

**MORAVIA CITY COUNCIL
REGULAR MEETING
TUESDAY, JULY 20, 2021**

The regular meeting of the Moravia City Council was called to order by Mayor Roy Miller at 5:30 PM on Tuesday, July 20, 2021, at Moravia City Hall. In addition to Mayor Miller, those present at the meeting were Councilpersons Ken Martin, Sheila Kirby, Gary Ehrle, Ron Deal, and John Baty. Sharla Stogdill, Shaun Wubben, Bill Cortesio, Paul Simpson, and Ann Repp 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: Ehrle-Aye, Martin-Aye, Baty-Aye, Kirby-Aye, Deal-Aye. Motion carried.

Motion by Martin and seconded by Kirby to approve the minutes of the June 8, 2021 regular meeting and June 14, 2021 special meeting. Roll Call Vote: Ehrle-Aye, Martin-Aye, Baty-Aye, Kirby-Aye, Deal-Aye. Motion carried.

Bills and receipts were presented and discussed. Motion by Baty and seconded by Kirby to approve the bills and receipts. Roll Call Vote: Ehrle-Aye, Martin-Aye, Baty-Aye, Kirby-Aye, Deal-Aye. Motion carried.

Comments from the public – None.

Motion by Baty and seconded by Deal to open the public hearing for the sale of real estate by public bid and conveyance of real property at 5:36 PM. Roll Call Vote: Ehrle-Aye, Martin-Aye, Baty-Aye, Kirby-Aye, Deal-Aye. Motion carried. No comments or questions, written or oral, were received from the public or received at City Hall. No objections, written or oral, were made to the sale of the property from the public or received at City Hall. Clerk Stogdill opened the two sealed bids received for the property. Bid #1 was from Moravia School for \$13,500. Bid #2 was from Jonathen Mullins for \$13,007. As stated in the public hearing notice, bids were allowed to be increased after all bids were opened by the city. There was no representatives from Moravia School at the meeting to increase their bid. Jonathen Mullins increased his bid to \$13,507. Councilman Martin inquired about Jon's plans for the property. Jon stated he planned to dig it out and pack clay in. At some point, he plans to build a house there. The highest bidder, Jonathen Mullins, was awarded the property and signed his bid form with the new purchase price of \$13,507. Motion by Deal and seconded by Kirby to close the public hearing at 5:42 PM. Roll Call Vote: Ehrle-Aye, Martin-Aye, Baty-Aye, Kirby-Aye, Deal-Aye. Motion carried. Resolution #15-2021 authorizing conveyance of real property to Jon Mullins for \$13,507 was introduced by Mayor Miller. Motion by Baty and seconded by Ehrle to approve Resolution #15-2021 authorizing conveyance of real property to Jonathen Mullins for \$13,507. Roll Call Vote: Ehrle-Aye, Martin-Aye, Baty-Aye, Kirby-Aye, Deal-Aye. Motion carried.

No bids were received for road construction.

Bill Cortesio from Ultra7 Development addressed the council regarding small town opportunities and building real estate in small communities. They would like to help Moravia grow. Council would like more information from the group and will meet with them in a special meeting.

Sewer/Lagoon Project – No updates. Council wants French-Reneker to attend the August meeting to discuss the infiltration issues with the latest heavy rain.

Department Reports were given:

Fire – The department reported twelve calls in June. Enough money was raised to pay for the fireworks this year. New fire gear is needed and fundraisers will be held, grants will be applied for, and a possible USDA loan will be checked into. Council stressed the high priority of the department having up-to-date gear for safety purposes and wanted all gear to be ordered right away. Council also thanked the department for the fireworks show.

Library – Report submitted by the Library Board. Library Director Ann Repp stated Jackie Graham is resigning from the library board so they are looking for another replacement. Jamie Anderson has agreed to replace Chris McDanel on the board. Motion by Baty and seconded by Deal to appoint Jamie Anderson to the Moravia Library Board to replace Chris McDanel. Roll Call Vote: Ehrle-Aye, Martin-Aye, Baty-Aye, Kirby-Aye, Deal-Aye. Motion carried.

Cemetery – Councilman Martin complimented the mowers on the good job at the cemetery. Councilman Ehrle hopes to have the access road in the new section completed within the next thirty days.

Parks – Councilman Martin complimented the bricks that are around the flower beds. Councilwoman Kirby stated the base for the new bench at the park is poured. The placement of the bench was on the north side of the park and the Council requested it to be on the south side. Mayor Miller stated the placement of benches must go through Council and be approved prior to placement.

Streets – Councilman Deal met with the Appanoose County Engineer, Brad Skinner, regarding a 28E Agreement. Council needs to decide on the items they want on the agreement and Brad will write the agreement and submit to the Board of Supervisors for approval. The 28E Agreement will be added to the August city council agenda. Councilman Ehrle noted the strobe lights on stop signs are excellent. The railroad underpass on Brandon Street has cement falling off. The railroad was notified last year and nothing was done. Council needs to contact our State Representative.

