

MUNICIPALITY OF MONROEVILLE
CAPITAL IMPROVEMENT PROGRAM

BUDGET HEARING

MAY 12, 2022

MINUTES

The meeting was called to order at 6:30 p.m. by Mayor Nick Gresock.

ROLL CALL

The following were present: Mayor Gresock, Joe Hyzy, Eric Poach, Robert Stevenson, Steve Wolfram, Mike Adams, Robert Williams, Dennis Biondo, Tim Little and Josephine Rock.

PUBLIC COMMENT

No one came forward at this time to make public comment.

MANAGER'S OVERVIEW

Mr. Little reported pursuant to the Home Rule Charter and Municipalities Planning Code the municipality is required to have a public hearing to discuss the Five-Year Capital Improvement Program. He explained the capital expenditures for the next five years will be discussed and the department heads will give presentations. He read from the Capital Improvements Overview as follows:

The Five-Year Capital Improvement Program (CIP) is developed by the municipality to plan for capital expenditures into the future. The primary use of the program is a planning document. In using a five-year period, we are better able to distribute the cost of capital improvements to ease the burden on taxpayers.

All departments have submitted their capital needs for the next five years. The manager and finance director met with each department to discuss those items and determine a prior list that would best serve the needs of the entire municipality.

The Governmental Accounting Standards Board (GASB) Statement No. 34 defines capital assets as follows:

Assets that are used in operation and have an initial useful life in excess of one year. The term considers tangible (land, buildings and improvements, vehicles, machinery and equipment and infrastructure) and intangible assets (easements, software and water rights).

The Government Finance Officers Association (GFOA) recommends a minimum capitalization threshold of \$5,000. The municipality uses that recommended threshold.

Mr. Little explained this meeting is to discuss the expenditure considerations then the funding needs would be discussed at the next meet.

Mr. Little reported there are seven categories for expenditure considerations as follows: Infrastructure, facility improvements, building security, equipment, vehicles, the fire department and

MS4. He briefly reviewed that all the categories are under the departments and suggested council can follow along with each department head as they make their presentation.

Mr. Little again stated the funding considerations will be discussed at the end of the public hearing at the next meeting. He pointed out Page 6 is a summary of all the departments combined for the next five years starting with 2022. He explained he included 2022 because some of the capital items have already been expended. He pointed out the summary includes 2022 to 2026 and the total for the five years is \$27 million. He reported the municipality does not currently have the funding in its coffers and it is up to council to make policy decisions on whether or not everything will be purchased or have all the programs that the department heads want. He suggested that is why the public hearings are held and it is to provide time for public comment at the meetings or through contact with the manager.

Mayor Gresock inquired when this should be approved. Mr. Little reported pursuant to the home rule charter the capital improvement program should be approved by September 30.

SENIOR CENTER

Mrs. Tara Gresock, Director of the Senior Center, came forward to make a presentation. She reported their building is old and most of the things included in the capital budget have been there since it opened in 1979. She reported the items on the list are according to priority down to a necessity. She stated the roof repair is their top priority and reported they had several leaks last week. She reported they have a flat roof and are supposed to tar and seal every two to three years but it has not been done in seven or eight. She explained now they are just fixing leaks as they occur but it is difficult to determine the exact location of the leaks. She stated there are currently too many leaks throughout the building and reported how it leaked in one of the classroom spaces. She reported most of the items will be addressed with public works because it is building maintenance. She stated it has been recommended that they use the same process as was done on the animal shelter building where they recently did a spray coat of sealer on the roof to cover at a cost of \$120,000. She pointed out these are quotes obtained over the last few months so it is uncertain whether these estimates would change by the end of the year. She felt this is a basic estimate of what it will cost.

Mrs. Gresock then referred to the heating and cooling units which are the original to the building other than the addition built in 2008. She reported all of them are over 25 years old but the one in the fitness area is in just as bad shape as the older ones. She felt this is the most pressing concern because the compressors parts for all of those units are no longer available and no replacements are available. She mentioned how Freon is very limited and only a certain amount can be purchased each year. She reported they already purchased their limit for this year which cost \$2,100 for a small container and asserted a new system will not be Freon based so it would not be a concern. She explained how they are nursing it along but if one of those units loses a compressor it cannot be repaired. She pointed out they have 11 units on the building. She stated the quote was \$175,000 and there was a 25 percent increase on May 1 so it will be more like \$200,000 or \$220,000. She reviewed how these estimates could change and mentioned how demand could be a problem. She felt the heating and cooling units are something that should be considered when looking at the capital budget. She mentioned several other buildings that are in the same situation.

