

**MORAVIA CITY COUNCIL
SPECIAL MEETING
TUESDAY, SEPTEMBER 22, 2020**

A special meeting of the Moravia City Council was called to order by Mayor Roy Miller at 4:30 PM on Tuesday, September 22, 2020, at the Moravia Community Building. In addition to Mayor Miller, those present were Councilpersons Ken Martin, John Baty, and Sheila Kirby. Councilman George Bob Robinson was absent. Sharla Stogdill, Mitch Main, Marcia Benjamin, Curg McCoy, Joyce McCoy, Chris Sheldon, Stephen Hausner, Sam Kirby, Bill Benjamin, and Irene Brooks were also present. The meeting opened with a prayer by Ken Martin and the Pledge of Allegiance. Mayor Miller welcomed the public.

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

Comments from the public – Sam Kirby inquired about the North Street project asking if the city has to replace the culvert if the bridge the Betterment Committee installs is in jeopardy. Mayor Miller stated if the city installs the cement box and we have to tear it out, we are throwing money away. Councilman Baty stated we need to know if the tube can be lined. If the tube is too bad, we will have to cut the road and that should not affect the bridge. We need to work with the county. Bill Benjamin stated the box would support the bridge and make it more secure. Marcia Benjamin said they will have to ask the ACCF if they can hold off on the project because of these concerns and the price of lumber. Councilman Baty said the box will not go on the north side, it will stop just south of the fiber optic lines. The city would prefer for the Betterment Committee to delay the project.

The engineering agreement for sanitary sewer collection system improvements was reviewed by Stephen Hausner from French-Reneker. Preliminary services would cost \$800, preliminary engineering report services \$14,300, and design services \$31,200, for a total of \$46,300. These fees are covered under the planning and design loan. Stephen called two video contractors and one returned his telephone call. They could not do the videoing by the end of November, but could by the end of December. Video reports are due by December 31. The preliminary engineering report has to be approved before we can start lining. The January 1 CDBG application deadline cannot be met but the April 1 deadline can be. Chris Sheldon (affidavit operator) stated we need someone to look at the flow meter as soon as possible. The DNR wants it to be accurate before we go forward with the project. Stephen Hausner stated someone could look at it in the next week and he will have an engineer call Chris. The compliance schedule on the new permit lists May 2021 as the deadline for a progress report on meeting the limits at the lagoon. Clerk Stogdill said the budget needs to be amended for these sewer costs. Motion by Baty and seconded by Kirby to approve the engineering agreement for sanitary sewer collection system improvements with French-Reneker at a total cost of \$46,300. Roll Call Vote: Martin-Aye, Baty-Aye, Kirby-Aye. Motion carried.

Motion by Baty and seconded by Martin to accept Jason Snow's resignation effective September 29, 2020. Roll Call Vote: Martin-Aye, Baty-Aye, Kirby-Aye. Motion carried. Clerk Stogdill discussed equal opportunity employment listed in the employee handbook and filling vacancies from within if qualified. The job description needs to be reviewed and updated. Councilman Baty asked Mitch Main if he was interested in the job and Mitch stated he was interested; an updated job description will be given to Mitch by Monday, September 28. The job description for Mitch's current job also needs to be updated and the clerk will email to council for review. Council agreed to have a special meeting on Tuesday, September 29, at 4:30 PM to interview Mitch Main for the job vacancy left by Jason Snow's resignation.

Council Discussion Items – School crosswalks at the railroad tracks and Methodist Church were discussed. Councilwoman Kirby stated the council can authorize crosswalks per the city's ordinances. Mitch Main was advised to make a wooden stencil and to use Sherwin Williams traffic paint to paint the two crosswalks. Councilman Baty has a paint sprayer he can use. Councilman Baty reported a street light not working at King and Jacob Street. Clerk Stogdill will report to Alliant Energy. Councilman Baty looked at the rock that Curg and Joyce McCoy discussed at the previous meeting. There was discussion of the location to place the rock, including Horseshoe Park, next to the Veteran's memorial at the park on the square, on the north side of the sidewalk by the Veteran's memorial, and out by Highway 5. If we locate it in the park on the square, consideration needs to be made for the Moravian Star design in the park. Council requested Mitch to mark with white flags where the memorial stones are in the park. Mitch stated there are cement pads in the park from when the old water tower was previously located there. Everyone needs to look at these locations before a final decision is made. Cement needs to be poured and be ready so when the crane is available to move the rock, the city is ready. Councilman Martin has some re-bar the city could use. Curg McCoy estimates the rock to weigh approximately 15 to 20 tons. A security camera and lights for the rock were also discussed. Councilwoman Kirby discussed the tree issue at 404 West North Street. The city's ordinances state it is the property owner's responsibility for maintaining sidewalks in a safe and hazard-free condition. A letter will be sent to the property owner with a copy of the ordinances. Mitch Main discussed the cost of repairing the lawn mower versus purchasing a new lawn mower. Long's bid for a short block was \$1731.65, complete engine \$2,987.85, and to purchase a new 2020 lawn mower with trade in and bid assist is \$7,900 (\$12,749 list price). If we wait until 2021, the price will change. The mower has 700 hours on it. Clerk Stogdill said the cost could be split between the funds for Parks, Cemeteries, Streets, and Sewer, as mowing is done at all of those locations, but the Parks and Cemetery funds are both part of the General Fund. Stogdill expressed concerns for the budget and suggested purchasing the mower in June and paying for it in July, which is in a new fiscal year. Council expressed concerns about mowing in the spring and being ready for Memorial Day. Motion by Baty and seconded by Martin to purchase a new mower for \$7,900 with bid assist from Long's with trade-in as soon as available. Roll Call Vote: Martin-Aye, Baty-Aye, Kirby-Aye. Motion carried.

Mayor Information and Discussion Items – Mayor Miller reported meeting with Ed Mathews from the Appanoose County Industrial Development and touring the town. Mr. Mathews is trying to recruit businesses for small towns in Appanoose County and is talking to the college about a culinary arts program for students interested in starting a restaurant in small towns.

Motion by Kirby and seconded by Baty to adjourn at 5:34 PM. All Ayes - Motion carried.

/s/ Roy Miller, Mayor

Attest:

/s/ Sharla Stogdill, City Clerk/Treasurer