

**MORAVIA CITY COUNCIL
REGULAR MEETING
TUESDAY, JULY 16, 2019**

The regular meeting of the Moravia City Council was called to order by Mayor Irene Brooks at 5:30 PM on Tuesday, July 16, 2019, at Moravia City Hall. In addition to Mayor Brooks, those present were Councilpersons Ken Martin, John Baty, Gary Ehrle, and Shawn Richardson. Councilman Don Havard was absent. Sharla Stogdill, Carol Cloyed, Margaret Richardson, Chad Whitney, Cara Whitney, Pastor Christy Ehrle, Marcia Benjamin, Tim McDanel, Sam Kirby, Sheila Kirby, and Ann Repp were also present. The meeting opened with a prayer by Ken Martin and the Pledge of Allegiance. Mayor Brooks welcomed the public.

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

Motion by Richardson and seconded by Baty to approve the minutes of the June 11, 2019, regular meeting. Roll Call Vote: Martin-Aye, Baty-Aye, Ehrle-Aye, Richardson-Aye, Havard-Absent. Motion carried.

Bills and receipts were presented and discussed. Motion by Martin and seconded by Richardson to approve the bills and receipts. Roll Call Vote: Martin-Aye, Baty-Aye, Ehrle-Aye, Richardson-Aye, Havard-Absent. Motion carried. Motion by Baty and seconded by Richardson to borrow \$1,705 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, Ehrle-Aye, Richardson-Aye, Havard-Absent. Motion carried.

Chad Whitney, representing the Lighthouse Church of the Nazarene security team, requested permission from the Council to have hand gun training for church members. Training would be in small groups of 20 or less on church property from April 1 to November 30 on the first two Sundays and last two Wednesdays of the month, from 4 PM until dark. There would not be training four times a month, but they want flexibility in scheduling training. Two targets filled with sand would be set up by the horse arena for target practice for small caliber handguns. They would be firing from north to south away from the city limits and shooting would stop if a train goes through. One person at a time would shoot. The church's insurance covers their liability. Council requested a copy of the church's insurance policy for the city's file and also requested the church to notify the Appanoose County Sheriff's office on the days they are doing the training so they are aware of it. Motion by Baty and seconded by Ehrle to allow the Lighthouse Church of the Nazarene security team to do target practice and training from April 1 to November 30 on the church's property. Roll Call Vote: Martin-Aye, Baty-Aye, Ehrle-Aye, Richardson-Aye, Havard-Absent. Motion carried.

Comments from the public – Tim McDanel addressed the council about weeds on properties that need to be trimmed. Margaret Richardson inquired where the sewer is located at her daughter's house.

Department Reports were given:

Fire – There were ten calls last month of which seven were medical, one fire, one car accident, and one for shuttling water to a train.

Library – Report submitted by the Library Board. Library Director Ann Repp reported the library maintained their Tier 3 accreditation with the State. Blank Park Zoo will be at the library on Wednesday, August 14 at 1 PM. A clown from the circus that is coming to town will be at the library on August 14 or 15.

Cemetery – A large pile of brush and big trees are in burn pile. Field has been baled. Good job mowing.

Parks – Paint is needed for the gazebos. Mulch needs dug up and rubber put down around playground equipment before Fall Festival. There are two slabs of cement in front of the library that need replaced at the same time as city hall sidewalks get done. Councilman Baty will contact the contractor to find out the cost. Will need a newspaper ad ran when the work around playground equipment will take place since area will be blocked off.

Streets – Church Street map was reviewed. Work on Church Street needs to be done quickly and budget will need to be amended. Cost will be approximately \$19,000 but a 60" tube instead of 48" may be used which will cost more. Street Committee will review and make recommendations.

Water – Delinquent accounts were reviewed. Tax lien for \$74.28 was received for Account 465. Motion by Baty and seconded by Richardson to close Account 465 and write off \$7.22 in late fees. Roll Call Vote: Martin-Aye, Baty-Aye, Ehrle-Aye, Richardson-Aye, Havard-Absent. Motion carried. Council agreed by consensus to pursue collection actions on Account 4178.

Sewer – Councilman Baty reported the cost to tear out the old sewer and replace with new in the alley behind Spencer's Grocery is \$11,000. Money from the line of credit for the water/sewer project could be used. Motion by Baty and seconded by Richardson to have Lathrop's replace the sewer in the alley behind Spencer's Grocery to the road for \$11,000. Roll Call Vote: Martin-Aye, Baty-Aye, Ehrle-Aye, Richardson-Aye, Havard-Absent. Motion carried.

Nuisance Properties – No updates. Councilman Baty will contact lawyer about nuisance properties.

