

VILLAGE OF MORRICE
REGULAR COUNCIL MEETING
VILLAGE HALL

Tuesday, February 28, 2023

6:00 p.m.

(Approved 03/14/23)

Meeting was called to order at 6:00 p.m. by President Todd Scott.

Pledge of Allegiance was recited.

Council Members Present: Todd Scott, Phyllis Dickerson, Bridgett Flynn, and Andy Flynn.

Absent: Philip Hruska, Robert Peterson.

Also Present: Police Chief: Matt Balsley, Treasurers: Linda Hudecek, Brian Swett,

DPW: Andrew Wiseley, Hayden Bradberry, and Clerk: Karen McGuire.

Additions / Deletions to Agenda: None.

Guest Comments on the Agenda: None.

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

MOTION by A. Flynn, seconded by P. Dickerson to approve the February 14, 2023 minutes, as presented. All ayes. Motion carried.

Special Guests: Beth Andrus – Update Broadband Expansion Opportunities

The SEDP has recognized County wide issues that they would like to address: a recycling center for the County, expanded broadband, and more affordable daycare. They have a consulting firm to help write grants. The Village does not qualify for expanded broadband as we are served by TDS and WOW. Day Starr is faster, but it is not here. It would cost about \$20,000.00 a mile to install. Cost for residents would be \$35.00 per month. Would need to get people to sign up in order to bring them here.

Safe Routes for Schools is a federal program to install sidewalks for walking to school. They offer \$300,000 per school and the Village has three schools. The funding is about 2 – 3 years out. The school would be the applicant. Someone will need to be responsible for the engineering. If sidewalks are installed on both sides of a street they have to be 5 feet wide, if only on one side of the street they will have to be 10 feet wide. The program will cover cross walk infrastructure and lighting. There are no dollar amounts available at this time.

PUBLIC HEARING

9.1 Property Tax Millage to Support Budget – 2023 - 2024

9.2 2023 – 2024 Proposed Budget

President Scott opened the Public Hearing for comments from the public regarding the Property Tax Millage and the Proposed Budget. There will be no changes to the Tax Millage rate. With no comments from the public the Public Hearing was closed.

COMMITTEE REPORTS

10.1 Personnel / Police / Transfer Station / Insurance / Retirement

The Dodge Cruiser was sold yesterday for \$5,300.00.

10.2 DPW / Municipal Buildings / Park

The DPW employees reported that the availability of cold patch from the County will depend on whether or not they have someone to load it. When the weather is bad all employees are out clearing the roads.

10.3 Streets / Sidewalks / Newsletter / Web Site

No Report.

Village of Morrice
Regular Meeting Minutes
February 28, 2023

10.4 Sewer / Codes
No Report.

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

10.6 SESA
No Report.

10.7 Homecoming
No Report.

10.8 Budget
The Committee had a meeting to firm up the budgets.

UNFINISHED BUSINESS

11.1 131 Main Street
The court officially appointed the representative for the estate. He will meet with the Zoning Administrator and look over the property.

11.2 Park Committee Resolution
TABLED until J. Gormley is available to present Resolution.

11.3 Park Grant
TABLE.

11.4 Perry Township Sewer Rate
TABLE.

11.5 School Traffic
T. Scott explained that the congestions happens when people who are not aware of the traffic flow try to enter against the flow. Chief Balsley again asked the Council to consider making Purdy Lane a one way from the south side of the bus garage to Main Street during the morning and afternoon pick-up and drop off times. Or to make Purdy Lane a one way all the time.

NEW BUSINESS

12.1 114 Main Street
The house next to the DPW is in bad disrepair. T. Scott talked to the building inspector about it and was told that he may have to condemn it if it's in bad enough shape. T. Scott asked if the Board wants to go that far right now or wait until the Phelps property is taken care of. People are currently living in the home and the taxes are being paid. Discussion regarding sending a letter to owners to bring it up to code or just waiting.

12.2 Village Hall Maintenance/ Roof/ Garage Door Frames
T. Scott explained that the roof is spongy in the area by the hose dryer. It is not leaking but would like to remove the hose dryer completely as there were issues on the other side of it previously. The garage door frames at the Fire Hall and the Police Department are in need of repair. T. Scott will talk to Chief Hubbard and look into costs.

12.3 2022 – 2023 Budget Amendments
The 2022 – 2023 Budget Amendments were presented.

MOTION by A. Flynn, seconded by P. Dickerson to adopt the 2022 – 2023 Budget Amendments as presented.

Village of Morrice
Regular Meeting Minutes
February 28, 2023

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

12.4 Set Property Tax Millage Rate for 2023 - 2024

No proposed millage changes for the coming year – rates will remain the same as last year.

MOTION by A. Flynn, seconded by P. Dickerson to approve the 2023 – 2024 Property Tax Millage Rate with no changes from previous year.

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

12.5 Adopt 2023 – 2024 Budget

B. Swett explained the budgeting process. The Committee planned transfers of funds for road projects thinking to not have to borrow to cover the costs.

MOTION by A Flynn, seconded by P. Dickerson to approve the 2032 – 2024 Budget, as presented.

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

12.6 H.S.A. Employer Contributions

The budget includes contributions of \$300.00 per quarter to the H.S.A. accounts for each eligible full-time employee.

MOTION by A. Flynn, seconded by P. Dickerson to approve the \$300.00 per quarter H.S.A. contributions as presented.

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

12.7 Employee Wages

The 2023 – 2024 Budget includes wage increases for all employees of 4% effective 03/01/23.

MOTION by A. Flynn, seconded by P. Dickerson to approve the 4% wage increase for all employees effective 03/01/23.

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

Announcements / Correspondence: None.

Guest Comments: None.

MOTION by T. Scott, seconded by A. Flynn to adjourn the meeting. All ayes. Motion carried.

Meeting adjourned at 7:43 p.m.

Todd Scott, Village President
Karen McGuire, Clerk