

**MORAVIA CITY COUNCIL
REGULAR MEETING
TUESDAY, NOVEMBER 13, 2018**

The regular meeting of the Moravia City Council was called to order by Mayor Irene Brooks at 5:30 PM on Tuesday, November 13, 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, Carol Cloyed, Marcia Benjamin, Ann Repp, Paul Simpson, Tim McDanel, Kyle Ocker, Makayla Snow, Alexa Bedford, Jenny Robison, Kristy Robison, Vicki Baty, and Marion Main were also present. The meeting opened with a prayer by Ken Martin and the Pledge of Allegiance. Mayor Brooks welcomed the public.

Motion by Martin and seconded by Havard 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 October 9, 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 Sheldon and seconded by Havard to approve the bills and receipts with revisions. Roll Call Vote: Martin-Aye, Baty-Aye, Sheldon-Aye, Havard-Aye, Richardson-Aye. Motion carried.

“If I Were Mayor” essays were read by Makayla Snow, Jenny Robison, and Alexa Bedford. The Mayor and Council thanked the girls for writing the essays and for their ideas.

Comments from the public – Tim McDanel spoke to the Council about speeding in town. He lives on East Charles and sees cars, semis, and motorcycles coming in to town going 50 mph. There is only one speed limit sign and he would like us to get more signs and get the sheriff to come more often. The Council said tickets are being issued for speeding and the Street Committee is looking in to speed cameras. Council requested Jason to order and put up more speed limit signs.

Department Reports were given:

Fire – Paul Simpson reported 11 medical calls for the month (1 car accident and 1 farm equipment accident). A vendor fair will be held on May 4 at the fire station. The Junior Class will be having a bake sale during the event. The Independence Day celebration will be held on Saturday, June 29. Several events are being planned including a car show, bags tournament, cake walk, food, and a DJ. They hope to bring more people to town to spend the day and to make more money for the fireworks display. The department will not be able to continue the fireworks display if funds and donations do not go up. The department is losing too much money on the display. The fire department is doing mandatory training, including reading maps and learning the names of roads. The department needs more recruits. They are having Sunday Fun Days where families of department members participate in games and activities at the fire station. They are checking in to a Junior Fire Fighter program. The department would like to purchase a new truck for grass fires. They are requesting \$55,000 from the Fire fund account/LOST funds. Council agreed to amend the budget for \$55,000 and have a special meeting for the public hearing. Mayor Brooks requested the fire department contact Mike Bogle at the Centerville Fire Department to get information about possible financing and purchasing a new siren and relocation of the siren.

Library – Report submitted by the Library Board. Library Director Ann Repp reported on the Halloween party that was held at the library. She encouraged those in attendance to come to the library and see all they have to offer. They have even more books now, as over 1000 books were donated to them. Motion by Baty and seconded by Havard to approve Lori Scott as a new library board member. Roll Call Vote: Martin-Aye, Baty-Aye, Sheldon-Aye, Havard-Aye, Richardson-Aye. Motion carried.

Cemetery – The abuse of the brush pile was discussed. A picture was shown to the council of what has been dumped there. This costs the city a lot of money to haul off. Cameras will be considered, a fence surrounding it and limited hours for it to be open was discussed, as well as getting rid of the brush pile completely.

Parks – Christmas lights will soon be hung in the gazebos.

Streets – Councilman Havard discussed the estimates for street repair projects received from Norris Asphalt. This will be considered when preparing the budget for the next fiscal year.

Water – Delinquent accounts were reviewed. Motion by Baty and seconded by Havard to close Account 2540. Roll Call Vote: Martin-Aye, Baty-Aye, Sheldon-Aye, Havard-Aye, Richardson-Aye. Motion carried. Council agreed by consensus to turn Account 4162 over to the Credit Bureau for collections. Accounts 710 and 2240 will be sent letters giving a 30 day notice of tax lien being filed.

Sewer – Complaints have been received from residents about some water pits sticking up too high out of the ground. The Council is aware of this and states the project is not complete and after the ground settles, they will be cut.

Nuisance Properties – Three more properties are being addressed.

