

**MORAVIA CITY COUNCIL
REGULAR MEETING
TUESDAY, JUNE 19, 2018**

The regular meeting of the Moravia City Council was called to order by Mayor Irene Brooks at 5:30 PM on Tuesday, June 19, 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, Carol Cloyed, Pastor Christy Ehrle, and Margaret Richardson were also present. The meeting opened with a prayer by Pastor Ehrle and the Pledge of Allegiance. Mayor Brooks welcomed the public.

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

Motion by Martin and seconded by Sheldon to approve the minutes of the May 8, 2018 regular meeting. Roll Call Vote: Martin-Aye, Baty-Aye, Sheldon-Aye, Havard-Aye, Richardson-Aye. Motion carried.

Motion by Sheldon and seconded by Richardson to approve the minutes of the May 29, 2018 special 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 Havard and seconded by Richardson to approve the bills. Roll Call Vote: Martin-Aye, Baty-Aye, Sheldon-Aye, Havard-Aye, Richardson-Aye. Motion carried. Council agreed by consensus not to borrow the money for the Municipal Supply bill for the water/sewer project in the amount of \$227.68.

Comments from the public – None.

Terri Seals was unable to attend the meeting to discuss water damage at her trailer. Motion by Baty and seconded by Richardson to turn the water damage in to our insurance. Roll Call Vote: Martin-Aye, Baty-Aye, Sheldon-Aye, Havard-Aye, Richardson-Aye. Motion carried. Councilman Baty requested Jason to pull meters when we shut off water from now on.

Department reports were given:

Fire – No report was available to be given to the council. Jason Snow reported the house at 202 South William will be burnt by the fire department the morning of July 22 unless they hear otherwise from the DNR. Work is still being done to the property to prepare for the burn. Letters to neighbors will be mailed to alert them of the burn and to keep windows closed. A fundraiser for the fire department will be held on June 24 at the Methodist Fellowship Hall.

Library – Report submitted by the Library Board.

Cemetery – Hay is baled. Mowing is excellent. New section was discussed.

Parks – Received compliments on how nice the parks look. More dying trees need removed.

Streets – Potholes and the culvert on Henry Street were discussed. Potholes on Myra Street were all filled once this year but are back.

Water –Delinquent accounts were reviewed. Motion by Baty and seconded by Richardson to close Account 3220 and turn it over to the Credit Bureau of Iowa for collection. Roll call vote: Martin-Aye, Baty-Aye, Sheldon-Aye, Havard-Aye, Richardson-Aye. Motion carried. Motion by Martin and seconded by Baty to close Account 3120 and turn it over to the Credit Bureau of Iowa for collection. Roll call vote: Martin-Aye, Baty-Aye, Sheldon-Aye, Havard-Aye, Richardson-Aye. Motion carried.

Sewer – Nothing to report.

Nuisance Properties – Court hearing for White property was June 19. The City declined request for extending time to get the property cleaned up. Her contractor will begin demolition on July 2. City will determine if remaining buildings are safe before contractor leaves. Ellis Paxston needs to detach his building from White property. White will need to provide own barricades. Surrounding streets and alleys will be closed by the city for safety purposes. Court hearing for Perry property was also held on June 19. The City declined request for extending time to get the property cleaned up. Perry has through July 4 to complete the clean-up. If he does not complete it, the City will begin clean up on July 5 and charges will be assessed to the property. Freezers with rotten meat and refrigerator were ordered by the Magistrate to be removed immediately on June 19 or legal action will be taken.

City Staff – City Clerk Sharla Stogdill reported a citizen complaint about the hump of dirt in their yard after pit was installed and customer wanted the city to re-seed it. The Council stated that only fill-in dirt will be provided. The City Clerk requested Council to

check their e-mails frequently and to respond. The status of the excavator grant request is on hold waiting for USDA to review it. The City's SAM account has been activated. Our Consumer Confidence report will be published in the newspaper on June 20, is posted on the door of city hall, the city's website, as well as RRWA website. Message will be on water bills stating where customers can review report. The water, cemetery, and insurance funds have lost money for the fiscal year-to-date. The City's finances are running in the black over all. Administrative Supervisor Jason Snow reported on mowing and trimming cemeteries for Memorial Day, picking up flowers at the cemetery, the large volume of service locates, and the sidewalk the railroad broke. Council requested the sidewalk be fixed and bill the railroad for cost of repair.

