

VILLAGE OF MORRICE
REGULAR COUNCIL MEETING
VILLAGE HALL

Tuesday, July 23, 2024

6:00 p.m.

(Approved 08/27/24)

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, Maggie Saint Amour, Bridgett Flynn, Andy Flynn, Robert Peterson, and Philip Hruska.

Absent: None.

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

Additions / Deletions to Agenda: 11.2 Tax Sale – Bid Requirements – amend to Closed Session to Discuss Purchase of Real Property

Guest Comments on the Agenda: None.

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

MOTION by A. Flynn, seconded by P. Dickerson to approve the July 9, 2024 minutes, as presented. All ayes. Motion carried.

Special Guests: None.

PUBLIC HEARING

9.1 Petion to Re-Zone – 210 N. Main Street

T. Scott opened the hearing for comments from the public at 6:03 p.m. and explained that this is a request to re-zone the parsonage portion of the United Methodist Church property from Public Land to R-1A Low Density Residential. With no comments the hearing was closed at 6:04 p.m.

9.2 Amend Zoning Ordinance – Public Hearing Requirements

President Scott opened the public hearing at 6:04 p.m. and explained that this amendment is to eliminate the second public hearing requirement for Amendments to the Village Zoning Ordinance. There were no comments. The hearing was closed at 6:05 p.m.

COMMITTEE REPORTS

10.1 Personnel / Police / Transfer Station / Insurance / Retirement

Chief Balsley reported that the part-time officer will start on Monday. School will start on August 22nd.

10.2 DPW / Municipal Buildings / Park

T. Scott reported that the new building at the Transfer Station will get started on Friday. The cameras are up at the Park.

10.3 Streets / Sidewalks / Newsletter / Web Site

The DPW will begin using the new crack seal machine next week, weather permitting.

10.4 Sewer / Codes

No Report

Village of Morrice
Regular Meeting Minutes
July 23, 2024

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

10.6 SSES
No Report.

10.7 Budget
No Report.

UNFINISHED BUSINESS

11.1 131 Main Street – Bids / Blight Elimination Process
No progress. Will remove from the agenda until after the auction.

11.2 Tax Sale – Bid Requirements - amended to Closed Session to Discuss Purchase of Real Property
MOTION by T. Scott, seconded by P. Hruska to go into a closed meeting at 6:08 p.m. to discuss the purchase of real property.

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

MOTION by T. Scott, seconded by P. Hruska to go back to an open meeting at 6:10 p.m. All ayes.
Motion carried.

NEW BUSINESS

12.1 Resolution – Re-Zoning 210 N. Main Street – “Resolution” on agenda should be “Ordinance”
J. Gormley explained that the Planning Commission held a Public Hearing on July 10th to consider the Re-Zoning Application for 210 N. Main Street – the United Methodist Church’s previous parsonage. They approved the request and recommended that the Council approve changing the zoning for the property from Public Lands to R-1A – Low Density Residential.

MOTION by P. Hruska, seconded by A. Flynn to adopt the Ordinance Approving United Methodist Church’s Application for a Zoning Map Amendment.

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

12.2 Resolution – Amend Zoning Ordinance – Public Hearing Requirements – “Resolution” on agenda should be “Ordinance”

J. Gormley explained that the Zoning Enabling Act only requires one Public Hearing with the Planning Commission for Zoning Ordinance Amendments. Our Zoning Ordinance requires a second Public Hearing with the Council. Adopting this Ordinance will eliminate the requirement for a second Public Hearing.

MOTION by P. Hruska, seconded by A. Flynn to adopt the Ordinance to Amend part of Article IX: Amendments, Section 9.3: Amendment Procedure, of the Village of Morrice Zoning Ordinance.

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

12.3 DDA Purchase of Vacant Main Street Lots

B. Andrus, DDA Chair, explained that the three vacant lots on Main Street were listed for sale at \$12,900. The DDA made a purchase offer of \$12,000 which the owner accepted. The fourth remaining lot is owned by someone else. They offered \$5,500 for that lot and the owner accepted it. Once they have all four lots, they will combine them into one parcel. Their hope is to put up a building with a commercial entity on the

Village of Morrice
Regular Meeting Minutes
July 23, 2024

bottom and apartments on the top.

Ms. Andrus explained that the DDA currently has three major projects they are working on. Along with purchasing the vacant lots, they are looking at repairing some of the sidewalks in the DDA District and helping the Village with repairing the Park pavilion. All of these will require an amendment to the DDA Plan. That amendment will require a Public Hearing and all the required notices.

12.4 Morrice Area Schools – Village of Morrice Resource Officer Agreement

T. Scott explained that he, Chief Balsley, and R. Pouch, School Superintendent, have been working on an agreement for the School Resource Officer Program. A draft of the agreement is in the packet. They are still in negotiations regarding the amount the school is able to pay, the dates covered, the number of games attended, and officer hours at the school among other items. Will bring revised draft to the next meeting.

Announcements / Correspondence:

President Scott thanked A. Flynn and B. Flynn for their services to the Board, as this will be their last Council meeting before they move from the Village.

Guest Comments:

B. Andrus asked if it would be possible for the DDA / Planning Commission Board members to have name plates for their meetings. Clerk will order them.

P. Hruska asked if the DDA buys the lots will the DPW go back to doing the maintenance, mowing, shoveling, etc.? He wondered if there could be an agreement that the DDA would reimburse the Village for labor and equipment costs.

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

Meeting adjourned at 6:30 p.m.

Todd Scott, Village President
Karen McGuire, Village Clerk