Mr. Poach pointed out the heating and cooling units are in 2024 and the reseal in 2023. Mrs. Gresock indicated the manager put those under those dates. Mr. Poach suggested that may need to be

reversed. Again, Mrs. Gresock stated they may not be available this year. Mr. Poach asserted those items may be reversed.

Mrs. Gresock then referred to the installation of a rubber athletic flooring in the fitness center. She reported it currently has the original carpet that it had before it was turned into a fitness area. She stated that fitness facility was an expansion that was done in 2008 when it was half the size. She mentioned how it grew rapidly and is the most popular amenity that they have at the senior center. She suggested how Covid accelerated their concern for the carpet. She mentioned they are inspected by the Allegheny County Health Department and they followed their guidelines through Covid as well as the CDC and the Department of Aging. She reported how they have a lot of disinfecting that they have to do on a daily basis and carpet cannot be disinfected properly on a daily basis. She stated a new athletic rubber flooring can be cleaned and disinfected daily. She added it was recommended by the health department and the CDC guidelines.

Mr. Stevenson inquired about the size of the room and Mrs. Gresock was uncertain. Mr. Stevenson questioned how an estimate was made without the size. Mrs. Gresock indicated they measured it. She explained the price includes them removing all the equipment, laying the flooring then it sits for a time and they bring all the equipment back in. She stated the cost includes the supplies and the service. She reported the quote is from Advantage Sport and Fitness which is a Co-Star company and is the company used for their fitness equipment. She stated the quote is available if council wants to review it.

Mrs. Gresock referred to the renovation of the office area and suggested it is something they want to do for safety concerns. She explained the office area is currently one way in and one way out so this would include adding an emergency exit door. She mentioned the large craft room has a lot of unusable space which could be utilize to expand their office area. She stated this would be an expanded area for their employees and provide for an exit. She reported that was suggested when the safety analysis was done on their building. She added the remodel for the large social hall was also based on that assessment for the safety. She pointed out there are two division walls in that room that were from the original building that need to be repaired. She stated this would replace them and add new doors. She reported the safety analysis recommended the wooden door be replaced with glass so everything can be seen and it would better meet the fire codes.

Mrs. Gresock referred to replacing the carpet throughout the building which was last done in 2006. She mentioned the replacement of the kitchen and bathroom flooring and replacement of classroom tables and chairs. She explained those need to be replaced over time because of use.

Mrs. Gresock referred to building security and explained this is to add cameras to the outside of the building. She reported there is a lot of activity outside of the building in the evening and over the weekend when the center is not in use. She explained there is a gate that slows it down but people walk onto the property. She recommended cameras to better protect the building.

Mr. Poach referred to the bottom of the spread sheets and mentioned building security and questioned whether that is under administration. Mr. Little explained there is a security tab in the capital improvement programs because there are a lot of different hardware and software systems and he recommended a turn-key system with all of them with Mrs. Mular as the point person who will put it together. He explained instead of having them in each department, they want to go to a turn-key

system. Mr. Poach inquired whether the costs are divided between the departments and Mr. Little answered affirmatively. Further discussion ensued regarding cameras. Ms. Rock referred to Page 9 where the building security has been separated and it lists the four areas. She stated that is most of it based on the analysis done.

Mr. Stevenson pointed out the fitness floor is estimated at \$50,000 and the carpeting is \$50,999. He questioned whether one person is doing both of them and whether they got bids. Mrs. Gresock answered they got bids. She explained the athletic floor was done by Advantage Sport and Fitness and the carpet was done by public works. Mr. Stevenson inquired whether it would be cheaper if it was both completed by one firm. Mrs. Gresock explained the athletic floor is not even similar to the installation of carpet. Mr. Poach inquired whether the athletic flooring is coming from Co-Stars and Mrs. Gresock answered negatively. Mr. Stevenson inquired whether the carpet is included in Co-Stars and Mrs. Gresock answered that quote was from public works. Mayor Gresock inquired whether public works would install it or and an outside company and Mrs. Gresock answered an outside company. Mr. Little reported anything over \$21,900 does not have to be bid but that item does not have to be bid out if a company is on Co-Stars and it is over \$21,900.

