

VILLAGE OF MORRICE
REGULAR COUNCIL MEETING
VILLAGE HALL

Tuesday, September 13, 2022

6:00 p.m.

(Approved 10/11/22)

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

Pledge of Allegiance was recited.

Council Members Present: Harold Dickerson, Phyllis Dickerson, Todd Scott, Andy Flynn, and Robert Peterson.

Absent: Belinda Markell, Philip Hruska.

Also Present: Attorney: John Gormley, Police Chief: Matt Balsley, Treasurer: Linda Hudecek, DPW: Andrew Wiseley, and Clerk: Karen McGuire.

Additions / Deletions to Agenda: Add: 11.7 Parade Permit and Road Closure
11.8 Generator

Guest Comments on the Agenda: None.

MOTION by H. Dickerson, seconded by A. Flynn to approve the agenda, as amended. All ayes.
Motion carried.

MOTION by A. Flynn, seconded by R. Peterson to approve the August 09, 2022, minutes, as presented.
All ayes. Motion carried.

Special Guests: None.

COMMITTEE REPORTS

9.1 Personnel / Police / Transfer Station / Insurance / Retirement

Chief Balsley distributed the Complaints Report for August. He reported that there has been one reported Covid case at the schools so far this year. The school football team won their first game this year and the homecoming celebration will be Friday, September 23rd. The new vehicle delivery is expected sometime between September 14 and 20.

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 reported that there are currently 15 full-time employees, they need 18 to be fully staffed. One full-timer, C. Nichols, just resigned. Paid on-call wages will be increased to \$18.00 per hour. Chief Hubbard wanted a closed session for the camera issue. After returning from the session the Board voted to place a letter of reprimand in Hubbard's file. R. Peterson reported that the Grievance Committee has started files that will be kept updated.

9.7 Homecoming

No Report.

9.8 Budget
No Report.

UNFINISHED BUSINESS

10.1 131 Main Street
Nothing new to report. Still waiting for information on other possible heirs. R. Peterson asked about removing the abandoned trucks on the property. Chief Balsley said to start the process a written complaint needs to be received.

10.2 Surrender Sewer Tap – 122 E. Second Street
Have not received proof of capping line during demolition of house. Clerk will contact D. Feig and Espers again.

10.3 Audit Recommendations
The Budget Committee met and wanted to put some funds into CDs. Huntington does not offer 30-day CDs and there is a penalty for early withdrawal. Mark Cesere, of Huntington Bank, recommended using their liquidity portal to invest excess funds. The portal is a money market backed by AAA rated federal government bonds. It also pays a better interest rate than CDs. There was discussion about putting some of the funds in the new credit union coming to Perry. J. Gormley suggested checking with the auditors to get their opinion on using the liquidity portal and/or credit unions. Clerk will check with the auditor and see if M. Cesere can meet with the Budget Committee or the Council to discuss the liquidity portal.

10.4 321 Main Street – Proposal
Have heard nothing back from the property owner since AGS said she needed to start the entire planning process over again with the new proposal.

10.5 Perry Police Merge
The Village Committee met and are waiting for a call back from Perry.

10.6 School Traffic
No new ideas.

NEW BUSINESS

11.1 Transfer Station Prices
The Budget Committee met and decided that the rate increases at the Transfer Station will be effective in April. The signs will be updated, too.

11.2 Employee Wages
The Budget Committee recommends that rather than an hourly rate increase the employees receive a one-time payment based on 2% times their current wages times 40 hours per week annually (2080) for full-time employees and 2% times their current wages times average annual hours for part-time employees.

MOTION by A. Flynn, seconded by P. Dickerson to approve the one-time employee payments, as presented

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

11.3 Time Off – Covid Related
There was discussion about how the rules have changed since the Village established guidelines in April 2020.