Water – Delinquent accounts were reviewed.

Sewer – Councilman Baty noted the flood alarm at the lift station went off during the heavy rain, but the system did call Mitch.

Nuisance properties and junk vehicles were reviewed. A letter was sent to resident at 514 West North regarding licensing their dog and it running loose. No response was received from the resident. Council will check if the dog is still there and running loose. Council agreed by consensus to start legal action on clean up of property at 315 North William Street. Offers to help clean up the property have been refused. Council agreed by consensus to contact city attorney regarding the deteriorating condition of property at 104 North John. Councilman Baty will check the list of junk vehicles that have been ordered to be removed. If not removed, legal action will begin. Sheriff will be notified to ticket owners of junk vehicles at 106 North Henry and 202 North West Street. Furniture in yard at 401 West Baird needs removed. Owner will be contacted by Mayor. Council agreed by consensus to trim and mow property at 106 and 108 South William Street and bill the owner. Pickup in alley by 304 East Chariton is filled with trash and needs removed.

City Staff – City Clerk Sharla Stogdill reported on the ICAP audit. Results of audit will be shared at August meeting. IMWCA audit information is due and fire department documentation was requested. A zoom meeting was attended regarding the coronavirus recovery funds. Funds have been requested. A conference call with ClerkBooks will be held July 23 to close out the financial records for the fiscal year. Reports will be distributed at the August council meeting. Work will begin on the street finance report, annual finance report, and debt outstanding report. Candidate filing for the election is August 23 to September 16. Candidates must file their papers with the Appanoose County Auditor. Fire truck loan was paid off July 1. The city borrowed \$160,000 from USDA on March 8, 2007. Pathfinders requested a list of any grants received by the city in the past ten years that involve housing or community needs. Council was not aware of any in the past ten years. A request for keyless entry to the community building was received. In Mitch Main's absence, Roy Miller requested the keys be turned in for Trussell Park ballfield and the park committee to have a set of rules for next year regarding the use of the facility. Carp for the lagoon was discussed. Council agreed to order it this fall when weather is cooler and requested prices. Pond 3 at the lagoon was cleared of duck weed. Jetco repaired the lift station and flood alarm went off during heavy rain. Mitch Main will be taking the test for his sewer license on August 10. Rock has been added to roads at cemetery. Park mulch has been put down. Makayla Snow did volunteer work for the city for her silver cord at school. She finished painting buildings and staining the crow's nest at Trussell Park and it looks very nice. Cold patching has been done on streets. Red lights have been installed on stop signs. Ditching has been started. McCann's fixed water leak on Trussell. A new service line and valve was installed. A new roof was installed on pump house. Mayor Miller reported city hall will be closed for approximately one hour on July 21 for staff to attend funeral for Mitch's grandmother. Tyrel Welch had voluntarily quit his seasonal job at the city but has since returned to work. The spray used for weeds at the lagoon and around town did not work so a different spray will be used. Gutters at community building have been cleaned out, flashing replaced and painted. The decorative lights at the gazebos were turned off by an unknown person but have been turned back on by the city. Repairs are being done to the 72" lawn mower.

Ordinance Updates – None.

Resident Complaints – A complaint was received regarding a boat being parked too close to a stop sign and blocking the view at the intersection. Owner will be contacted by the mayor.

Council discussed the water/sewer affidavit operator position and agreed by consensus to continue to employ the affidavit operator until Mitch Main obtains both water and sewer licenses. Mitch currently has water license and will be testing for sewer license August 10.

Motion by Kirby and seconded by Deal to approve the cigarette/tobacco permit for Spencer's Grocery. Roll Call Vote: Ehrle-Aye, Martin-Aye, Baty-Aye, Kirby-Aye, Deal-Aye. Motion carried.

Council Discussion Items – Councilman Ehrle discussed the incorrect information about the city that has been posted on social media and said at meetings. This needs to be addressed with people reporting false information. If after talking to them the problem persists, the city attorney will be contacted. Councilman Deal reported on the Chariton Valley housing summit meeting he attended. Information packets were shared with the mayor and council. Councilman Baty said the Fall Festival Committee has requested the pole that was removed when the building next to city hall was torn down to be put up again as it is needed for a speaker during Festival. Mayor Miller will check on easements. REC will erect the pole for us and Councilman Martin will donate the pole.

Mayor Discussion Items – Mayor Miller published an article in the Moravia Union about the ordinance for curfew hours. Name plates were purchased by the mayor for use at council meetings. The sign at city hall stating no guns were allowed has been removed due to gun law changes in Iowa effective July 1.

Motion by Baty and seconded by Kirby to adjourn at 7:18 PM. Ayes-All. Nays-None. Motion carried.

/s/ Roy Miller, Mayor

Attest:

/s/ Sharla Stogdill, City Clerk/Treasurer