Mrs. Gresock pointed out she is requesting the rubber athletic floor this year and the carpet in 2025. Mayor Gresock stressed the rubber flooring it a specialized floor for a fitness center.

Mrs. Gresock mentioned the power backup system is \$9,000 and she explained a problem with a power surge where they experienced a lot of damage. She reported they lost fitness equipment, a sound system, a server and they are still seeing the affects from it. She stated this is for the surge protection through the fitness area, the sound system and this would be a backup in their electrical room with the electrical boxes. She asserted it would double protect everything because there would be this and each individual area. She explained there were surge protectors in the fitness area but it went through the cable lines into pieces of equipment and blew them up. She reported they now have surge protectors that go through the cable boxes.

Mr. Poach inquired whether this is just battery backup and not a generator. Further discussion ensued regarding generators. Mr. Poach was concerned with the generator at the senior center because it could be used as a shelter. He inquired about its condition and Mrs. Mular reported it is serviced every year and they have been advised to get new batteries for it. Mr. Poach was concerned about the size of the UPS and how long it would last. Mrs. Mular was uncertain but she explained the same people that service the municipal building UPS won the quote to service the senior center. Further discussion ensued. Mrs. Gresock reported the public works people are in the building frequently and have never mentioned the generator needs attention. Mr. Poach explained it is not mentioned because one standard for life safety is to minimally operate the facility and get people out. He stated this is more substantial and it is needed to run for a week. He felt it needs to be included for all the buildings.

Mr. Williams pointed out it would cost at least \$75,000 to reseal the parking lot and it is at least ten years overdue. He suggested paving needs to be considered for all of it or at least part of it. Mrs. Gresock explained this quote it to just add the additional 30 parking spots and reseal because they have a major parking issue. Mr. Williams again stated the parking lot is at least ten years over its life. Mrs. Gresock also mentioned there has been discussion about changing the entrance and possibly connecting to the library lot from the new 30-spot parking area. She mentioned how it could hook up with the

library's proposed project in the back of their building. Further discussion ensued. Mr. Poach inquired whether the amount included is to deal with the current situation with lines and seal and Mrs. Gresock answered negatively. She explained this budget was done before the issue showed up with the cracking with the current parking lot. She reported there is a problem with the parking area with a severe crack with heaving across all the handicapped spots at the front. She was concerned with the heaving because seniors tend to have walking issues. She stated that is not part of the capital budget and it was reviewed before the paving schedule this year.

Mr. Adams pointed out 2022 is included in the spread sheets and he inquired whether the money is available to get these projects done. Mr. Little answered affirmatively and explained the municipality has already spent money on the capital items. Mr. Adams inquired whether the roof would be repaired this year and Mr. Little answered negatively. He explained an item in 2022 may get changed before the final approval but the things that have already been done will be taken off the list of things to do. Mr. Little reported the roof repair will probably not happen until 2023 unless there is a critical problem. Further discussion ensued. Mr. Little stated the document presented to council is generic. He explained when the capital improvements budget is complete there will be more narrative included giving an explanation. He stated items could be moved around according to importance.

MONROEVILLE LIBRARY

Mrs. Nicole Henline, Director of the Library, came forward to present their capital improvements budget. She referred to Page 26. She reported the Repair for the Building Entrance is included because it has been a safety concern because of poor drainage. She explained those drainage concerns were addressed with the 2022 Water Shed Grant that was just completed and now they need to rebuild and repair the entrance. She reported they have failing doors, floors, walls and lighting and there are gaps between the floor and the wall and between the wall and the ceiling. She pointed out the second item is to remodel and expand the vestibule and lobby. She suggested it be expanded during that remodel because it would allow them to become a true 24-7 accessible library without adding additional staff. She explained this expansion would allow them to have 24-7 accessible material pickup with computer use and printing, tax form pickup, printing and copying and other things. She stated materials would be available in lockers in an expanded vestibule.

