

VILLAGE OF MORRICE  
REGULAR COUNCIL MEETING  
VILLAGE HALL

Tuesday, February 08, 2022

6:00 p.m.

(Approved 02/22/22)

Meeting was called to order at 6:05 p.m. by President Harold Dickerson.

Pledge of Allegiance was recited.

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

Absent: Andy Flynn.

Also Present: Attorney: John Gormley, Police Chief: Matt Balsley, DPW: Hayden Bradberry, and Clerk: Karen McGuire.

Additions / Deletions to Agenda: None.

Guest Comments on the Agenda: None.

MOTION by H. Dickerson, seconded by P. Hruska to approve the agenda. All ayes. Motion carried.

MOTION by P. Hruska, seconded by H. Dickerson to approve the January 25, 2022, minutes with rate percentage point errors regarding the Granger contract to be corrected. All ayes. Motion carried.

Special Guests: None.

#### COMMITTEE REPORTS

##### 9.1 Personnel / Police / Transfer Station / Insurance / Retirement

Chief Balsley presented the January Complaints Response Report. He has issued a few snow notices. The Dodge had to have a sensor repaired today for about \$300.00 and needs about \$1,000.00 in further repairs. It is safe to drive so will hopefully make it until the new vehicle arrives. T. Scott mentioned that the rooster crowing problem is happening again. Chief will check into it.

##### 9.2 DPW / Municipal Buildings / Park

No Report.

##### 9.3 Streets / Sidewalks / Newsletter / Web Site

No Report.

##### 9.4 Sewer / Codes

No Report.

##### 9.5 Zoning / Ordinances / Annex / 425 / DDA

No Report.

##### 9.6 SSES

P. Dickerson explained that the recent vote for Chairman was done incorrectly and will have to be done over. The vote needs to be done verbally to comply with the Open Meetings Act. Attorneys have been consulted for direction for the correction. There is no need for a second to a nomination. T. DeLau, who was elected Chairman with the last vote, will be in charge until the vote is done over.

##### 9.7 Homecoming

There will be a meeting on Thursday, February 10th at 7:00 p.m. at Village Hall. Chief Balsley reported that he talked to Wolverine Fireworks and the cost for the same fireworks show as previous years will be about \$9,500.00 this year.

#### 9.8 Budget

P. Hruska reported that the budget draft in the Council packets has been updated with any changes necessary since the last draft was presented. The only significant change was to increase the line for the treasurer's salary to cover B. Swett helping J. Smith learn the job. H. Dickerson appointed T. Scott to the Budget Committee.

### UNFINISHED BUSINESS

#### 10.1 Mailers

R. Peterson reported that the mailers are at Speedy Printing in Owosso being put together. They will be two sided with Homecoming on one side and businesses on the other. The cost for printing and postage will be around \$1,700.00 for Perry, Morrice, and Shaftsbury mailings. The DDA will share the cost with the Transfer Station. The same Transfer Station coupon as before, \$1.00 off every \$10.00 spent, will be used. Will need to decide on an expiration date.

MOTION by P. Hruska, seconded by P. Dickerson to spend up to \$850.00 on the mailers printing and postage.

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

#### 10.2 Everstream Fiber

The plan for installation of fiber optics in the Village was reviewed by the engineer and the attorney, and their recommendations were considered by Council. It was decided that Evergreen will need to post a \$50,000.00 bond against damages and establish an escrow account to cover inspection costs. No action will be taken until the Village is contacted by Everstream and this information is relayed to them.

#### 10.3 Granger Contract

The Village attorneys have advised against signing the contract as presented. The Indemnity Clause needs to be removed as municipalities are prohibited from entering into indemnification agreements. The clause was removed from the contract five years ago and the law has not changed since then. J. Gormley suggested writing Granger a letter explaining the reason for the request and sending along a copy of the previous contract. Clerk will confer with J. Gormley before sending the letter.

#### 10.4 Morrice Meadows Expansion

After the last meeting a Morrice Meadows representative called to discuss the engineer's recommendation that they pursue the water supply matter with EGLE before any further action be taken. They believe that the engineer has misinformation regarding their wells and asked if they could move forward with the 14 lots, where most of the infrastructure is in place, as a separate phase of construction. Wolverine replied that no matter how many more lots they are referring to they still recommend that EGLE be consulted before any further development. Clerk has forwarded the engineer's recommendation to Morrice Meadows. No action taken. Will wait to hear back from Morrice Meadows.

### NEW BUSINESS

#### 11.1 Resolution – New Trash Rates

No action taken until contract issue is resolved.

#### 11.2 Jewel Estates – Storm Drain

When the last house on Sapphire was built the contractor filled in the lot with a lot of dirt, covering a storm drain on the lot/easement. Since then, there has been an ongoing flooding issue for the neighboring homes. The DPW has tried to find the tube but has not been able to locate it due to the amount of dirt deposited there. The easement has been located and staked by Wolverine Engineering. J. Gormley suggested that the DPW get an estimate from a contractor to move the dirt, locate the pipe, and repair the

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area. The Village could sue to recover costs. Would need the building permit date. The Village will have to get temporary construction easements for the work.

Review Financial Statement / Pay Bills

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

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

Announcements / Correspondence: None.

Guest Comments: None.

MOTION by H. Dickerson, seconded by P. Dickerson to adjourn the meeting. All ayes. Motion carried.

Meeting adjourned at 6:52 p.m.

Harold Dickerson, Village President  
Karen McGuire, Clerk