

**MORAVIA CITY COUNCIL
REGULAR MEETING
THURSDAY, JULY 19, 2018**

The regular meeting of the Moravia City Council was called to order by Mayor Irene Brooks at 5:30 PM on Thursday, July 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. Councilman Martin left the meeting at 7:45 PM. Sharla Stogdill, Jason Snow, Sheila Kirby, Sam Kirby, Carol Cloyed, Margaret Richardson, Charlie Richardson, Lois VanZante, Ann Repp, Marcia Benjamin, Chad Miller, and Leona Bortis were also present. The meeting opened with a prayer by Councilman Martin and the Pledge of Allegiance. Mayor Brooks welcomed the public.

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

Motion by Baty and seconded by Sheldon to approve the minutes of the June 19, 2018 regular meeting. Roll Call Vote: Martin-Aye, Baty-Aye, Sheldon-Aye, Havard-Aye, Richardson-Aye. Motion carried.

Motion by Martin and seconded by Richardson to approve the minutes of the July 10, 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 Baty and seconded by Havard to approve the bills and receipts. Roll Call Vote: Martin-Aye, Baty-Aye, Sheldon-Aye, Havard-Aye, Richardson-Aye. Motion carried.

Comments from the public – Leona Bortis requested permission to conduct dog obedience training classes in the park 1 hour per week on Tuesdays starting at 6 or 7 PM for 8 weeks beginning Tuesday, July 24, 2018. Rules were reviewed and the council agreed by consensus to allow the classes to be held at city park.

Charlie Richardson discussed a near accident south of her house on West Street. Grass & weeds made it difficult to see. The city has trimmed around the stop sign and the ditch so you are able to see to pull out now. The homeowner is the one responsible for mowing and trimming up to the street, including ditches. Charlie stated the old house will be torn down next summer and property will be re-graded. She is considering putting in a retaining wall. Council agreed by consensus to work with Charlie after the house is torn down.

The Council addressed Chad Miller about his new water pit that has been damaged from vehicles running over it. Councilman Baty stated the water stop was there before the house was and it is on the city's utility right-of-way. It is right up against another property so there is no room to move it. Chad's driveway is in the city's right-of-way. The pit was installed where the old water stop was but the water stop was lower than the gravel and the pit is plastic. A manhole cover was discussed but since the ground will not settle for awhile that could cause problems. Chad's letter states the city workers use his driveway to turn around while pushing snow and city employees state they have never turned around there. The Council remained firm that Chad is responsible for the cost to replace the pit as stated in the letters. Chad said he will contact his lawyer.

Department reports were given:

Fire – No report was available to be given to the council. Jason Snow said there had not been any fire calls, three accident calls, and several EMT calls, including six on Sunday, July 15. The house at 202 South William will be burnt by the fire department the morning of July 22. Council agreed by consensus that the Betterment Committee can have the new door that is on the house.

Library – Report submitted by the Library Board. Lois VanZante reported a \$50,000 donation had been given to them to use for anything at the library except for maintenance. Drake Library in Centerville is giving us shelves, a display case, and a table with two chairs. Lois requested permission from the Council to have city employees move the furniture to our library and the Council agreed by consensus. Our library is donating some of its old shelving to Mystic where they are starting a new library. Lois also reported the inter-library loan program is widely used with 14 requests already in July.

Cemetery – Mowing is excellent. New section was discussed.

Parks – Parks look as good as the cemeteries. Fluorescent t-shirts for employees were discussed.

Streets – A drainage ditch problem behind Estel Wolver's house was discussed. Councilmen Havard and Richardson will meet with him.

Water – Delinquent accounts and water shutoffs were reviewed. Payments from two tax liens have been received as well as a collection from the Credit Bureau.

Sewer – There was a sewer blockage on South East Street. The road will need dug up to repair it.

Nuisance Properties – Next court hearing for Jackie White's property is July 24 at 11:30 AM. Pillars and north building still need to be taken down. Junk vehicles on back side need to be removed.

Other nuisances include: Complaints about the coke machines in the yard/driveway of house on South East Street; Weeds and brush need cut and burnt and trees trimmed at 409 South Henry; Several animals are running loose in town. Residents need to call the sheriff when they see animals at large. Consideration will be given to hiring a part-time code enforcer.

City Staff – City Clerk Sharla Stogdill reported the vacation of alleys at Charles & King Streets was not going to be done due to residents no longer being interested because of the cost to vacate. Programming in ClerkBooks for the Water Service Excise Tax (WET) was complete for the July 1 utility bills. Information is being gathered for the annual IMWCA audit. USDA notified the city that the excavator grant has been sent to the National Office for competition for grant funds. Annual drivers license checks for city employees and Fire Department/EMT's has begun as well as proof of insurance if employees use personal vehicles for city use or fire/EMT personnel drive personal vehicles to fires and emergencies. Information to request the fuel tax refund has been requested. Work has begun on the Street Finance Report and Annual Financial Report. Salaries will be published in the newspaper as required by law. The drum in the office printer/copier had to be replaced. The financial records have been closed for the end of the fiscal year. Financial reports were reviewed with the council. The water, insurance, and cemetery funds lost money for the fiscal year. Council agreed by consensus to not separate the cemetery fund from the general fund anymore. Finances continue to improve each year and the city is operating in the black.

Administrative Supervisor Jason Snow reported a large number of locates. The brush pile at the cemetery was burned twice last month. Water meters were read in June. Patching is being done in streets and tubes replaced. Weeds at lagoon have been sprayed. The street in front of Jackie White's property on North William was barricaded and one of the new barricades was stolen. A lot of work has been done at former Wireman property, including tree removal, in preparation of burning it. Water and sewer was capped at house on North William. Need to meet with street committee regarding tubes at Jay and Baird. Need street committee to get bids to get tubes re-lined. Councilman Richardson will research it. Jason reminded the council that the library/community building is in desperate need of a new roof. A ballast needs replaced in library. The light at the old cemetery does not work and cannot be fixed.

The water/sewer project continues. Contractor still says the project will be done by fall.

Council discussed Myra Street. It needs to be re-paved but there are too many other critical things that need taken care of first.

A sample recreational vehicles ordinance was reviewed. The abandoned vehicles ordinance needs to be reviewed. The council will start having ordinance workshops. The first workshop will be Monday, August 6 at 4:30 PM.

Council reviewed the 2018 legislative changes affecting city code received from Simmering-Cory/Iowa Codification. Motion by Baty and seconded by Richardson to have Simmering-Cory/Iowa Codification update our ordinance for alcoholic beverage control for \$300. Roll Call Vote: Baty-Aye, Sheldon-Aye, Havard-Aye, Richardson-Aye, Martin-Absent. Motion carried.

Council Discussion Items – Councilman Havard is going to check with our insurance company on the requirements for fuel tanks and how close they can be to the building and if we can carry a fuel tank in the back of a pickup.

Mayor Info and Discussion Items – The refrigerator in the basement of the community building is plugged in and has items in it. It is no longer needed. Ken and Carol Martin would like to have the refrigerator. Council agreed by consensus that they could have it. A resident has inquired about having a paved road so they can use a wheelchair on it. The mayor will get more clarification on the request.

Motion by Sheldon and seconded by Richardson to adjourn at 8:07 PM. All Ayes - Motion carried.

/s/ Irene Brooks, Mayor

Attest:
/s/ Sharla Stogdill, City Clerk/Treasurer