Mayor Gresock inquired about the computer use and Mrs. Henline explained it would probably be for a 15-minute period. Mayor Gresock questioned whether staff would be available and Mrs. Henline answered negatively. She explained they would have the capacity to limit the computer use. Mr. Alan Rader, Assistant Director, explained that during the pandemic they had computers available that people could use without contacting any of the staff and this would have a computer available locked down. He stated this is proposing to expand the lobby.

Mrs. Henline felt the most important thing on the list is the HVAC replacement. She explained it would replace three roof-top HVAC units and some of the internal components that are over 30 years old. She reported if one of the units breaks down part of the building has to be closed and the replacement parts are becoming more difficult and expensive to maintain. She stated this would be preventative and would allow them to keep the doors open. She was concerned with getting parts if something breaks and it would be more efficient.

Mr. Poach inquired why the HVAC is not in the 2022 Budget instead of 2023. Mrs. Henline stated she did not put the numbers in the columns but would if possible have it replaced in 2022. Mr. Poach pointed out there are several units that must be considered including the senior center and the animal shelter. He inquired whether they should all be done all at once and Mr. Little suggested the expenses would spread over a few years. Further discussion ensued regarding the number of units they have and Mayor Gresock suggested group pricing for both buildings. Further discussion ensued regarding funding. Mrs. Henline explained whatever can be committed to on capital in one block could be included in a Keystone Grant and get a dollar to dollar match to improve some of the other things in the building that are not in the capital such as the bathrooms. Mr. Poach was concerned if it is moved to 2022 with the Keystone Grant application whether there is sufficient time or is it better to target 2023 with the grant possibility. Mrs. Henline pointed out 2022 is not enough time for the Keystone Grant but 2023 would. She explained whatever they can pull together they can apply for a dollar to dollar match. Mr. Poach stated it is okay to leave it in 2023 without a hardship.

Mr. Stevenson inquired whether there has been a study concerning a 24/7 vestibule and how many people would benefit from it. Mrs. Henline stated it has benefitted people in other areas and people have come to make drop off at all hours of the night. She mentioned Covid usage is an indicator of how people like to use the drop off pickup model with no interaction. Mr. Stevenson requested documentation to justify the cost of around the clock. Further discussion ensued. Mayor Gresock inquired whether there were other libraries in the Carnegie system that have 24-hour access without supervision. Mr. Radar explained there are two different things: One is the lockers for pickups and Two is the computer use. He stated it would be a minimal cost but the room is the expense. He felt certain they could find research to back up the usage for a 24-hour access. Mr. Steven requested justification. Further discussion ensued. Mrs. Henline felt it is definitely a benefit and they will find the statistics for their experience during Covid and what other libraries have experienced.

Mr. Biondo asserted the lockers and the printing accessibility are together and questioned whether it could be separated as far as costs. Mrs. Henline reported that number does not include any computer or copier. She stated it would be relocating a minimal amount of equipment. She explained this is just to rebuild, expand and include the lockers. Mayor Gresock clarified that it is the construction of the space and Mrs. Henline agreed. Mr. Stevenson inquired whether there would be a copier, computer and printer available for the public and Mrs. Henline answered affirmatively. She added that space could be utilized in other ways in the future. Mr. Poach asserted it would be a space for kiosk services.

Mayor Gresock referred back to the HVAC and inquired about the lead time needed. Further discussion ensued. Mr. Little asserted the ones approved for the municipal building will not be available until summer. Further discussion ensued. Mayor Gresock suggested those HVAC units should be ordered. Mr. Poach estimated over 20 HVA units are needed and Mr. Hyzy stated it would be 14 on the municipal building, 11 on the senior citizens building and 3 for the library. Further discussion ensued.

Mrs. Henline suggested the Keystone grant not be tied to it to anything until it is clarified what it will be used for.

