

**MORAVIA CITY COUNCIL
REGULAR MEETING
TUESDAY, AUGUST 10, 2021**

The regular meeting of the Moravia City Council was called to order by Mayor Roy Miller at 5:30 PM on Tuesday, August 10, 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, Mitch Main, Tim Pettibone, Chad Whitney, Megan Irving, Marcia Benjamin, Stephen Pedrick, Paul Simpson, and Ann Repp were also present. The meeting opened with a prayer by Gary Ehrle and the Pledge of Allegiance. Mayor Miller welcomed the public.

Motion by Baty and seconded by Kirby to approve the agenda. Roll Call Vote: Ehrle-Aye, Baty-Aye, Kirby-Aye, Deal-Aye, Martin-stepped out of meeting and did not vote. Motion carried.

Motion by Kirby and seconded by Ehrle to approve the minutes of the July 20, 2021 regular meeting. Roll Call Vote: Ehrle-Aye, Baty-Aye, Kirby-Aye, Deal-Aye, Martin-stepped out of meeting and did not vote. Motion carried.

Bills, receipts, and fiscal year closing adjustments were presented and discussed. Motion by Baty and seconded by Deal to approve the bills, receipts, and fiscal year closing adjustments. Roll Call Vote: Ehrle-Aye, Baty-Aye, Kirby-Aye, Deal-Aye, Martin-stepped out of meeting and did not vote. Motion carried.

Comments from the public – Tim Pettibone requested the council close Lake Street. Mayor Miller stated our attorney said other cities charge 54 cents per square foot when closing streets and alleys. Council agreed by consensus not to start charging that fee and to only charge for the legal fees. Motion by Baty and seconded by Kirby to close Lake Street and attorney fees for quit claim deed be paid by Tim Pettibone. Roll Call Vote: Ehrle-Aye, Martin-Aye, Baty-Aye, Kirby-Aye, Deal-Aye. Motion carried.

Megan Irving and Chad Whitney discussed the plans for Fall Festival. The final schedule is still in process. Items for the city to complete were reviewed. There will be a restriction of motorized vehicles in the park. Motion by Baty and seconded by Kirby to approve the use of the streets and community building by the Fall Festival Committee. Roll Call Vote: Ehrle-Aye, Martin-Aye, Baty-Aye, Kirby-Aye, Deal-Aye. Motion carried.

Sewer/Lagoon Project – Stephen Pedrick from French-Reneker updated the council on the lagoon project. Infiltration issues were reviewed. Stephen will request copies of the sewer videos taken at the school by Jeremy Lieu. Discussion on handling the sump pump issues was reviewed.

Department Reports were given:

Fire – The department reported sixteen calls in July. Paul Simpson inquired if they could use water for water fights at Fall Festival. Council agreed by consensus. If water is used, the city needs to be contacted so they are not looking for leaks (i.e., water fights at Trussell Park). A possible \$10,000 grant from FS is being checked into for equipment. More recruits for the department are needed. Paul is checking on prices for a new pump for 76A.

Library – Report submitted by the Library Board. Library Director Ann Repp reported a student volunteer is working at the library one day per week for three hours. More people are using the computers and fax machine. They are considering offering a notary public service. Work is continuing on accreditation. Motion by Martin and seconded by Kirby to approve the resignation of Jackie Graham from the library board. Roll Call Vote: Ehrle-Aye, Martin-Aye, Baty-Aye, Kirby-Aye, Deal-Aye. Motion carried. No replacement has been found yet.

Cemetery – Councilman Martin inquired about finishing the fence around the cemetery. The fence is on hold for now.

Parks – Councilwoman Kirby stated Sam Kirby has been watering in the park. Dogs inside the community building were discussed.

Streets – Councilman Deal reported Highway J18 is due for a seal coat. The city would like to know the cost to put a seal coat on road through town. Heavy trucks are destroying our streets. Councilman Ehrle presented a proposal to place a stop sign at the intersection of William and North Streets, making it a four-way stop. This would help to slow down traffic going through town and provide a safer intersection for the Fire Department to enter North Street. Painting the 25 mph speed limits directly on the streets at all four entrances into town was discussed but Council will wait to see if a seal coat is applied first. Councilman Ehrle will check on legalities of adding a stop sign and the costs before action is taken.

Water – Delinquent accounts and water shut-offs for non-payment were reviewed.

Sewer – The new equipment at the lift station is working well.

Nuisance properties and junk vehicles were reviewed. Mayor Miller reported the city attorney is working on two properties for the city. Junk vehicles at 302 North William Street are gone.

City Staff – City Clerk Sharla Stogdill discussed in detail the fiscal year 2021 year-end reports. Mitch Main reviewed work his crew has completed and plans. Tyrel Welch's last day to work is August 19. The water leak repair was discussed and McCann's have been notified about other work the city needs completed on water pits and the fire hydrant at the depot. Fire hydrants will be flushed again this fall and pressure checks will be completed. Councilman Ehrle offered his help with running errands or picking up parts for the city.

Ordinance Updates – None.

Councilman Deal reviewed with the Council the 28E agreement with the County for roads and Council made suggestions of what the city would like included in the agreement.

Resident Complaints – Councilman Martin received a complaint from a resident at West View stating the city formerly swept the gravel on the streets and picked it up and the city no longer does that and they have pea gravel in their yard. The city no longer has a street sweeper. Mitch stated Shaun Wubben has cleaned up some at West View but there is not enough manpower to get it done everywhere. Mitch will check on it. Mitch reported on a complaint received regarding a service alley being blocked at 810 Deborah. Utilities are in the alley and it cannot be blocked. Councilman Ehrle and Mayor Miller will address the issue and also check on any other blocked alleys in town.

Clerk Stogdill discussed recent legislative changes affecting Moravia's city codes. Council agreed by consensus to have our codes updated.

Clerk Stogdill reviewed the ICAP audit results with the Council. The city will comply with all of their requests.

Resolution #17-2021 was introduced by Clerk Stogdill. Motion by Baty and seconded by Deal to approve Resolution #17-2021 – Ford F550 loan change in payment funds allocation. Roll Call Vote: Ehrle-Aye, Martin-Aye, Baty-Aye, Kirby-Aye, Deal-Aye. Motion carried.

Council Discussion Items – Councilman Ehrle recognized and thanked the organizations in Moravia that contribute so much to the community. Councilman Deal inquired if the city is going to have a special meeting to meet with the Ultra 7 group. August 31 at 4:30 PM was set as the date for the special meeting and it will also include a public hearing for the lagoon project. Councilman deal will contact Bill Cortesio about the meeting date and time.

Mayor Discussion Items – Mayor Miller inquired if the Council would like to install charcoal barbecue grills in the parks. Council agreed by consensus to install three new grills; one grill by the shelter house at Trussell Park and one grill by each of the gazebos in the park on the square. Mayor Miller stated various other towns are going to pay their full-time employees a bonus for working during the pandemic using the funds from the American Rescue Plan. Mayor Miller is requesting to pay Moravia's three full-time employees a \$5,000 bonus each. Council agreed stating that after the funds are received, we will need to ensure the funds can be used that way. Instructions we have currently received state that we can.

Motion by Martin and seconded by Baty to adjourn at 8:17 PM. Ayes-All. Nays-None. Motion carried.

/s/ Roy Miller, Mayor

Attest:

/s/ Sharla Stogdill, City Clerk/Treasurer