

**MORAVIA CITY COUNCIL
REGULAR MEETING
TUESDAY, APRIL 10, 2018**

The regular meeting of the Moravia City Council was called to order by Mayor Irene Brooks at 5:30 PM on Tuesday, April 10, 2018, at Moravia City Hall. In addition to Mayor Brooks, those present were Councilpersons Ken Martin, John Baty, Ruth Sheldon, Don Havard, and Shawn Richardson. Sharla Stogdill, Jason Snow, Sheila Kirby, Sam Kirby, Chris Sheldon, James Wilson, Stephen Pedrick, Jim Miller, and Marty Hatfield were also present. The meeting opened with a prayer by Councilman Martin and the Pledge of Allegiance. Mayor Brooks welcomed the public.

Motion by Baty and seconded by Sheldon to approve the agenda. Roll Call Vote: Martin-Aye, Baty-Aye, Sheldon-Aye, Havard-Aye, Richardson-Aye. Motion carried.

Motion by Richardson and seconded by Havard to approve the minutes of the March 13, 2018 regular meeting. Roll Call Vote: Martin-Aye, Baty-Aye, Sheldon-Aye, Havard-Aye, Richardson-Aye. Motion carried.

Bills and receipts were presented and discussed. Motion by Martin and seconded by Baty to approve the bills. Roll Call Vote: Martin-Aye, Baty-Aye, Sheldon-Aye, Havard-Aye, Richardson-Aye. Motion carried.

Marty Hatfield requested the closure of two alleys next to his property. Marty would like to purchase both of them. Council agreed by consensus stating property owners on the other side of the alleys will be given the opportunity to purchase half of the alley. The cost of the alleys would be the cost of the legal fees.

Sam Kirby addressed the council regarding planting nine trees the Betterment Committee received through an Alliant Energy grant. The trees will be planted May 8 at the City Park and Trussell Park with the assistance of students in Agriculture/Horticulture classes.

Comments from the public – Sam Kirby requested permission to erect two signs for the Grace United Methodist Church. One sign would be on North Street and one on South East Street. Council agreed by consensus. Jim Miller from Carter-Miller Services offered to do Clean-Up Days in Moravia the last week of May. Council approves, as the City is not doing it. James Wilson publicly thanked city employee Jason Snow for his prompt and capable service when he had a water issue at his home. A water fitting that was plastic broke. Council stated the city's service stops at the road and that's where the city's responsibility ends. James wants other homeowners to make sure they have brass and not plastic parts so it does not happen to them.

Stephen Pedrick from French-Reneker-Associates reviewed the city's compliance schedule and the upcoming June 1 deadline for disadvantaged community requirements and alternatives report and the \$5,600 fee. Motion by Baty and seconded by Richardson to accept the Engineering Services Agreement and to have the Mayor and Clerk sign. Roll Call Vote: Martin-Aye, Baty-Aye, Sheldon-Aye, Havard-Aye, Richardson-Aye. Motion carried. Stephen requested to be on the May agenda.

Department reports were given:

Fire – Jason Snow reported 12 calls (2 grass fires, 8 medical, 1 structure fire, and 1 wreck). The fire department received the Appanoose County grant for a slide-in unit for the pickup. Mayor Brooks requested mail for the fire department to go to their PO Box and not the city's PO Box.

Library – Report submitted by the Library Board.

Cemetery – The Cemetery Committee will have a meeting with the Pfannebecker family to discuss the use of funds received from the estate on May 3 at 5:30 PM.

Parks –Nothing to report.

Streets – Street repairs and pot holes were discussed.

Water –Delinquent accounts were reviewed. Meter at the school has been replaced. A resident damaged their new water pit and will be billed \$1200 for the cost of a new one to be installed. If the bill is not paid, a tax lien will be filed against the property.

Sewer – Nothing to report.

Nuisance Properties – Councilman Martin attended a court hearing for the Perry property. Deadlines were set for the property to be cleaned up and fence installed. A second court hearing for White property was held on April 10. Publication requirements for abandonment of the Wireman property have been met.