Mrs. Henline then referred to the sidewalks and lighting. She reported the front sidewalk is beautiful because of the project done through the water shed grant but the sidewalks around the rest of the building including the two staircases are a problem. She explained it is not an immediate concern

because they have been patched but they need to be addressed soon. She mentioned the costs are included for the ramp outside of the children's room which is not ADA compliant.

Mrs. Henline reported the indoor lighting needs to be addressed. She explained it would allow them to save on energy costs, the maintenance needed from public works and provide better lighting for the public and staff. She gave an overview of the current lighting. Mr. Poach inquired whether this would be for a complete LED style system that balances the use of the electricity. Mrs. Henline asserted this would update the energy efficiency. Mr. Poach inquired whether the outdoor lighting should be considered to spread it out over all the facilities. Mr. Little stated it could be included under building security. Further lengthy discussion ensued.

Mr. Stevenson inquired whether anything would be installed to allow for charging of vehicles. Further discussion ensued. Mr. Poach suggested it may be considered for a grant. Mayor Gresock pointed out the library and senior center could be utilized or even a park could have charging stations.

INFORMATION TECHNOLOGY

Mrs. Tina Mular, Director, came forward to present the capital budget for information technology. She reported they have been purchasing computers as part of the operating budget and buying a department a year. She stated the prices have come down, they are always needed and there were also some financial classification so it was not considered capital. She reported she is requesting to upgrade printers and they can be done in one year but the servers has to be \$90,000 at one time but they are starting to move the servers to virtual. She explained the best way is to have one big unit that is fail proof that would house many servers. She stated it would be an elaborate unit with three main servers that back each other up and that it was expensive but worth it because it covers a lot. Further discussion ensued regarding security. Mr. Poach inquired whether this would include what was added in the police department and Mrs. Mular answered negatively. Mr. Poach asserted this larger system would provide more redundancy and protection for the critical IT infrastructure.

BUILDING SECURITY

Mrs. Mular explained some security companies have been researched regarding building security to get a camera system for all the buildings and door security access for the municipal building and public works buildings. She reported the system at public works needs to be addressed because it is antiquated and replacements parts are no longer available. She mentioned a turn-key system is proposed for the door system and the cameras so they can be watched from dispatch. She reported it would include monitoring for the senior center, library, public works and the municipal building.

Mr. Poach inquired whether it was considered for integration with payroll with card swiping and personnel coming to work. Mrs. Mular reported the municipality uses a staffing program and it was to consider switching the public works because of a hack but it is expensive. She suggested it could be replaced at public works and the municipality for approximately \$30,000. Further discussion ensued. Mr. Poach pointed out there is nothing in the budget for in 2025 and 2026 and the municipality should not get something now that cannot be added to in two or three years. Further discussed ensued. Mrs. Mular liked having a staffing program and the payroll and the staffing program exports information to the payroll. Mr. Poach stated those that were successful with Chronos is because they housed them on their internal servers first so the system continued to work. He inquired whether it was considered for

the size of the proposed server and Mrs. Mular stated it would add money to that server and hard drive space would be needed but she was uncertain whether it would change the plan significantly. Mr. Poach inquired whether this would help with the payroll and Ms. Rock was uncertain. Mr. Poach suggested that be worked on as another addition for the size of the server and consider the integration of the accountability system using card access. Further discussion ensued. Mr. Poach reported the technology has greatly enhanced but it would improve accountability and access integrated into the security systems.

Mrs. Mular referred to the number included in the 2022 Budget for the building security for the senior center which was the battery backup.

(A brief break was taken at this time at 7:35 p.m. and the meeting reconvened at 8 p.m.)

POLICE

Police Chief Doug Cole came forward to discuss the capital budget. Mr. Ron Harvey, former councilman and resident, came forward to provide information to council. He explained when the MS4 or the stormwater management section of public works was created consideration was given to where it would be housed. He reported it was proposed to be located at the fire training center that would require water and sewer lines, several trailers, fencing and equipment and vehicles. He explained an agreement was made with the firemen for the two things they needed, a shelter or pavilion and a bathroom building. He reported the MS4 moved in then out so they located the bathroom where the sewer and water lines that were located that were used for the trailers. He requested a single-shower room for the guys coming out of the training center. He reported the pavilion is completed and better than expected. He requested council appropriate the money for the bathroom and shower. He reported the police chief has a proposed project that this could possibly be incorporated into and save money and the firemen support it.

