

VILLAGE OF MORRICE
REGULAR COUNCIL MEETING
VILLAGE HALL

Tuesday, July 11, 2023

6:00 p.m.

(Approved 07/25/23)

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, Philip Hruska, and Robert Peterson.

Absent: Andy Flynn, Bridgett Flynn.

Also Present: Attorney: John Gormley, Treasurer: Linda Hudecek, DPW: Hayden Bradberry, and Clerk: Karen McGuire.

Additions / Deletions to Agenda: Add: 11.3 Old Sewer Truck
11.4 DayStarr Internet

Guest Comments on the Agenda: None.

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

MOTION by P. Dickerson, seconded by P. Hruska to approve the June 13, 2023, minutes, as presented. All ayes. Motion carried.

Special Guests: None.

COMMITTEE REPORTS

9.1 Personnel / Police / Transfer Station / Insurance / Retirement
No Report.

9.2 DPW / Municipal Buildings / Park
The Park building was broken into, and a window was broken. It is boarded up and repairs are in the works.

9.3 Streets / Sidewalks / Newsletter / Web Site
The next road work is scheduled to begin on August 15th. A pre-construction meeting will be scheduled before the work begins. The Village did not receive the RAISE Grant applied for.

9.4 Sewer / Codes
T. Scott reported that the sewer meeting was held, and much was discussed. The flow meter for the industrial park needs to be replaced. Perry Township will be involved in the replacement. Pond #2 has liner issues that need to be addressed. May apply for a USDA Grant, still looking at the numbers. May consider a Perry Township expansion. There is still a muskrat problem at the lagoons. The DPW will look into setting traps.

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

9.6 SESA
P. Dickerson explained that the employee/incident investigation has been on hold due to a letter received from Perry Township. Mr. DeLau and SESA's attorney both responded with letters explaining why the actions were taken the way that they were. Mr. DeLau read his letter aloud at the meeting. The investigation will move forward. The Board voted for no more travel or training without prior Board approval. The Chief is still on temporary paid administrative leave.

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The Board also voted to reduce the Ambulance Household Assessment for campsites to one half the proposed cost if the campground is closed for one half of the year. They will be assessed at one half a residential unit. At this time that will be \$55.00 per site. If the campground is open all year each site will pay the full residential unit cost of \$110.00

9.7 Homecoming

No Report.

9.8 Budget

No Report. L. Hudecek asked that a Budget Committee meeting be held toward the end of August as that will be halfway through the fiscal year. The meeting is scheduled for Friday, August 25th at 5:30 p.m.

UNFINISHED BUSINESS

10.1 131 Main Street

J. Gormley explained that there is a motion coming up this week to ask the Court for authorization to tear down the buildings on the property.

10.2 Village Hall Maintenance/ Roof/ Garage Door Frames - Estimates

T. Scott reported that he has a bid coming from Jimmerson Roofing. He spoke to them today and will have the bid tomorrow. It is around \$10,000 so it is pretty close to the previous bid. They did find, while they were onsite, that there is a support beam that is rotting and should be replaced. The beam is not included in either bid. Will discuss at the next meeting.

10.3 Perry Township Sewer Rate

TABLED.

10.4 Morrice Road Deterioration

T. Scott reported that the engineer said the contractors for the next section of Morrice Road, TomCo Asphalt, will add on the repair for the portion of Morrice Road that is deteriorating to their project while they are here. He said the cost is reasonable, but we do not have the numbers yet.

NEW BUSINESS

11.1 July 25th Meeting

Will hold the meeting as scheduled to discuss bids for the Fire Hall repair.

11.2 Approved Mater Plan Update

The DDA would like to update the census data and the Board members names if it can be done without going through the whole amendment process. Nothing else in the Plan will be changed. J. Gormley said that any change requires the whole amendment process. The Plan must be reviewed every five years and can be amended or remain unchanged. This is the review year for the Plan. He suggested that they could hold off on the minor changes until the next review. The fact that the Plan was reviewed, and no changes made, should be documented in the DDA meeting minutes. No action taken. Will wait to hear back from the DDA President.

11.3 Old Sewer Truck

T. Scott and the DPW have looked at prices for similar vehicles and they range from \$600 to \$2,000. H. Bradberry reported on the condition of the truck. Will be sold as-is.

Motion by P. Hruska, seconded by P. Dickerson to put the old sewer truck up for sale for \$1,500.

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

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The DPW will put the truck out at the Transfer Station with a For Sale sign. H. Bradberry will take the calls.

11.4 DayStarr Internet

T. Scott has been in contact with DayStarr regarding the interest survey they requested. If they get enough interest, they could come into the Village at their own expense. They would like the Village to print and mail the postcard surveys. It will cost less than \$400 to print and mail the surveys to addresses with the 48857 zip code.

MOTION by T. Scott, seconded by P. Hruska to spend up to \$400 for printing and mailing the surveys.

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

Review Financial Statements / Pay Bills

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

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

Announcements / Correspondence:

T. Scott reported that the County Road Commission is interested in taking over the portion of Lansing Road from Morrice Road to the west Village limit. It would have to be recertified with Act 51 from a Major Street for the Village to a County Primary Road for the County. It would mean losing Act 51 funding for that portion of the road. The County wants to repair Lansing Road and would rather not skip over the portion that belongs to the Village but would be unable to work on it without the recertification. They will take care of the recertification process if the Village agrees to the change. Clerk will look into how much that change would reduce funding for the Village.

Guest Comments: None.

MOTION by T. Scott, seconded by P. Hruska to adjourn the meeting. All ayes. Motion carried.

Meeting adjourned at 7:20 p.m.

Todd Scott, Village President
Karen McGuire, Clerk