Roll Call: Crooks, aye; Porter, aye; Cameron, aye. Motion carried.

Commissioner Cameron reported a call from Ruth Ware asking if the Hopewell Township Trustees could make Polks clean up along SR40, including Hopewell School.

- Commissioner Porter received a similar call from someone asking that their name not be used, but asking if there is anything that can be done....SR40 is a disgrace
 - Zoning is the only way to accomplish that

The Clerk shared an email from Kurt Ufholz at the Center for Seniors asking how to get reimbursement for Mr. Boyer's salary.

- He will be asked to send a monthly invoice to the Commissioners
 - The Clerk will communicate that to Kurt

The Clerk presented invoices from Modern Glass for the Lorena.

- She was instructed to forward them to Kelly at the CVB

Commissioner Crooks asked about the Civil War reenactment for the Lorena this year, as mentioned by Kelly Ashby last week.

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- Her feeling was that Kelly may have been hesitant because of the general atmosphere of the Country right now
 - Commissioner Porter said, that's part of our history
 - Commissioner Cameron said it was okay with her, if the Captain is okay with it

Commissioner Cameron asked if Pam had received any response from the CCAO all-call for information requested for a job description for an ARP Administrator.

- A call was placed to Pam and she will send out an email

Commissioner Cameron asked about calling the Hopewell Township Trustees about the phone calls they received regarding SR40.

- Commissioner Porter's not sure the Trustees can be made to clean it up, or if they have the means to clean it up

The Clerk reported that Mr. Boyer, Interim Director, Center for Seniors will be attending Thursday's Session.

- Commissioner Cameron asked about allowing the Center to lease their space for events, to perhaps generate some additional income
 - Commissioner Crooks believes that is something that needs clarified in their lease agreement
 - Commissioner Porter said the previous Board didn't feel it was necessary for us to be in competition with other businesses trying to do the same
 - Commissioner Crooks would think that could be a good revenue source, would like to see us give them a little more leeway on that
 - Commissioner Cameron asked Ann's thoughts on that
 - Commissioner Porter didn't recall

11:04 a.m. the following was considered:

RESOLUTION 21-0658 open public hearing for 2022 Budget.

Motion made by Commissioner Porter, seconded by Commissioner Cameron.

Roll Call: Crooks, aye; Porter, aye; Cameron, aye.

Motion carried.

WHIZ reporters were the only guests in attendance.

Pam Davis, Human Resources and Stan Lucas, Sewer Department Manager came to see the Commissioners and the following was considered:

RESOLUTION 21-0659 declare an Executive Session at 11:19 a.m. for the purpose of discussing a Personnel Matter pertaining to that of a public employee of Muskingum County Sewer Department. This session ended about 11:47 a.m.

Motion made by Commissioner Porter, seconded by Commissioner Cameron.

Roll Call: Crooks, aye; Porter, aye; Cameron, aye.

Motion carried.

Commissioner Porter reported that the Mayor brought it to his attention last night that the Hazardous Waste advertisement was incorrect.

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- It had MATC instead of Zane State
- Commissioner Porter called Rob Reiter this morning to let him know
 - He will take care of it

The Commissioners adjourned for lunch to resume session at 1:30 p.m.

At 1:30 p.m. the Commissioners met at 2850 Dixon Road to view a vacation request by Washington Township Trustees.

Those in attendance:

Denis Swierz, County Engineer's Office

James Porter, Commissioner

Cindy Cameron, Commissioner

Mollie Crooks, Commissioner

Doug Culbertson, Township Trustee

Ronald Luburgh, Landowner

Ruth Luburgh, Landowner

The following was then considered:

RESOLUTION 21-0662 open the Road Vacation Viewing for Garrett Avenue, Washington Township, Muskingum County.

Motion made by Commissioner Cameron, seconded by Commissioner Crooks.

Roll Call: Crooks, aye; Porter, aye; Cameron, aye. Motion carried.

While at the viewing, Commissioner Cameron asked Doug Culbertson about Pat Keck's request for South Pleasant Grove Road.

- Doug said it was taken care of last week

2:00 p.m. The Commissioners returned to the office.

The Clerk is to ask Pam about the lunch for the Department Head meeting on the 29th.

Commissioner Crooks reported that Prosecutor Welch said he would walk over to talk with the Commissioners this afternoon.

The Commissioners addressed the minutes of July 01, 2021.

- The Clerk is to watch the video to clarify a couple of things

Commissioner Crooks confirmed that everyone was in agreement with the hiring of an Administrator for the management of the ARPA funding.

- Commissioner Cameron has already obtained two job descriptions from Fairfield and Licking Counties
 - She also reported that Denis Swierz is working on estimates for the Juanita Drive project
 - She would also like to consider the Lear property...it is in the City, but the City is in the County
- Should this position be an attorney

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- Would prefer governmental background

Ron Welch, Prosecutor, came to discuss Genesis autopsies.

- He reported that there are currently approximately 500 forensic pathologist in the United States
 - There is a need for 1100 – 1200
- Forensic pathologists are only permitted to do a maximum of 350 autopsies annually; can lose certification if doing more
 - Preferred method is two per work day
- Caseload is climbing do to the number of drug related deaths
- Prosecutor Welch talked with Dr. Wegner at Genesis approximately a week ago, who said that (autopsies) is absolutely something the hospital will not be doing
 - It would have to involve building a new morgue which would be approximately \$10 - \$12 million
- Dr. Wegner was absolute in his answer to Prosecutor Welch

Prosecutor Welch was asked about Hoppy's Bar on Putnam Avenue.