The water/sewer project continues with approximately 69 pits installed. Locations of pits were reviewed. Chad Miller and his lawyer will be invited to attend the July regular council meeting to discuss his damaged pit.

City Clerk Stogdill reviewed a new law effective July 1 which creates a Water Service Excise Tax (WET). Prior to the enactment of this law, the sale of water was subject to the 6% state sales tax. The WET exempts the sale of water service from state sales tax, but imposes a 6% excise tax on the sale of water service. There is no local option sales tax on WET. A new permit has been applied for to collect and remit WET. The Clerk is working with ClerkBooks management to change the programming of the utility bills.

A fireworks donation of \$500 from the City to the Moravia Fire Department was approved in the 2018/19 budget. Council agreed by consensus to donate.

The first reading of Ordinance #2018-04 – Water Rates was read by Mayor Brooks. Motion by Baty and seconded by Havard to waive the second and third readings of Ordinance #2018-04 – Water Rates. Roll Call Vote: Martin-Aye, Baty-Aye, Sheldon-Aye, Havard-Aye, Richardson-Aye. Motion carried. Motion by Baty and seconded by Martin to approve and adopt Ordinance #2018-04 – Water Rates effective August 1, 2018. Roll Call Vote: Martin-Aye, Baty-Aye, Sheldon-Aye, Havard-Aye, Richardson-Aye. Motion carried.

Motion by Baty and seconded by Richardson to close the alley between Don Robinson and Charlie Johnson. Roll Call Vote: Martin-Aye, Baty-Aye, Sheldon-Aye, Havard-Aye, Richardson-Aye. Motion carried.

City Clerk Stogdill requested the July regular meeting of the Moravia City Council be changed to Thursday, July 19 at 5:30 PM due to the closing of the books for the fiscal year. Council agreed by consensus.

Mayor Brooks reported information for OSHA 10 training for city employees. Council agreed by consensus for Jason to attend or take on-line classes if it is beneficial.

Motion by Baty and seconded by Richardson to raise the personal property insurance through ICAP for the city shop to \$50,000. Roll Call Vote: Martin-Aye, Baty-Aye, Sheldon-Aye, Havard-Aye, Richardson-Aye. Motion carried.

The ordinance for mowing properties has been published, is on the city website, and is posted at city hall. Properties will be viewed and if in violation of the ordinance, the city will mow the property and bill the property owner. If not paid, it will be assessed to the property owner's taxes.

Council Discussion Items – Councilman Martin stated Wayne Nielsen has requested to cut the walnut trees in the ditch along Brandon Avenue. Council agreed by consensus for him to cut them and treat them so they do not grow back. He must take the whole tree out. Councilman Baty stated how well the summer help is doing. Councilwoman Sheldon received a complaint about an ornament at the cemetery being hit by a trimmer. Any decorations of this type at the cemetery are to be on the stones so the cemetery can be mowed and trimmed.

Mayor Info and Discussion Items – De-escalating training was discussed. Board of Supervisors took training and found it beneficial. Council may be interested depending on the information covered and cost. City staff had their first safety meeting, discussing mowing safety. The next safety meeting will be September 4 at 8 AM. A sample ordinance banning recreational vehicles used for permanent residency was discussed and will be on the July regular meeting agenda. A sewer pipe that is running to a ditch was discussed and will be reported to ADLM. The urgency of the Appanoose County ambulance service was discussed. All citizens are encouraged to attend the public information meetings.

Motion by Baty and seconded by Sheldon to adjourn at 8:12 PM. All Ayes - Motion carried.

/s/ Irene Brooks, Mayor

Attest:

/s/ Sharla Stogdill, City Clerk/Treasurer