

VILLAGE OF MORRICE
REGULAR COUNCIL MEETING
VILLAGE HALL

Meeting was held as a Virtual Meeting due to the COVID-19 pandemic, under the authority of Senate Bill 1108 executed by the Office of the Governor of the State of Michigan.

Tuesday, December 8, 2020

6:00 p.m.

(Approved 01/12/21)

Meeting was called to order at 6:00 p.m. by President Harold Dickerson.

Council Members Present: Philip Hruska, Belinda Markell, Todd Scott, Robert Peterson, Phyllis Dickerson, and Harold Dickerson.

Absent: Cathy Mulholland.

Also Present: Attorney: John Gormley, Police Chief: Matt Balsley, Treasurer: Brian Swett, and Clerk: Karen McGuire.

Additions / Deletions to Agenda: Move: 10.3 Transfer Station – Concrete Pad to 11.4

Add: 11.5 Covid Hazard Pay

11.6 Reschedule Public Hearing for Ambulance Funding

P. Hruska noted that Amend Farm Contract is not on the agenda and asked if any information have been received. P. Dickerson replied that Mr. Richardson was in the office to pay the land rent and said he is working on getting the information ready for Council.

Guest Comments on the Agenda: None.

MOTION by H. Dickerson, seconded by P. Hruska to approve the agenda, as amended.

Roll Call: Ayes: B. Markell, P. Hruska, R. Peterson, T. Scott, P. Dickerson, H. Dickerson. Nays: None. Absent: C. Mulholland. Motion carried.

MOTION by P. Hruska, seconded by P. Dickerson to approve the November 10, 2020 minutes as received.

Roll Call: Ayes: P. Dickerson, R. Peterson, T. Scott, B. Markell, P. Hruska, H. Dickerson. Nays: None. Absent: C. Mulholland. Motion carried.

Special Guests: None.

COMMITTEE REPORTS

9.1 Personnel / Police / Transfer Station / Insurance / Retirement

No Report. T. Scott asked if employees are still working four days a week. Chief Balsley explained that the DPW employees are back to five days but the Police Department and Clerk are still only working four days a week.

9.2 DPW / Municipal Buildings / Park

DPW applications are still coming in. The deadline is Friday, December 11. Personnel Committee will begin interviews after that.

9.3 Streets / Sidewalks / Newsletter / Web Site

No Report.

9.4 Sewer / Codes

No Report.

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9.5 Zoning / Ordinances / Annex / 425 / DDA
No Report.

9.6 SSES
No Report.

9.7 Homecoming
No Report.

9.8 Budget

B. Swett reported that the Committee met on Sunday and went over the General Fund. They are starting work on the budget for next year. He will get the new numbers plugged in for their next meeting. The next meeting is scheduled for Sunday, December 13th at 2:00 p.m.

UNFINISHED BUSINESS

10.1 Offer on Lagoon Sprayer
The \$5,000.00 bid for the old sprayer has been received.

MOTION by H. Dickerson, seconded by P. Hruska to accept the ~~\$,5000.00~~ (correction) \$5,000.00 bid for the old sprayer rig as received.

Roll Call: Ayes: P. Dickerson, R. Peterson, T. Scott, B. Markell, P. Hruska, H. Dickerson. Nays: None.
Absent: C. Mulholland. Motion carried.

H. Dickerson will check with the lagoon operator to make sure that he is good with the sale and the price.

10.2 DPW Employee

H. Dickerson, H. Bradberry, R. Tribley, and P. Dickerson went through the applications received so far and found nine that they would like to call for interviews. P. Dickerson will get information from the DPW Supervisor regarding what job requirements will be.

R. Tribley wants to work two days a week at \$16.00 per hour with no on-calls. He will continue to help out if necessary. He asked about health insurance possibilities. The Budget Committee will consider this information and make recommendations.

NEW BUSINESS

11.1 Website Administration

Our Webmaster has submitted his intent to surrender responsibility for upkeep of the website and the Facebook page effective December 31. He will continue hosting services if the Village wants to continue using ENVISIONcity for its email and web-hosting needs. There was discussion. It was decided to seek applications for both the hosting and administration services. Chief Balsley and B. Markell will interview applicants.

