The Finance Committee for the Village of Monroeville met on Tuesday, March 29th, 2022 at 6:00 PM, in the MMC Council Chambers, for the purpose of discussing the proposed budget and any other financial issues to come before them.

Present were: Chris Raftery, Joe Galea, Bob Whitacre, Sam Wiley, Craig Franklin, Sue Rogers, Mayor Fries-Seip, Bonnie Beck (via conference call), Tom Gray, Heather Alicea, Ann Beck, Dave Hamons and Chief Gary Lyons.

Bonnie referenced the wage Ordinance that was passed at the December 2021 Council meeting, in regards to Village employee’s being given a $3.00 an hour increase. At that time, it was agreed upon by Council that 2022 would be the year to cut back on costs in order to support the wage increase. Bonnie gave an overview of the annual budget that will be turned in to the Huron County Auditor. It’s a skeleton budget right now. The final numbers are still in process since there have been staff shortages due to illness in the Village Administrative office. Bonnie verified with the Auditor’s office that the budget she will be turning in is acceptable and verified that she can provided an amended, full budget to the Auditor’s office in April of 2022. Bonnie went over the line items for the General Fund, Special Revenue Fund, Capital Project Funds, Enterprise Funds, Debt Service Funds and Custodial Funds. The budget cannot be approved until the regular Council meeting in April 2022. Bonnie pointed out that the vinyl siding for the park restrooms and shelter houses, in the amount of $4,800.00, would impact the General Fund. It may be a good idea to hold off on that expense this year. There is an expenditure for $11,073.00 for two fire hydrants and the labor to install them. Bob asked where the placement is and Tom said he would find out before a decision is made at the April Council meeting. Bonnie advised that Council will have to approve any overnight expenditures in regards to the training Chief Lyons has asked Lieutenant Kimball to attend. Chief Lyons verified that the training is scheduled for three separate weeks in September, October and November of 2022. The training, hotel & meals come to around $4,500.00, as well as the mileage reimbursement for $365.04. Chief Lyons can bring his presentation to Council for approval at the April Council meeting. Bonnie advised of the resurfacing for Brown and Hollister Street in the amount of $45,000.00 that will come from the Street Fund. Discussion in regards to the cost of PPE supplies, equipment and requirements. Tom advised Fisher-Titus could be brought into the discussion for PPE. The Electric Department has an AED device and the police department AED devices are expired. The water treatment plant will have four windows installed at the amount of $8,000.00 and there is money in the set aside fund to do that. Discussion in regards to new trucks possibly being purchased this year as well as the delivery schedule and possible delays. A new clarifier will need to be purchased at the cost of $32,000.00 and ARPA money can be applied to that expenditure. Council previously approved the $16,500.00 expenditure for sewage disposal. Tom added to that and advised sewage will be transferred by the dump truck to the Huron County Transfer station, at which point Rumpke will pick it up and transport it on the county’s dime, which lets the Village avoid the tipping fee. Discussion in regards to costs for the Seepex grinder pump repair, automation zone, VAC truck service and repair, and a pump with check valve for the lift station. ARPA money could be used for the pump at the lift station. Discussion in regards to expenditures for the Electric Department: materials for street lighting LED fixtures, LED floodlights at various locations, animal guard installation on poles across the village, Herbert substation maintenance, motor operator bug switch at Herbert substation, solar power scada for the solar power field and St. Joe’s school three-phase conversion. Discussion in regards to Electric expenditures that will be over $2,500.00 and therefore will require Council’s approval. All of these expenditures will have to be approved at the April Council meeting. The Mayor asked Tom if the expenditures are required for this year. Tom verified they are and touched on the age of the Herbert substation. Dave Hamons spoke and verified the same. The requirement exists to make the necessary repairs this year. Chris asked if there is set aside money for the repairs. Bonnie advised no, as the set aside money is specific for vehicles, buildings and equipment. Chris asked if a set aside could be set up for these kinds of repairs. Bonnie advised a separate piece of legislation would have to be set up for that purpose and Bonnie would need to discuss this with Jim as well. No set aside can last more than ten years. Bonnie can look into it and prepare legislation if that is what Council wants to do. Council verified that they are interested in having Bonnie research it further. The Mayor advised that at least one Council member, possibly two, won’t be available for a meeting the second week of April. It was decided to hold the April Council meeting the last week of the April, on Tuesday, 4/26/22, at 6:00 PM. Heather verified that she will post the necessary advertisements for this. Bonnie advised Council that Lieutenant Kimball’s overnight lodging will have to be approved. Bonnie asked Chief Lyons if the expenditure is necessary for this year. Chief Lyons advised he would like for the training to occur this year. Bonnie asked Council if they can review the expense for approval at the beginning of the April Council meeting and then Bonnie can make that part of the budget. Chief Lyons advised he applied for a $1,000.00 scholarship to help with the cost of the training and the lodging cost is still being determined. Bonnie advised Council that anything that they make a motion on will become part of the Fiscal Officer’s report, since that comes before the legislation. The Ordinance can then be passed for the appropriations. Bob asked if ARPA money can be used for Electric repairs. Bonnie advised no, it’s for infrastructure.

There being no other finance business to come before them, the meeting was adjourned at 7:00 PM.

Respectfully submitted,

Heather Alicea, MMC

Administrative Specialist