Mr. Adams stressed before the training center is taken over that public work is going to put something over there and would not be used for just fire and police. Chief Cole reported they are aware of that and the proposed project would be a bathroom/garage combination. He agreed that is the only place it can be located because of the water, sewage and electricity. He mentioned they have a project that could provide them with a funding source but all that space that has been allocated will not affect the proposed project. He reported the fencing left behind by the MS4 has been utilized for an impound lot and will be part of their next revenue-generating project. He pointed out when looking at the building to just put in a stand-alone bathroom they have space they can move out so they have a building with three or four garages so they will have a better training center during inclement weather. He stated it is a better flow and better training atmosphere and safety and utility of that property.

Mr. Harvey asserted it was discussed that the public training center was not going to be used for public works and every other thing that the municipality wanted to do. He suggested care be taken. Mr. Adams reported there was a public works building over there with the initial plans and Mr. Hyzy stated there was a salt dome. Chief Cole reported there was a garage spot and a salt dome. He stated there was a garage space for public works.

Mr. Adams suggested a pole building be constructed over there for storage of the MS4 equipment and there is no place to house it. He asserted a storage building will be used. Chief Cole and

Mr. Harvey agreed. Mayor Gresock suggested the municipality can start to think about what services need to pull together. Mr. Harvey reported initially the MS4 was going to build a separate building behind public works. Mayor Gresock asserted all the options can be discussed.

Chief Cole referred to Page 18 for the budget from 2022 to 2026. He proposed to purchase five cars every year for the next five year. Mayor Gresock inquired whether they were hybrid style and Chief Cole reported there are currently two hybrids in operation and four going through the upfit. Mayor Gresock inquired whether the staff has been happy with them and Chief Cole answered there has been a problem with one but no complaints on the others. Mr. Adams inquired the age of the hybrids and Chief Cole answered one year. Mr. Wolfram inquired about the model and Chief Cole answered Ford Explorers. He gave a lengthy description of the vehicles and their use. He stated there are no non-Explorer platform vehicles in the police department other than the detective division. Mr. Williams inquired why there are so many police cars parked at the police station. Chief Cole explained there are some officers in the station writing reports and the cars parking on the perimeter of the parking lot are the ones being rotated. He reported they have a partial take home program and there are nine supervisors with take home marked cars. He reviewed the benefit of the take home vehicles and the visibility in the neighborhoods. He explained how the cars are assigned and there are three officers to a vehicle. He added the vehicles are only being used five days a week instead of seven which gives more longevity. Mr. Williams inquired whether he had the miles per gallon on the hybrids and Chief Cole answered negatively. He explained what is taken from the old vehicles and how the upfitting is taking longer. Mr. Williams inquired about the mileage on a vehicle per day and Chief Cole stated it is 36,000 miles a month or 1,000 per day.

Chief Cole referred to the new pavilion near the fire tower that has been completed. Mr. Little reported the new pavilion and the rehabilitation range turning target system is complete. Mayor Gresock inquired about the funding and Mr. Little answered it would be taken from the capital or the fund balance. He explained a capital line was established which is paid by the American Rescue Plan Act (ARPA) and OPEB which was not in the fund balance.

Chief Cole reported the converting of the parking lot lights to LED is occurring now, the new restroom near the fire tower will be discussed with the rifle range platform bathrooms and garage for \$200,000. He mentioned the \$20,000 for the rehabilitation of the range tower structure can be deleted because it is being done now. He referred to the rehabilitation range turn target system and reported the FBI has allocated \$200,000 to do that system. He explained how the construction of the new tower has been started and being fitted. He reported when the turning target system comes in it will be instilled in the new tower. He approximated the cost at \$160,000. Again, he stated the whole fire range is being totally revamped and shut down. He pointed out there is \$200,000 for the rifle range platform, platform, bathroom and garage. He explained the bathrooms and garage will be constructed at the top of the hill before the range where the MS4 used to be housed with utilities. He stated it would be restroom, the shower facility, no classroom but the rest is garage and a poll building.

