

VILLAGE OF MORRICE
REGULAR COUNCIL MEETING
VILLAGE HALL

Tuesday, May 9, 2023

6:00 p.m.

(Approved 06/13/23)

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

Pledge of Allegiance was recited.

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

Absent: Philip Hruska.

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

Additions / Deletions to Agenda: Add: 11.2 Dollar General and Townhouses – Open Discussion

Guest Comments on the Agenda: None.

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

MOTION by A. Flynn, seconded by R. Peterson to approve the April 11, 2023, minutes, as presented. All ayes. Motion carried.

Special Guests: Katie Nickels – DayStarr Residential Sales Specialist

Ms. Nickels and associate, Austin Klapko, an engineering supervisor, both from the Owosso DayStarr office explained some of the options available to the Village and the corresponding costs. Basically, it would cost the Village approximately \$300,000 for the design and construction to bring DayStarr fiber internet to the Village. Or they would need a 180-home commitment to cover the costs. Council will need to decide if they are interested in pursuing the options and let DayStarr know. T. Scott will be the contact person for the Village. DayStarr can put together a survey for Village residents to see if there is interest in the service.

MOTION by T. Scott, seconded by A. Flynn to allow DayStarr to create and circulate a survey, All ayes. Motion carried.

COMMITTEE REPORTS

9.1 Personnel / Police / Transfer Station / Insurance / Retirement

No Report.

9.2 DPW / Municipal Buildings / Park

H. Bradberry reported that the Summer Rec group would like to add a t-ball field out back and a parking lot just north of the drive at the Park. They have been working on the ball field and the benches to get them ready for the season. There was discussion and it was decided that they will need to bring plans to a Council meeting for review before a decision can be made.

9.3 Streets / Sidewalks / Newsletter / Web Site

H. Bradberry explained that the drain in the parking lot at the Methodist Church is causing a sinkhole. They might have to tear out a chunk of the sidewalk and parking lot to make the repairs.

9.4 Sewer / Codes

T. Scott explained that he met with Steve Hughes, the lagoon operator, today and he reported that the muskrats are causing damage to the lagoon liners again. Need to figure out how to get rid of them.

B. Andrus said she knows a trapper who may help.

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

9.6 SSES

P. Dickerson reported that the estimate to rebuild the tower truck ladder is \$26,000. Chief Hubbard would like to become a member of the National Volunteer Fire Council. They offer on-line training. Electric Vehicle fire training is available and needed. Tanker 3 has been sold for \$15,000. Ambulance Inspection passed for 2023, certificates will be good through March 31, 2024. Burns Township has sent a letter regarding the ambulance assessment increase. They don't want the increase for seasonal campsites to be at the same rate as year-round residents.

9.7 Homecoming
No Report.

9.8 Budget
No Report.

UNFINISHED BUSINESS

10.1 131 Main Street

J. Gormley reported that there is a motion scheduled for the end of the month to tear down the buildings which have been found to be dangerous. The personal representative will likely propose surrendering the property. The Village will continue to mow the lawn so the property doesn't get out of control but will no longer add the cost to the property taxes.

10.2 Park Grant

D. Munro said earlier today that the SPARK Grant application is open again. He is not present to explain.

10.3 Perry Township Sewer Rate

TABLE. T. Scott and P. Hruska will meet with the lagoon operator, the engineer, and Perry Township Treasurer soon.

10.4 Village Hall Maintenance/ Roof/ Garage Door Frames

T. Scott reported that he got a bid back from Brown Home Improvement, Inc. for \$11,500. This would be to tear down the tower, put up rafters, repair the area, re-shingle, and reside. He is hoping for one or two more bids. And is still seeking bids for the door frames.

10.5 Resolution – Adjustment to the Ambulance Special Assessment

This will approve the Ambulance Special Assessment increase from \$65 per household per year to \$110 per household per year as approved at the last Council meeting. There are two typos that need corrected.

MOTION by R. Peterson, second by P. Dickerson to adopt the Resolutions as presented, with the two typos to be corrected.

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

10.6 Resolution – Category B Grant

The Category B Grant application will be for repair of Walker. There is one change to be made – the 60 degrees needs to be changed to 60 feet.

MOTION by A. Flynn, seconded by R. Peterson to approve the Resolution as presented, with the one correction to be made.

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

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10.7. Morrice Road Deterioration

T. Scott reported that he hasn't gotten an answer from the engineers yet.

10.8 Safe Routes to School

The walkabout to look at the sidewalks in the Village is set for May 24th at 2:30 p.m. Everyone is welcome and they will meet in front of St. Mary's.

NEW BUSINESS

11.1 May 23rd Meeting

MOTION by T. Scott, seconded by R. Peterson to cancel the May 23rd meeting. All ayes.
Motion carried.

11.2 Dollar General and Townhouses – Open Discussion

T. Scott reported that Dollar General is interested in building on Lansing Road just to the west of Dave Banker's business. They are discussing requirements with AGS.

There is interest in building townhouses on the vacant lots on Main Street. The business district is not zoned for residential on the ground floor. The Master Plan and the Future Land Use Plan would need changes. There could be a text amendment or conditional use zoning added to the Zoning Ordinance. Or it could possibly be accommodated with a Special Use Permit. There was discussion.

Review Financial Statements / Pay Bills

MOTION by R. Peterson, seconded by P. Dickerson to approve payment of the bills as presented (List attached).

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

Announcements / Correspondence: None.

Guest Comments:

A. Flynn said the Garden Club approached him to report that the Welcome sign at the corner of Morrice and Lansing Roads needs repair. B. Andrus mentioned that the DDA might help with the costs. T. Scott will check it out.

P. Dickerson talked about the flowers out front of Village Hall. She will continue to plant around the flagpole if Council wants her to but will not plant in the flowerpots anymore. They are in bad shape and the dirt needs replaced. T. Scott said he has some ideas for what to do about planting around the building.

MOTION by R. Peterson, seconded by T. Scott to adjourn the meeting. All ayes. Motion carried.

Meeting adjourned at 7:22 p.m.

Todd Scott, Village President
Karen McGuire, Clerk