- He has talked with the Mayor and understands that the Mayor wants to repurpose the building
- There have been three people shot there; drug sales and after hours alcohol sales
- The Prosecutor wants to send a message to landowners that are allowing their property to be used for illegal uses, that the building will be torn down

Can the Prosecutor demolish the building without telling the Commissioners?...yes and they can eventually get a permit to tear it down with or without the Commissioners' approval

- There have been 4-5 people ask about the building
- What if a legitimate business in that building fails and it falls back in to the wrong hands
- There has never been a legal establishment in this building
- He feels it better serves the community if the building is no longer there
 - The Commissioners now better understand the Prosecutor's position

Commissioner Cameron asked Prosecutor Welch about the drug seizure money

- Are there stipulations on how this money is spent?
 - Yes,
 - Drug Awareness Programs
 - Drug Investigations
 - Undercover Materials

The Prosecutor was asked about his current space

- He currently has 26 employees and 31 spaces
 - One space is a library
 - Two trial prep rooms
 - One conference room
 - One office with two administrative staff
- In need of space for Diversion Office
- Need a space for Drug and Mental Health Specialist to help Juvenile Court
 - No extra space available
 - Mental health may be most problematic issue at this time

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- Would Prosecutor's Office be interested in the CHASE Building
 - Their situation isn't conducive to an open floor plan
 - People need closed-door space
 - Security would be an issue
 - No fire suppression
 - But, the building could be workable
 - No way to renovate the space they are currently occupying
 - They are looking bring a therapy dog on board to help the children they serve
- Putnam Building will not work for them
 - HVAC \$75,000
 - Roof \$250,000
 - More interested in developing more of a house-type setting
 - Parking an issue

Commissioner Cameron asked the Prosecutor his opinion of the need for a jail

- Not a matter of if, a matter of when
- During COVID the Department of Rehabilitation would only take six prisoners at a time
 - The Prosecutor's office was indicting more than six a week
 - At that point you are making determinations that involve safety as to who to let out
 - Number of females is also increasing
 - Youth numbers are multiplying
 - No place to put people

Commissioner Porter reported that Captain Page called him at lunchtime

- Pae Ohana would like for the Lorena to transport kayakers four miles up the river and let them off to float back down the river, stop at Terry's Tavern then float across to Muddy Misers
 - Sunday's only; 11:00 a.m. – 2:00 p.m. ; \$200 per hour
- Commissioner Porter would caution against just throwing people in the river
 - Cannot predict the current on the river
 - Coast Guard would allow kayak, canoes and rafts on the Lorena
- Captain Page and Kelly Ashby are okay with it
- Commissioner Cameron would suggest trying it for one month
- Commissioner Porter would say the liability scares him; river nothing to mess with
 - Suggests checking with legal
 - Pae Ohana would handle the logistics and the Lorena would get paid \$200 per hour

There was discussion regarding the Administrative Position for the ARP money.

- Commissioner Porter would suggest hiring someone with experience, not a friend
- Commissioner Cameron's purpose in bringing this up, is that because the three Commissioners will never agree, if we had an Administrator, their job would be to know the ARP funding frontwards and backwards

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- We could tell them who's requested and they could tell us if allowable
 - They would keep track of how much spent
 - Help with the reporting process
 - Meet with the Board every Monday and Thursday to update and for Commissioner input
- There are two job descriptions; one from Fairfield County and one from Licking County
 - Pam will find out their salaries

There was a review of the Sewer Department Field Supervisor position from Pam Davis, Human Resources.

The Commissioners addressed Soil and Water's request for a Pollinator Garden outside of their office.

- Commissioner Porter said he would agree as long as they take care of it
- Scott Lee, Facilities Supervisor, was called to the session room to discuss
 - It was decided to ask Soil and Water to maintain the entire area so maintenance doesn't have to mow anything

The following was now considered:

RESOLUTION 21-0660 approve the Muskingum Soil and Water Conservation District to establish a Pollinator Plant Demonstration Garden near their office, partnering with the Muskingum County Master Gardeners to create the Rural Services Building Pollinator Plant Garden. It will also serve as an education facility by the MSWCD and the Master Gardeners. Motion made by Commissioner Cameron, seconded by Commissioner Porter.
Roll Call: Crooks, aye; Porter, aye; Cameron, aye. Motion carried.

Scott will notify Soil and Water.

There was discussion regarding Judge Fleegle's salary increase request.

- Commissioner Cameron suggested we call Judge Fleegle and tell him there's not an agreement and ask him if he wants to come down and see what he says

Pam Davis, Human Resources, came to discuss the Sewer Department position posting. The following is now considered:

RESOLUTION 21-0661 approve the posting of the position of Field Supervisor for the Muskingum County Sewer Department. This request was submitted by Pam Davis, Human Resources. Motion made by Commissioner Cameron, seconded by Commissioner Crooks.
Roll Call: Crooks, aye; Porter, aye; Cameron, aye. Motion carried.

There was continued discussion with Pam regarding the ARP Administrative position.

Mark Zanghi, Assistant Prosecutor, came to see the Commissioners.

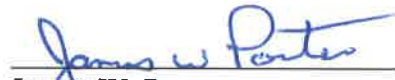
- Commissioner Porter asked him about the proposal from Pae Ohana regarding Lorena transportation

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- Mark said there would have to be an agreement between the County and the vendor
 - The vendor would sign a waiver holding the County harmless
 - Mark is willing to draft an agreement before the County would consider agreeing to proceed

With no further business being before the Board, the meeting was adjourned at approximately 4:47 p.m. on the motion of Commissioner Cameron and the second of Commissioner Porter.


Mollie S. Crooks


James W. Porter


Cindy S. Cameron

This is a condensed version of today's session. For a more detailed account, feel free to request a DVD recording.