MOTION by P. Dickerson, seconded by H. Dickerson to approve employees following these updated Covid guidelines:

- 1.) If exposed but with no symptoms can come to work - must wear a high-quality mask and test on the 5th day. If test is negative and no symptoms may remain at work while wearing a mask for an additional 5 day.
- 2.) With symptoms and a positive test employee must quarantine for 5 days and wear a high-quality mask. If on the 6th day the employee has been fever free for 24 hours, without the use of medication, and symptoms are improving employee may end isolation and return to work. Wearing a mask for an additional 5 days.
- 3.) The Village will pay the employee, who tests positive and must quarantine, their regular wages for their normal hours missed until they are fever free for 24 hours without the use of medication.

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

11.4 Audit – Corrective Plan

Clerk explained that the Village received a letter from the Treasury regarding our most recent Financial Report. It appears that expenditures exceeded amounts authorized in the budget for the Major Street Fund. And the Village is in non-compliance with the Uniform Chart of Accounts issued by the Treasury Department. We are required to submit a Corrective Action Plan for Improvement of Deficiencies. On further investigation it was found that the auditors used the original budget numbers rather than the amended budget numbers to complete the annual audit report causing this variance. The auditors will update the report and include it in the corrective plan to send to the State. The correct numbers will be in the bound copies of the report the Village receives. The auditors will update the Chart of Accounts for the Village and that will also be included in the corrective plan.

MOTION by H. Dickerson, seconded by T. Scott to approve the Clerk sending the Corrective Plan letter from Gabridge to the State upon receipt.

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

11.5 Drainage Structure – c/o Morrice and Melladee

The corner of Morrice Road and Melladee Lane has been an issue for a while. Drivers cut the corner too short and have eroded the edge of the pavement causing debris to fill in the drain. Since the re-pavement of Morrice Road the culvert there has been extended and the drop off is even more pronounced and dangerous. The DPW met with Marty from Wolverine Engineering to figure out how to correct the problem. He suggested they create a catch basin, making a small structure with a cement pad and dirt fill around it. They will leave a small ditch.

11.6 September 27th Meeting

MOTION by H. Dickerson, seconded by P. Dickerson to cancel the September 27th meeting. All ayes. Motion carried.

11.7 Parade Permit and Road Closure

Chief Balsley explained that next Friday, September 23rd will be the Morrice Homecoming game and parade. The parade will be on Main Street from South Street to Mason Street from 5:00 p.m. to 6:00 p.m. The road closure will be for the same roads and times.

MOTION by H. Dickerson, seconded by A. Flynn to approve the application for the parade and the road closure as requested. All ayes. Motion carried.

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11.8 Generator

H. Dickerson explained that two sealed bids were received for the generator. The highest bid was \$803.00.

MOTION by H. Dickerson, seconded by A. Flynn to accept the high bid of \$803.00 for the generator.

Roll Call: Ayes: P. Dickerson, T. Scott, A. Flynn, R. Peterson, H. Dickerson. Nays: None.

Absent: B. Markell, P. Hruska. Motion carried

Review Financial Statements / Pay Bills

MOTION by P. Dickerson, seconded by T. Scott to pay the bills, as presented. (List Attached.)

Roll Call: Ayes: R. Peterson, P. Dickerson, A. Flynn, T. Scott, H. Dickerson. Nays: None.

Absent: P. Hruska, B. Markell. Motion carried.

Announcements / Correspondence: None.

Guest Comments:

Dan Munro explained that there is a 10,000-gallon underground tank next to the fire department side of the building. It is filled with water from the parking lot drains and the eaves. Sand and dirt have settled in, and the tank needs to be pumped to be able to use the water in the firetrucks. The DDA will pay for the pumping and will also put a camera down to check the integrity of the tank. He just wanted to make sure there are no objections from the Board before proceeding. J. Gormley said the DDA will need to amend their plan to pay for this project.

MOTION by H. Dickerson, second by P. Dickerson to allow the project to move forward. All ayes. Motion carried.

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

Meeting adjourned at 7:00 p.m.

Harold Dickerson, Village President
Karen McGuire, Clerk