City Staff – City Clerk Sharla Stogdill reviewed financial reports with the Council. Free internet upgrades are being done at city hall, the fire station, and the library. Budget meetings will start in January so council needs to prepare. Rude behavior by irate residents at city hall and on the telephone was discussed. A security system and cameras are being considered. Administrative Supervisor Jason Snow reported the stop sign at Cummins Street was

stolen for the third time this year. The jetter has a leak and is being repaired. The F150 pickup has not had heat or air conditioning for two years. It has now been fixed and the seat replaced. New walk-in doors and handles have been installed in the city shop. Equipment is ready for snow season; cutting edges on the snow plows will need replaced this year. Part-time employees are done for the year. The water fountain in the park is winterized. Trussell Park is winterized. We are required to do fire hydrant flow tests for ISO. We do not have the equipment to do the testing. Jason contacted Albia and they will do the test for us for \$1000. For \$800 we can purchase the equipment to do it ourselves. Motion by Baty and seconded by Martin to purchase fire hydrant flow equipment (diffuser and gauge) and pay with funds from the Water Account. Roll Call Vote: Martin-Aye, Baty-Aye, Sheldon-Aye, Havard-Aye, Richardson-Aye. Motion carried.

City Clerk Sharla Stogdill reviewed the 2018 Annual Financial Report with the Council. Motion by Baty and seconded by Richardson to approve and adopt Resolution #19-2018-Annual Financial Report for Fiscal Year Ended June 30, 2018. Roll Call Vote: Martin-Aye, Baty-Aye, Sheldon-Aye, Havard-Aye, Richardson-Aye. Motion carried.

Motion by Baty and seconded by Sheldon to approve and adopt Resolution #20-2018-Application for Tax Exemption for David Fenton. Roll Call Vote: Martin-Aye, Baty-Aye, Sheldon-Aye, Havard-Aye, Richardson-Aye. Motion carried.

Motion by Baty and seconded by Sheldon to approve and adopt Resolution #21-2018-Application for Tax Exemption for David Fenton. Roll Call Vote: Martin-Aye, Baty-Aye, Sheldon-Aye, Havard-Aye, Richardson-Aye. Motion carried.

The Appanoose County ambulance service was discussed.

The street project estimates from Norris Asphalt Paving were discussed during the Department Reports section for Roads.

Three resident complaints were reviewed. Two complaints were for dogs and one for a trailer parked in the road.

The water/sewer project has slowed down due to another project the contractor is working on.

Mayor Brooks updated the council on the USDA grant for a mini excavator. Ellen Walker at USDA confirmed that Iowa has not yet received their grant funds for FY 2019 due to a Continuing Resolution situation. They are on the Continuing Resolution until December 7, 2018. Either another Continuing Resolution will be issued or the budget passed on that date.

Postage rates will increase in January. In order to save money, the Mayor and Clerk requested to buy enough forever postage stamps for the remainder of the fiscal year before the increase takes effect. Motion by Martin and seconded by Sheldon to purchase enough stamps (approximately 10 rolls) to finish the fiscal year before the price increase. Roll Call Vote: Martin-Aye, Baty-Aye, Sheldon-Aye, Havard-Aye, Richardson-Aye. Motion carried.

City Easement for Utilities across Properties – A municipal citation for violation of code is being issued to a resident by Craver & Grothe. The Appanoose County Treasurer's office filed a "special assessment" in error so a judgment is being issued to replace it. The Council agreed by consensus to approve the citation and have it issued to the resident.

A council workshop to review ordinances was set for Tuesday, November 19, at 4:30 PM.

Council discussion items – Councilman Sheldon questioned why some cities close their offices for Election Day and others do not. Councilman Richardson reviewed prices for various types of speed limit signs that flash your speed, record traffic data, and are solar charged. He also discussed video and audio recording in city hall for when people get irate and also to possibly record council meetings. He reminded everyone to get their "wish lists" ready for budget preparation.

Mayor Info and Discussion Items – Insurance information for water and sewer lines that is available for residents to purchase was reviewed and will be discussed at the regular council meeting in December.

Motion by Havard and seconded by Baty to adjourn at 8:02 PM. All Ayes - Motion carried.

/s/ Irene Brooks, Mayor

Attest:

/s/ Sharla Stogdill, City Clerk/Treasurer