

**MORAVIA CITY COUNCIL
REGULAR MEETING
TUESDAY, SEPTEMBER 15, 2020**

The regular meeting of the Moravia City Council was called to order by Mayor Pro Tem John Baty at 5:32 PM on Tuesday, September 15, 2020, at the Moravia Community Building. In addition to Mayor Pro Tem Baty, those present were Councilpersons Ken Martin and Sheila Kirby. Councilman George Bob Robinson and Mayor Roy Miller were absent. Sharla Stogdill, Jason Snow, Marcia Benjamin, Paul Simpson, Bill Topp, Judith Topp, Gary Ehrle, Stephen Hausner, Curg McCoy, Joyce McCoy, Pastor Christy Ehrle, Stanley Spencer, Mitch Main, and Chris Sheldon were also present. The meeting opened with a prayer by Pastor Christy Ehrle and the Pledge of Allegiance. Mayor Pro Tem Baty welcomed the public.

Motion by Kirby and seconded by Martin to approve the agenda. Ayes-All. Nays-None. Motion carried.

Motion by Martin and seconded by Kirby to approve the minutes of the August 11, 2020 regular meeting with one correction. Councilperson Kirby changed the minutes about the tree in Linda Ballanger's yard that stated the Betterment Committee would request permission from the property owner to remove it, stating it should have said the Betterment Committee could not contact her because it was a possible hazard to the city and the League of Cities was to be contacted to see what could be done about it. Clerk Stogdill disagreed and said what was reported in the minutes was what happened at the meeting. Ayes-All. Nays-None. Motion carried.

Bills and receipts were presented and discussed. Motion by Martin and seconded by Kirby to approve the bills and receipts. Ayes-All. Nays-None. Motion carried.

Comments from the public – None.

Curg McCoy asked if the council was interested in a rock. It could be a freedom rock like is being put in every county in Iowa, or a rock with recognition. An anonymous donor has a rock that is 6'6" at the highest point, 10' long, and 7' wide. For freedom rocks, the cost to paint it is \$1000 per foot and depends on the size, plus you have to pay for the painter's lodging. The rock in Albia cost between \$8,000 and \$9,000. The McCoy family would place the rock in Moravia. It would need a base to set on. Motion by Martin and seconded by Kirby to accept the rock and for Curg McCoy to move forward with placing the rock. Ayes-All. Nays-None. Motion carried. The location of the rock will be decided at a later date.

Motion by Kirby and seconded by Martin to open the public hearing on the proposal to enter into a Sewer Revenue Loan and Disbursement Agreement at 5:56 PM. Ayes-All. Nays-None. Motion carried. City Clerk Stogdill announced no written objections had been placed on file at City Hall. Mayor Pro Tem Baty asked for written or oral comments from the public. No comments were made and the Mayor declared the public hearing closed. Motion by Martin and seconded by Kirby to close the public hearing at 5:57 PM. Ayes-All. Nays-None. Motion carried. After due consideration and discussion, Councilman Martin introduced Resolution #14-2020 and moved its adoption, seconded by Councilwoman Kirby; the Mayor Pro Tem put the question upon the adoption of the said resolution and the roll being called, the following named Council members votes as follows: Martin-Aye, Baty-Aye, Kirby-Aye, Robinson-Absent. Whereupon, the Mayor Pro Tem declared the resolution duly adopted.

Stephen Hausner from French-Reneker-Associates reported on the sewer smoking completed in August and issued reports to the Council. They found 55 defects of which 11 were on city property and 44 on private property. There are several uncapped sewer cleanouts on private properties. The city's ordinances allow entering houses and inspecting for sump pumps connected to sanitary sewers. Property owners are responsible for repairs and resolving issues. The next steps for the project are to complete the income survey, DNR project initiation conference call meeting, sewer videoing of 1/3 of the town, preliminary engineering report, and design sewer lining and rehab project. CDBG application is due January 1. Videoing has to happen in the next six weeks. French-Reneker can put specs together and give us a list of names that do the videoing. French-Reneker will put an engineering agreement together to present at a special meeting on Tuesday, September 22 at 4:30 PM. Councilman Baty discussed problems with the flow meter at the lagoon. Stephen will add having a technician look at it to the engineering agreement for approval. Issues with smoking the sewer at the school were also discussed.

The income survey required for the CDBG application was reviewed. Pathfinders and Chariton Valley Planning and Development had both submitted prices. Motion by Kirby and seconded by Martin to hire Pathfinders to do the income survey, environmental assessment CDBG application, and CDBG sewer and water application. Ayes-All. Nays-None. Motion carried.

Department Reports were given:

Fire – Paul Simpson reported 17 calls in August. The fire department would like to put signs up on the main road showing the fire department and caution-emergency apparatus. Clerk Stogdill will check on prices. Paul has not heard anything back on the bill for the switch. Gear has been ordered using grant money.

Library – Report submitted by the Library Board.

Cemetery – Councilman Martin reported the mowing at the cemeteries looks nice.

Parks – Councilwoman Kirby reported park is being sprayed for Fall Festival. A list is being made of maintenance issues at the library and community building. A dehumidifier has been installed in the basement of the community building, paid for by community organizations. A condensate pump is needed. Motorized vehicles not being allowed in the park for Fall Festival was discussed. Motorized wheelchairs will be allowed.

Streets – The road condition at the intersection of Highway 5 was discussed. Need to ask the county if they can cut it out. A temporary fix would be to cut it out and put rock and/or cold patch in it.