Mr. Adams mentioned the MS4 has its own budget and is paid for with the fee so they have available funds. Chief Cole referred to the salt dome that will sit to the right and the plateau will be filled in. He pointed out the benefit of being located close to a landfill is that there are no houses located around and none will be built on it when it closes. He asserted the firing range will remain unaffected.

Mr. Stevenson agreed that the sizes of some of those spaces need to be reviewed. Chief Cole referred to having agreements with companies that will be money makers that will build, do the soil samples and all the engineering to make it happen. He added they have to bring power to the project then the municipality will be able to bring more power to it once the lines are available. He suggested this is a win/win for everybody involved including public works. Mayor Gresock referred to the MS4 fees and suggested the percentages will have to be monitored so that the portion of the garage is appropriate. He felt this could satisfy multiple departments. Chief Cole agreed and asserted it is a public safety training center and has multiple purposes. He mentioned it accommodate fire, police and EMS and emergency management. He pointed out the front garage classroom is now becoming a regional area training center because of the garages. He reviewed the police training that is now mandatory and there will be more training in the front building for law enforcement.

Chief Cole referred to the improvements with the police floor and he briefly explained each floor in the municipal build has 10,400 square feet. He reported the police department operates 24 hours a day seven days a week with inadequate bathrooms and piece work has been done to make it functional. He reviewed different rooms, the dark room, storage room for video tape, an evidence room and there is a need for bigger garages. He suggested he is proposing a complete rehabilitation of the whole floor and he reviewed the age of the flooring and lighting. He felt the HVAC needed to be reviewed for that department separately. He mentioned the training room, interview rooms, the jails and suggested there needs to be a hard look at the entire department. He recommended it be reviewed by an architect. He stressed how the building is 22 years old and how everything has been used for 22 years. Further discussion ensued regarding the rooms. Chief Cole suggested the floor needs to be reviewed. He mentioned the radio project with the microwaves and how all the buildings will be tied together with a microwave system. Mr. Poach mentioned the security systems for all the facilities and buildings and how it could be integrated with the school district.

Chief Cole referred to the Upgrade of the IT connectivity and security and stated that can be decided on a regional level. He stressed how instrumental the IT department has been with assisting with the in-car and body cameras. He stated it has gone smoother than he thought it would. He was hopeful the record management, and new computer aided dispatch system that will be installed will be smooth because of their hard work. He pointed out one of the reasons they did the new updates on the CAD system and the record management system was because of the car cameras and the body cameras. He reported they now have a lot of video and explained how valuable it is. He stated it has been controlled here with our own servers and network and it needs to be maintained.

Chief Cole referred to the K9s at \$15,000 each in 2024 or 2025 but it could be 2023 and was hopeful that could be implemented after all the officers are hired. He mentioned how each dog officer has to have their own vehicle. He suggested they would need two vehicles during the five-vehicle replacement but they have to purchase special equipment for them to house the K9s.

Mr. Little inquired whether council was in favor of having K9s and Mr. Poach supported them. He felt the value of the dogs is great for the patrol side and the municipality has had to request K9s in the last of year to assist in a couple of search operations and active pursuits that came from other communities. He suggested when they were here as part of the regular patrol division it was an advantage and they were working every day. He felt from an operational standpoint the way a K9 unit is arranged can be expensive or they can be included in the every day operation. He stated it has always

brought value to what is done and he felt it is a reasonable approach to how they are trained. He mentioned the mandatory certification and upgrades that the dogs have to have. Chief Cole explained their issue has always been the Fair Labor Standards Act about how the officers are paid.

Mr. Stevenson inquired whether it is difficult to get someone to bring a dog and Chief Cole answered affirmatively. Mr. Stevenson questioned whether it costs the municipality to do it and Chief Cole answered negatively. Mr. Biondo pointed out the municipality could provide a lot of services to other communities and Chief Cole concurred. Mayor Gresock mentioned the mutual aid.