11.2 Sale of Transfer Station Oil Drum

Since the Transfer Station no longer takes used oil Mr. Elsesser inquired about buying the smaller of the two drums. There was discussion about the size of the two drums and what price to ask for each. It was decided to take bids on the drums.

11.3 Quarterly Sewer Rate

H. Dickerson explained that the Clerk is suggesting that the sewer rate remain unchanged for the next fiscal year. 2020 has been a rough year for a lot of people and the expected cost of living increase, which the sewer rate increases are based on, will be only 1.3%. That would be an increase of \$1.33 per REU per quarter. With no objection from the Board, the Clerk will leave the sewer rates unchanged for the coming year.

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11.4 Transfer Station – Concrete Pad

T. Scott explained the need for a concrete pad at the Transfer Station. It will make it easier to clean up the construction materials that are dumped into the gondola and wind up on the ground. The heavy trailers are eroding the ground away from the container. It will be a 40' x 40' pad and connect to the pad that is already there. The pad will be 6" thick and be reinforced, there will be relief cuts in it. T. Scott presented two bids – \$11,880.00 from Hulett Concrete, LLC and \$10,850.00 from Keves Concrete. The work could possibly be done yet this year depending on weather. The gondola would have to be shut down for about a week to allow the concrete to cure. T. Scott would like to figure out some way for people to be able to unload by hand during that week. He has had experience with Hulett Concrete so suggested using them for the project.

MOTION by H. Dickerson, seconded by B. Markell to accept the bid from Hulett Concrete, LLC.

Roll Call: Ayes: P. Dickerson, R. Peterson, T. Scott, B. Markell, P. Hruska, H. Dickerson. Nays: None. Absent: C. Mulholland. Motion carried.

11.5 Covid Hazard Pay

Chief Balsley explained that the employees' cut in hours since the middle of June has saved the Village considerable funds. The Budget Committee said the income is over budget at this point. He is asking for some sort of relief for the employees that have continued to work throughout the pandemic. Something across the board for all full-time employees. B. Swett explained that the Village has received some Covid relief funding so the General Fund revenue has not taken the hit as expected and will be positive at the end of the year. There was discussion.

MOTION by B. Markell, seconded by P. Dickerson to include in the January 7, 2021 payroll Hazard Pay of \$2,000.00 for each full-time employee.

Roll Call: Ayes: B. Markell, T. Scott, R. Peterson, P. Dickerson, H. Dickerson. Nays: None. Abstain: P. Hruska. Absent: C. Mulholland. Motion carried.

11.6 Reschedule Public Hearing for Ambulance Funding

Clerk explained that the January 12th date approved at the last meeting will not allow enough time to compile all the information required for the hearing. Troy Parmalee, the Township Treasurer, who is going to help us through the process, asked that we move the hearing to a later date.

MOTION by H. Dickerson, seconded by P. Dickerson to move the Public Hearing for Ambulance Funding from January 12th to April 13th.

Roll Call: Ayes: P. Hruska, B. Markell, P. Dickerson, T. Scott, R. Peterson, H. Dickerson. Nays: None. Absent: C. Mulholland. Motion carried.

The two Public Hearings for the ambulance funding will be scheduled for March 9th and April 13th during the Regular Council meetings.

Review Financial Statements / Pay Bills

MOTION by P. Hruska, seconded by R. Peterson to pay the bills as presented. (List Attached.)

Roll Call: Ayes: P. Dickerson, R. Peterson, T. Scott, B. Markell, P. Hruska, H. Dickerson. Nays: None. Absent: C. Mulholland. Motion carried.

Announcements / Correspondence: None.

Guest Comments:

B. Markell wondered about sending a card to C. Mulholland.

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MOTION by H. Dickerson, seconded by P. Dickerson to adjourn the meeting.

Roll Call: Ayes: P. Hruska, B. Markell, T. Scott, R. Peterson, P. Dickerson, H. Dickerson. Nays: None.
Absent: C. Mulholland. Motion carried.

Meeting adjourned at 7:30 p.m.

Harold Dickerson, Village President
Karen McGuire, Clerk