

VILLAGE OF MORRICE
REGULAR COUNCIL MEETING
VILLAGE HALL

Tuesday, September 10, 2024

6:00 p.m.

(Approved 09/24/24)

Meeting was called to order at 6:03 p.m. by President Todd Scott.

Pledge of Allegiance was recited.

Council Members Present: Phyllis Dickerson, Maggie Saint Amour, Todd Scott, Philip Hruska, and Robert Peterson.

Absent: None.

Also Present: Attorney: Clint Stevenson, Police Chief: Matt Balsley, DPW: Hayden Bradberry, Treasurer: Linda Hudecek, and Clerk: Karen McGuire.

Additions / Deletions to Agenda: Add: 11.3 Part-Time DPW Position

Guest Comments on the Agenda: None.

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

MOTION by P. Hruska, seconded by M. Saint Amour to approve the August 27, 2024 minutes, as presented. All ayes. Motion carried.

Special Guests: None.

COMMITTEE REPORTS

9.1 Personnel / Police / Transfer Station / Insurance / Retirement

Chief Balsley reported that the new hire is going to have surgery on the 23rd and so will be off work for 4 – 6 weeks. Also, he would like to add the school homecoming parade and road closure to the agenda. They are scheduled for September 27th. He does not have a parade application yet but if the next meeting is canceled the following one will be too late to approve the application.

MOTION by T. Scott, seconded by P. Hruska to reopen the agenda to add 11.4 School Homecoming Parade Permit and Road Closure. All ayes. Motion carried.

H. Bradberry reported that next Wednesday Lenon Electric will install electricity in the new building at the Transfer Station. Also, the electric for the ram at the Transfer Station needs repair again. T. Scott will get prices for a new ram for the Budget Committee.

9.2 DPW / Municipal Buildings / Park

There was discussion about the DPW workers getting overalls to wear while running the crack seal machine. Will check with uniform company.

9.3 Streets / Sidewalks / Newsletter / Web Site

H. Bradberry explained that they are using the crack seal machine in the Jewell Subdivision. It is a slow process but is working. T. Scott reported that the DDA is looking at repairing the sidewalks by the old bank building and the Glazing Solutions building as fall projects.

9.4 Sewer / Codes

T. Scott will talk to the lagoon operator next week regarding any updates or improvements needed. Spartan Fencing is coming out next week to give an estimate for the latest tree/wind damage to the lagoon fencing. DPW is looking at trees that may need to be taken out to prevent future damage.

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

9.6 SSES
P. Dickerson reported that SSES has a new monthly newsletter. If anyone is interested the Clerk has a copy.

9.7 Budget
No Report. The Committee will meet on Saturday, September 21st at 12:05 p.m.

UNFINISHED BUSINESS

10.1 131 Main Street
T. Scott read an email from B. Jones of SEDP regarding the land bank blight elimination process. They have a firm that will do the pre-demolition testing and are finalizing contracts. They are waiting for dates for the firm to visit the site. Once they do a walkthrough, they should be able to set up a complete project schedule. Jones will let us know dates when he has them. He apologized for how slowly the program has moved on this project.

10.2 Vacant Lot Donation
The Clerk explained that signatures have just been secured on the Purchase Agreement document. C. Stevenson will take it back to Gormley's office and they can begin the title search process. Once that comes back clear J. Gormely will draw up a deed for the transfer.

NEW BUSINESS

11.1 Appoint Board Members
T. Scott has received two letters of interest from people wanting to join the Council, Jahryn Howard and Bob Dickerson. He would like to appoint them at the next Council meeting. There was discussion about which vacant seat each would fill.

MOTION by T. Scott, seconded by M. Saint Amour to appoint B. Dickerson to the four-year term just vacated by A. Flynn.

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

MOTION by T. Scott, seconded by P. Dickerson to appoint J. Howard to the two-year term just vacated by B. Flynn.

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

11.2 September 24, 2024 Meeting
Will come back to this item after discussing 11.3.

11.3 Part-Time DPW Position
T. Scott explained that the DPW new hire has resigned. Discussed the need to hire for the shortened crack sealing season. T. Scott will look at the past applications again and see if he can get some interviews scheduled. He will bring information to the next Council meeting. It will be for the same wage and hours as the last hire – 16 hours per week and \$18.00 per hour on a seasonal basis.

MOTION by T. Scott, seconded by P. Hruska to approve posting the position again as 16 hours per week and \$18.00 per hour on a seasonal basis.

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

11.2 September 24, 2024 Meeting (out of order)
Will need to hold the meeting as scheduled.

Review Financial Statement / Pay Bills / Fund Transfers

From the list included in packets P. Hruska recommended the following transfers from checking accounts to investments accounts: General Fund \$20,000, Motor Pool Fund \$27,000, Local Street Fund \$4,000, Sewer Fund \$16,000, Municipal Street Fund \$5,000, and Major Street Fund \$23,000. He recommended a transfer of \$6,000 from the Transfer Station investment fund to the checking account. The Homecoming Fund will remain as-is. There were two corrections to make to the minimum balances listed: Motor Pool should be \$9,000 and Major Streets should be \$21,000.

MOTION by P. Hruska, seconded by P. Dickerson to approve the minimum balance corrections and the fund transfers as listed.

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

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

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

Announcements / Correspondence:

T. Scott thanked everyone who helped at St. Mary's Festival this past weekend.

Guest Comments: None.

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

Meeting adjourned at 6:38 p.m.

Todd Scott, Village President
Karen McGuire, Village Clerk