Water – Delinquent accounts were reviewed.

Sewer – Was covered during discussion with French-Reneker.

Nuisance Properties – Council requested a letter to be sent to Jackie White giving her 30 days to clean up the house that burnt on South Henry Street. Another letter to Jackie White was requested by Council to give her 30 days to clean up and remove bricks and rubble where the buildings were torn down on South William Street. Councilman Baty will give a list of cars that need to be moved by Debbie and Richard White. A letter is to be sent to Jonathan Johnson and Debbie/Richard White to notify them to not park on Pearl Street. A second and final letter is to be sent to Raven Stump to give her 30 days to clean up her property at 501 East Chariton. Progress had been made but has stopped. A letter to the owner of the trailer by the railroad tracks giving them 30 days to remove trash and broken glass and clean up property will be sent. Linda Stallman is working on removing her vehicles. Richard and Carol Cloyed will need assistance with cleanup of their property. The Moffatt property has a pile ready to be burned. Fire department will be contacted and neighbors notified.

City Staff – City Clerk Sharla Stogdill reported working on the Annual Financial Report. The City will receive a refund for \$864 from IMWCA for worker's compensation fees. Financial reports were reviewed with Council. Administrative Supervisor Jason Snow reported working on the Moffatt property cleanup and the project on North Street. The pipe on North Street is not in good condition and will need to be budgeted in the future. Jason submitted his resignation effective September 29, 2020. Council needs to discuss projects with him before he leaves. Chris Sheldon will contact the DNR regarding the lagoon's inflow and infiltration (I&I) and to see if we can have additional time to reduce it. Council did not accept Jason's resignation and requested it to be added to the special meeting agenda on September 22.

Resident Complaints – Mayor Pro Tem Baty reported Rod Perry called Mayor Roy Miller and met with him at his property at 104 North John Street. The City had this property cleaned up two to three years ago and Rod said the city damaged his trailer and building and stole things. Rod indicated he will sue the city. If he does, the City will counter sue for court costs, attorney fees, and employee wages.

Motion by Martin and seconded by Kirby to accept the resignation of Don Havard from the Council effective September 14, 2020, due to him moving from Moravia. Ayes-All. Nays-None. Motion carried. The Council thanks Don for his years of work on the Council. Motion by Martin and seconded by Kirby to fill the council vacancy by appointment. Ayes-All. Nays-None. Motion carried. Publication requirements will be completed to post for the vacancy.

Clerk Stogdill reviewed the City Street Financial Report for July 1, 2019 to June 30, 2020. Revenues and expenses in the report match the city's financial documentation. Resolution #13-2020 was introduced by Councilwoman Kirby and moved its adoption, seconded by Councilman Martin. Roll Call Vote: Martin-Aye, Baty-Aye, Kirby-Aye, Robinson-Absent. Motion carried.

Clerk Stogdill conducted the first reading of Ordinance #2020-03–Penalties, Ordinance #2020-04–Tobacco, and Ordinance #2020-05-Animal Control. Changes to these ordinances are necessary due to legislative changes. Motion by Martin and seconded by Kirby to approve the first readings of Ordinance #2020-03–Penalties, Ordinance #2020-04–Tobacco, and Ordinance #2020-05-Animal Control. Ayes-All. Nays-None. Motion carried.

The sharing of city maintenance employee Mitch Main with the Moravia School was discussed. Councilman Robinson and Mayor Miller met with the Moravia school superintendent but neither were present at the council meeting to discuss. Clerk Stogdill questioned what would happen if Mitch was hurt while working at the school and how that would affect the city's worker's comp. She also questioned the legalities of the proposal. Mitch said there are days that are slower but there are days when you have water breaks, snow removal, and things are very busy. Mitch inquired how it would affect his benefits and stated it did not sound kosher to him. Council agreed by consensus to pass on it unless we receive better information.

Council Discussion Items – Councilwoman Kirby inquired about the work order list where a school cross walk was to be painted. Councilman Robinson canceled the work order. Councilman Baty said he would check with George Bob to see why he cancelled the work order. Legalities of cross walks would need to be investigated. The jail election passed so the LOST money was discussed. Council already agreed to not take any LOST money from the Fire Department. Further discussion will be needed to see how we can afford to lose 10% of our LOST funds from our Street money. One possibility is a loan that is currently paid by streets, water, and sewer funds could be paid by only water and sewer. However, the length of that loan needs to be considered. Councilman Martin stated the stop sign at Frontage Road and North Street needed replaced. He has discussed the rent to own option of the saw mill land with his nephew who will talk to his brothers about it. He reported two street lights out to Alliant Energy. Councilman Baty reviewed the list of items to complete for Fall Festival, including keys and cleaning supplies, hanging the banner on the stage, and covering the water fountain at the park. The Fire Department cleaned the shelter houses and streets. The sidewalk project being done by the Moravia Union continues. New sidewalks will be installed on North Street from Old Hwy 5 to 501 West North Street. Two bushes hanging over the sidewalk need trimmed back at 503 and 507 West North. The damage to the street by Dollar General was discussed. Mayor Miller and Councilman Robinson are talking to Dollar General.

Mayor Discussion Items – None.

Motion by Martin and seconded by Kirby to adjourn at 7:52 PM. Ayes-All. Nays-None. Motion carried.

/s/ Roy Miller, Mayor

Attest:

/s/ Sharla Stogdill, City Clerk/Treasurer