City Staff – Jason Snow reported putting more rock on the Blakesburg road and that more rock is needed. All shoulders in town need more rock. Pot holes are being repaired. Kitchen faucet at community building was leaking and has been replaced. Water meters were read. Several locates have been completed. The pumps at the lagoon have been serviced. The new lawn mowers were delivered. Skid loader needs repaired. Council agreed by consensus to take it to Corydon to find out what is wrong with it and the cost to repair. Excavator needs replaced. Council requested this be put on the May agenda. The clerk will check with USDA on a grant that may be available. City Clerk Sharla Stogdill reviewed financial reports with Council. The water fund has a loss for the fiscal year. The last water rate increase was August 1, 2017, and council requests water rates to be put on the May agenda to review. Property tax deposits should be received in April and May. Alliant Energy did an inventory of our street lights and as a result, our monthly bill will decrease approximately \$120 per month. Alliant went back five years on bills and is refunding \$7,012.86 due to errors. A check was received for \$5,963.55 on April 6 and \$1,049.31 will be in the form of a credit on the next bill. Alliant Energy had been charging sales tax on our bills since we had changed our billing to two bills per month, so a credit of \$1,889.22 was on March utility bills. The council was reminded of the sewer loan payment due June 1 in the amount of \$26,446.

Resolution #12-2018 was introduced by Baty and seconded by Martin. This resolution set the employee wages for the 2018/19 fiscal year. Roll Call Vote: Martin-Aye, Baty-Aye, Sheldon-Aye, Havard-Aye, Richardson-Aye. Resolution adopted.

Mayor Brooks conducted the first reading of Ordinance #2018-03 – Bulk Water Rate and Discount for Water Leak. Motion by Martin and seconded by Sheldon to waive the second and third readings. Roll Call Vote: Martin-Aye, Baty-Aye, Sheldon-Aye, Havard-Aye, Richardson-Aye. Motion carried. Motion by Baty and seconded by Richardson to adopt Ordinance #2018-03 – Bulk Water Rate and Discount for Water Leak. Roll Call Vote: Martin-Aye, Baty-Aye, Sheldon-Aye, Havard-Aye, Richardson-Aye. Motion carried.

Councilman Baty spoke with Linda Ballanger regarding the Trussell Park parcel. Linda says she does not own it and is checking into the matter. This will be added to the May agenda to be discussed further.

City Clerk Sharla Stogdill reviewed the ICAP insurance renewal. Council agreed by consensus to raise all deductibles to \$1,000 and prices and values for property, vehicles, and tools will be re-evaluated before May 1 deadline. An itemized breakdown of the cost of the insurance for the fire department, library, and city will be requested.

Locates have been called in for the water meter project to get started again by the week of April 16. Councilman Baty told contractor the project needs to be completed by the end of fall and contractor guaranteed it would be done.

One application was received for the seasonal help for the summer. Motion by Baty and seconded by Richardson to hire Brock Sheldon as a seasonal employee on an as needed basis. Roll Call Vote: Martin-Aye, Baty-Aye, Sheldon-Aye, Havard-Aye, Richardson-Aye. Motion carried. Council agreed by consensus to hire a second person and to advertise in the Moravia Union and Daily Iowegian/Ad-Express.

Council Discussion Items – Councilwoman Sheldon inquired if a resident is gone all summer or gone all winter, if they have to pay for weekly garbage pickup as required in our ordinances. If you are not home, there is no trash, so as long as you don't leave with trash that needs picked up, it is not required. Councilman Baty requested a letter be sent to the owner of the trailer by Trussell Park to have garbage and junk in yard removed. Councilman Richardson reported on information on the internet for municipal infractions. Incentives and grants for people to speculate and build were also discussed.

Mayor Info and Discussion Items – Mayor Brooks presented a proclamation for Keep Iowa Beautiful month in April. Council approved by consensus. A complaint was received about junk in a resident's yard. Mayor Brooks reminded Councilman Baty to cut off the pipe by the can redemption center and look at the cable wire on Wolver's property. The Mayor will be talking to the Deputy about a dog catcher. The American Legion has approved and will pay for the POW/MIA flag that Richard Keilig suggested.

Motion by Baty and seconded by Sheldon to adjourn at 8:16 PM. All Ayes - Motion carried.

/s/ Irene Brooks, Mayor

Attest:

/s/ Sharla Stogdill, City Clerk/Treasurer