

**MORAVIA CITY COUNCIL  
REGULAR MEETING  
TUESDAY, APRIL 9, 2019**

The regular meeting of the Moravia City Council was called to order by Mayor Irene Brooks at 5:32 PM on Tuesday, April 9, 2019, at Moravia City Hall. In addition to Mayor Brooks, those present were Councilpersons Ken Martin, John Baty, Don Havard, and Shawn Richardson. Sharla Stogdill, Carol Cloyed, Sheila Kirby, Ann Repp, Roy Miller, Darcy Weillbrenner-Sheldon, Aaron Kelly, and Les McElderry were also present. The meeting opened with a prayer by Ken Martin and the Pledge of Allegiance. Mayor Brooks welcomed the public.

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

Motion by Martin and seconded by Baty to approve the minutes of the March 12, 2019, regular meeting. Roll Call Vote: Martin-Aye, Baty-Aye, Richardson-Aye, Havard-Aye. Motion carried.

Bills and receipts were presented and discussed. Motion by Baty and seconded by Richardson to approve the bills and receipts. Roll Call Vote: Martin-Aye, Baty-Aye, Richardson-Aye, Havard-Aye. Motion carried. Motion by Baty and seconded by Martin to borrow \$13,496 from our line of credit at Iowa Trust Bank for the Municipal Supply bill for the water/sewer project. Roll Call Vote: Martin-Aye, Baty-Aye, Richardson-Aye, Havard-Aye. Motion carried.

Comments from the public – Darcy Weillbrenner-Sheldon requested the council's approval to use a black bench that is in the park for prom. She stated they would put new bolts back in it when they returned it. Council denied her request by consensus and suggested she contact the Fall Festival Committee to see if she can borrow one of their green benches and paint it black. Darcy also stated she would like to be considered for the vacancy on the City Council. Les McElderry discussed the water leak at Joyce Grosvenor's house. Council agreed by consensus to only bill resident for minimum water usage. Aaron Kelly discussed the city's dog ordinance and a dog that is always running loose in the city limits near his home. The Sheriff's office was contacted by Aaron and a Deputy came to Moravia but they did not make the owner leash the dog and no ticket was issued. Once Furever Friends Rescue has a place, the Council plans to take dogs there and the dog owner will have to go there and pay to get their dog back. Aaron suggested the city hire a dog catcher.

Department Reports were given:

Fire – No Fire Department personnel attended the meeting. Councilman Havard reported mostly first responder calls last month.

Library – Report submitted by the Library Board. Library Director Ann Repp stated it is National Library Week and coffee and cookies will be served at the Library on Thursday, April 11. A large amount of E-books (109) were checked out last month. The library has not heard back from the accreditation yet. More bids will be requested for the handicap doors at the library. A magazine display rack donated to the city by Iowa Trust Bank was given to the library.

Cemetery – Councilman Martin is still working on what information is needed for bids on the work to be done to expand Hillcrest.

Parks – Nothing to report.

Streets – A resident complained about the gutters in the streets at Westview being plugged. Councilman Baty stated the City is responsible for cleaning. A \$450 donation from the Nazarene Church was received to pay for the city supplies used to fix Myra Street. The church also provided the labor. New prices from Norris Asphalt were reviewed. Council will look at all streets before Norris starts their contract work. Speed limit signs need to be put up.

Water –Delinquent accounts were reviewed.

Sewer – The sewer problem in alley behind Spencer's Grocery was discussed. IAWEA small community workshop was discussed but council will not be attending. Dredging and fish were discussed.

Nuisance Properties – Councilman Baty will get a list of the junk vehicles that need to be removed. The resident with the pickup full of trash was contacted and stated he will call the owner of pickup and get it removed from his property. Councilman Baty will contact Craver & Grothe regarding the collapsing building on the square.