City Staff – City Clerk Sharla Stogdill reported working on the Street Financial report, IMWCA audit report, and fuel tax refunds. Reports for the end of the fiscal year are complete. A \$500 donation from the Moravia Ruritans was received to help with the cost of the new roof for the community building and library. Council was very appreciative of their donation. City Clerks in Appanoose County have been designated by the Appanoose County Auditor as the filing officer for the upcoming city/school election. Kelly Howard will be at the August council meeting to talk about this further. Financial reports were reviewed with the Council. Jason Snow was not in attendance but Mayor Brooks reported

three loads of rock were put on Baird and Eastlack. Several pot holes have been filled with cold patch but still have a lot to do. Meter pits are being cut down so they are not sticking up so high. Speed limit signs through town are installed. A new bumper for the big dump truck was built to replace the old one that had rusted away. A new fuel pump was put in the F150. Water meters were read in June. Several locates have been done. They have worked on batwing mower and bought a new push mower. They measured for tubes at Jay and Baird Street and put new strobe lights on skid steer and excavator for safety. Still need McCann to hook up water and sewer to the new log home on North Brandon.

Resident complaints – A complaint was received about pot holes in West View. A citizen complained about their neighbor's trees that need cut down because they are about to fall on the citizen's house and utility lines. Council advised the citizen needs to contact Alliant, their insurance company, and the homeowner. More complaints about dirt needing filled in around water pits were received. Council wants a work order done to have this completed as soon as possible. The complaint about gutters in streets in West View that was reviewed last month needs to be dealt with by the Street Committee.

Cemetery Decorations – At the June council meeting, the council agreed to allow 30 days for decorations around stones to be trimmed and cared for by family members. If not taken care of by family, rules will now be enforced by removing these items. If the family is taking care of them, they will be allowed. The Cemetery Committee will be removing the items and tagging them with names so the items can be picked up at city hall if the family desires. The rules for Haines Cemetery were reviewed and they require removal of shepherd's hooks and ground flowers by June 10 each year. Carol Cloyd inquired why the fence that holds the brick up at the flag pole at the old cemetery had been removed for mowing. Carol put the fence back.

Storm damage was reviewed. The Moravia sign by Highway 5 broke. Allen Sign Company will look at it the week of July 22 and will let the City know if it can be repaired and the cost to repair it and also a quote for replacing the sign. Water leaked in around the baseboards of the clerk's office and front door of City Hall and water leaked from a light fixture in the hallway during the storm. Water was cleaned up and dried out as soon as it happened so no damage was done.

The mowing ordinance was reviewed. The city has met the notification requirement because it was published in the Moravia Union. Council members will make a list of places that need mowed and trimmed and the City will mow them and charge the owners according to the ordinance. A reminder of our ordinance about blowing grass into the streets also needs to be published in the newspaper.

Resolution No. 10-2019 – Extension of Line of Credit for Water/Sewer Project was introduced by Mayor Brooks. Motion by Baty and seconded by Richardson to approve and adopt Resolution No. 10-2019. Roll Call Vote: Martin-Aye, Baty-Aye, Ehrle-Aye, Richardson-Aye, Havard-Absent. Resolution approved and adopted.

Water/Sewer Project Update – There are 127 pits left to install.

New minimum requirements for the mini excavator USDA grant were reviewed and approved by consensus of the Council.

Dollar General Update – No updates. Item will be removed from monthly agendas.

Council discussion items – Councilman Ehrle inquired about the paint we found dumped at the cemetery burn pile. The Sheriff suggests closing the dump site. Paint that the city cannot use needs to be taken to Centerville to RASWC. He also inquired about a camper parked in a yard that has vehicles parked by it. This is on the list to inquire about with attorney. He showed the Council an example of a map of Moravia that was done by Myers in Centerville. This could replace the faded map in the council room. Cost is \$60. Council agreed by consensus to purchase two maps for \$120.

Mayor Info and Discussion Items – Mayor Brooks reported the circus will be in Moravia on August 23 in the lot behind CD's Motel. There will be two shows – 5:00 PM and 7:30 PM. At 9:30 AM, there will be a celebration of putting up the tent and unloading the animals. The Betterment Committee, Historical Society, Fire Department, and Fall Festival Committee are involved and will split the proceeds received. Tickets will be sold in nearby towns. Stu McDanel is bringing his manure spreader. Councilman Martin inquired why the Ruritans were not asked to be involved and inquired if they can sell ice cream at the events. The circus is the only ones allowed to sell food.

Motion by Baty and seconded by Richardson to adjourn at 7:25 PM. All Ayes - Motion carried.

/s/ Irene Brooks, Mayor

Attest:

/s/ Sharla Stogdill, City Clerk/Treasurer