Chief Cole gave an overview of the past experience of the dogs in the municipality. He explained the problem was with the Fair Labor Act which required that the officer be paid for taking care of the dog and it became problematic. He reported it was done through comp time then it caught up then the officers were only working 1,400 hours a year out of 2,800. He explained since it was comp time it had to be used or lost and the municipality lost the utility of the dogs. He reviewed how the use of the dogs is cyclical. He recommended two dogs that would be used on second and third shifts. He reported the officers do not have to be paid hour for hour but they have to come to an agreement with the bargaining unit about how they will be paid extra to take care of the dog and do the proper training. He pointed out they were doing four hours of training per week or 16 hours of comp which equates to two extra days off a month times 12 is 24 extra days off a year because of training. He suggested to try to get them on an overlapping day where they train while on duty so the municipality would pay them some other way to make it happen. He suggested it is expensive but having that capability for drug interdiction is worth it.

Mr. Williams felt this would be a benefit to keep the citizens of Monroeville safe. Chief Cole reported he may be able to get the dogs donated through the district attorney's office or through grant funding. He estimated each dog to cost \$8,000 but the expensive part is the upkeep, the vehicle, the training, and how the officers are paid.

Mr. Stevenson requested a breakdown of what it would cost for each dog and officer per year and Chief Cole agreed. Further discussion ensued.

Mr. Stevenson inquired whether he stated that eventually they would go to all electric vehicles. Chief Cole felt it would not be in the near future but maybe in 30 years. He mentioned how remarkable the hybrids have been. He reviewed what equipment would be necessary to charge them and how valuable they could be but the hybrids are the way to go. He estimated by using a hybrid of Ford for a car running 24 hours 7 days per week at \$2.56 gallon of gasoline the municipality would save \$4,000 per year. Mr. Stevenson reported Chevy will install the electrical charger at your home for the price of the vehicles. Further discussion ensued concerning the number of miles per gallon and replacement of batteries.

Chief Cole referred to the addition of a drone and how it would be beneficial to the municipality. Mr. Poach reported this has been discussed with the knowledge that the architecture of the system that is being installed with the CAD system is opening up so eventually it can be used. Chief Cole reported a little structure the size of an outhouse would be built possibly in one of the parks to house the drone. He stated it would be dispatched on the CAD dispatch for hot calls. Further discussion ensued. Chief Cole proposed the drone now to cover public safety issues not just police. He explained it could be utilized for 20 hours for a large-scale event, standoff, a fire or a community event. He suggested this

would be aerial support that would aid in a pursuit. Mr. Poach mentioned how they can be used for search and rescue perspectives with infra-red radar. Further discussion ensued. Chief Cole explained how accurate they can be from a certain distance. He mentioned license plate readers which have been kept in the operating budget. He reported Gateway School district has discussed adding another camera by the Junior High School which would add another intersection. He did not see a need to do anything different with license plate reader cameras but maybe in the next five years there will be other things the municipality will be involved with. He felt they are extremely effective for law enforcement.

Mr. Little referred to Page 12 of the Capital Improvements. He explained the fire chiefs did not need to attend the meeting because their capital is the agreement for the volunteer fire departments on the fire trucks refurbish at \$150,000 per piece then in 2026 the purchase of a ladder truck and the refurbish of a ladder truck. He suggested the information on Page 12 is self-explanatory. Mr. Poach pointed out there was already an expenditure for this year for a ladder truck.

Ms. Rock suggested the proposed \$200,000 from the FBI has not been accounted for and how it would be funded. Mr. Little explained that is why the chief recommended moving things around. Chief Cole asserted they will be able to save some money and he thanked the FBI for updating the moving target system. He commended the public works for doing such a great job at the training center.

ADJOURNMENT

Mayor Gresock reported a lot of information was covered at this meeting and the next meeting is scheduled for May 19, 2022 at 6:30 p.m. He inquired whether September 30 is the target date the capital improvement budget should be approved and Mr. Little answered affirmatively. He explained that is what is recommended in the home rule charter. Mayor Gresock felt there is a lot time and there is a lot to consider.

There being nothing further to come before council at this time, Mr. Stevenson duly made a motion to adjourn the meeting at 8:57 p.m. and Mr. Wolfram seconded it. Upon a voice vote, the motion carried unanimously.

Respectfully submitted,

Timothy J. Little
Municipal Manager

TJL/sam