City Staff – Jason Snow was not in attendance. City Clerk Sharla Stogdill reported publishing the mowing notice for the year as required by our ordinances. Drop box and lock need to be installed in clerk's office. A new telephone was purchased for City Hall. Shredding continues on the records retention. Problems with ClerkBooks not saving and the Sensus download were reported to the Council. A request from Iowa Trust Bank to use the city park and to close the street between the park and the housing apartments for the Easter egg hunt on April 20 was approved by the Council by consensus. Financial reports were reviewed.

Resident complaints – A written complaint was received from a resident about a trailer with no electricity, water, or sewer, sitting too close to the street, trash in the yard, and a broken screen door. Councilman Baty will talk to Craver & Grothe about it.

Resolution No. 6-2019 was introduced by Mayor Brooks. Motion by Baty and seconded by Richardson to approve and adopt Resolution No. 6-2019 authorizing abandonment process against real property at 305 Milwaukee. Roll Call Vote: Martin-Aye, Baty-Aye, Havard-Aye, Richardson-Aye. Resolution adopted.

Motion by Baty and seconded by Havard to accept Ruth Sheldon's resignation from the Moravia City Council effective March 25, 2019. Roll Call Vote: Martin-Aye, Baty-Aye, Havard-Aye, Richardson-Aye. Motion carried. Information from the Iowa League of Cities regarding how the vacancy is to be filled was reviewed. Council agreed by consensus that the most cost effective way to fill the vacancy was by appointment, rather than holding a special election which costs the city money. If the council chooses to fill the vacancy by appointment, the public can petition for a special election. Darcy Weilbrenner-Sheldon stated to the Council that unless they appoint her to fill the vacancy, she will petition for an election. The Council feels that Darcy is threatening them and causing the city to spend unnecessary money for an election when the general election is in the fall and there will be council openings at that time that she can run for. Darcy did not feel that she was threatening the council and stated if they appoint her, there won't be a special election. Council agreed by consensus to fill the vacancy by appointment and have a special meeting to make the appointment, but the Iowa League of Cities will be contacted with more questions from the Council.

Mayor Brooks signed the contract with Norris Asphalt for street repairs and arrangements have been made with Iowa Trust Bank for a loan for part of the repairs.

Councilman Baty stated locates are being done and work will begin again on the water/sewer project on Friday, April 12.

The status of the USDA grant for a mini excavator was discussed. The minimum requirements for the mini excavator have been submitted to USDA and the City is waiting on USDA's approval and permission to get bids.

Four applications for employment were received for the two seasonal job openings at the City. Applicants will be contacted for interviews on April 16 beginning at 5 PM. At least two councilmen will be needed to conduct the interviews.

City Clerk Sharla Stogdill asked the Council if they had any changes to make to the city's property insurance. The library, fire department, and Jason Snow have reviewed it. Council agreed by consensus for it to be signed and sent to ICAP.

Motion by Baty and seconded by Martin to approve the revised plans for Dollar General. Roll Call Vote: Martin-Aye, Baty-Aye, Richardson-Aye, Havard-Aye. Motion carried.

City Clerk Sharla Stogdill contacted Rubel Roofing Company to let them know they were the low bidder on the roof at the community building/library. This is budgeted for the 2019/20 fiscal year, so they will do the work at the end of June and be paid after July 1. If we have any problems with the roof before that, they said to contact them and they will be here sooner.

Council discussion items – Councilman Martin inquired about the cell boosters for the city buildings. Other bids, Amazon, and volunteer labor can also be considered. It is budgeted for 2019/20 fiscal year. Councilman Martin also stated the fiber optics route was changed and is going south on old Hwy 5 to the first gravel road west.

Mayor Info and Discussion Items – Mayor Brooks inquired if Councilman Richardson had talked to the resident about water on their property and drainage issues. Shawn stated he had looked at it but has not talked to resident. Councilman Havard volunteered to discuss it with resident.

Motion by Baty and seconded by Havard to adjourn at 7:16 PM. All Ayes - Motion carried.

/s/ Irene Brooks, Mayor

Attest:

/s/ Sharla Stogdill, City Clerk/Treasurer