

**MORAVIA CITY COUNCIL
REGULAR MEETING
TUESDAY, NOVEMBER 9, 2021**

The regular meeting of the Moravia City Council was called to order by Mayor Roy Miller at 5:30 PM on Tuesday, November 9, 2021, at Moravia City Hall. In addition to Mayor Miller, those present at the meeting were Councilpersons Sheila Kirby, Ken Martin, Gary Ehrle, and John Baty. Councilperson Ron Deal was absent. Sharla Stogdill, Mitch Main, Shaun Wubben, Marcia Benjamin, Bill Benjamin, Sam Kirby, Paul Simpson, Christy Ehrle, and Marty Hatfield were also present. The meeting opened with a prayer by Christy Ehrle and the Pledge of Allegiance. Mayor Miller welcomed the public and congratulated Shaun Wubben on his first anniversary with the city.

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

Motion by Martin and seconded by Kirby to approve the minutes of the October 12, 2021 regular meeting. Roll Call Vote: Martin-Aye, Baty-Aye, Kirby-Aye, Ehrle-Aye, Deal-Absent. Motion carried.

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

Comments from the public – Sam Kirby asked the Council for permission to decorate the shelter houses for Christmas. Council agreed by consensus. Sam asked if a light could be put up at the Trussell Park parking lot and the crosswalk by railroad tracks. Council agreed by consensus. Councilman Baty will contact Jimmy Stufflebeem to see if Alliant can do it.

Sewer/Lagoon Project – No new updates.

Department Reports were given:

Fire – Chief Paul Simpson asked the Council who to contact about servicing the heating and cooling unit at the fire station. The city has used Southern Iowa Heating and Cooling in the past so council recommended starting with them. There were eight calls in October. Paul also inquired about automatic garage door openers at the fire station. Councilman Baty will check on it. Mitch Main said the old fire truck needs a new home instead of being stored in the city shop. A grant is needed to place it in a storage building at the depot. Councilman Ehrle inquired if buildings with solar panels on the roof are a problem if there is a fire. Simpson stated it is not a problem but the power would need to be cut so they would need to know where the shut-offs are.

Library – Report submitted by the Library Board. No representatives from the library were in attendance. Mayor Miller told the Council that he and Councilman Ehrle attended a Library Board meeting regarding the letter he received from the Library Board stating they will not apply for a grant for a handicap ramp and door. It will not cost the library anything to apply and a volunteer had offered to complete the grant form. The Board and Friends of the Library is going to meet to reconsider applying for a grant.

Cemetery – Councilman Ehrle reported the new trees are planted and city employees staked the trees. The next step at the cemetery is taking top soil off the access road and new burial site and to put in a base for the columbarium. Matting and rock will need to be purchased. Clerk Stogdill inquired if the labor hours should be charged to the cemetery account in the General Fund or the Pfannebecker money in the Special Revenues fund. Council agreed it should be charged to the Pfannebecker money. Later during Council discussion time, Councilman Martin did not agree that it should be charged there and after discussion, Council changed it to the General fund. Also, if work is being done on the road to the burn pile, it should be charged to Roads and not Cemetery. Councilman Ehrle asked the council to amend the budget for \$5,000 to do the work. Council asked Ehrle to get more information on the prices and bring to the December meeting.

Parks – Councilman Baty will check on the blinking light on the east side of park on square. Shaun Wubben discussed the city's role working with the Betterment Committee. Shaun drew a diagram for the design of the education corner of the park on the square. Council agreed it is the city's park, improvements are being made, and time will be saved trimming with the new design so they agreed by consensus for city employees to assist the Betterment Committee. New planters will be installed and the Garden Club will continue to plant the flowers in the new planters. Council agreed by consensus for Shaun to decorate the planters for Christmas and lights and decorations in the park.

Streets – Councilman Ehrle reported the lines on the streets and at the railroad tracks is in the process of being painted. The ditch needs to be cut by the tube on Church Street and a barricade is up. The cost of speed limit signs ranges from \$2,500 to \$3,600. Research for a grant needs to be done. Councilman Ehrle recommends a stop sign at the corner of East North Street and North East Street instead of the corner of East North Street and William Street. This will continue to be monitored.

Water – Delinquent accounts were reviewed. Motion by Baty and seconded by Kirby to write off and close Account #4027. Roll Call Vote: Martin-Aye, Baty-Aye, Kirby-Aye, Ehrle-Aye, Deal-Absent. Motion carried. Shut-offs for unpaid water invoices will be done on Monday, November 15 instead of November 10 due to Veterans Day holiday. Council requested water pits be set at new house in Westview and Tim Pettibone's property.

Sewer – Duckweed has been skimmed off of ponds. Mitch Main would like to get a tour of the lagoons at Albia and Centerville. He did not pass sewer test. Since Albia is a Grade 2, he would like to work with them to learn about their system to help him with the test. Council agreed by consensus.

Nuisance properties and junk vehicles were reviewed. Councilman Baty was not able to get pictures of junk vehicles yet but will get them soon. Roy Miller reported the house at 504 East North is scheduled to be torn down this week. Property at 208 South West Street has been cleaned up.

City Staff – Clerk Sharla Stogdill reviewed financial reports with the Council. She reported a letter had been sent to 107 East North regarding parking on the sidewalk and pit. IMWCA annual audit is scheduled for Wednesday, November 10 at 2 PM. Mitch Main reported the Christmas lights are pulled down and they are replacing light bulbs. The plan is to put the lights up the Monday after Thanksgiving, depending on the weather. More work needs to be done at the bridge. One call is done to install the no parking signs on Trussell Avenue. The hole on Trussell has been repaired. Ditching needs to be done. Officer Harvey was shown the damage done at Trussell Park to the south dugout and the bathroom doors. Cameras have been installed and a light is on to catch the person(s) doing the damage. The last of the mowing is being done this week.

Resident Complaints – Nothing to report.

Water/Sewer License & Affidavit Operator – Nothing to report.

Ordinance Review of Fences/Walls for Junk – Council agreed by consensus to not pursue an ordinance for fences/walls for junk. If a property has junk, the city will require the junk to be removed.

The third reading of Ordinance No. 2021-03 – Abandoned Vehicles was read by Mayor Miller. Motion by Baty and seconded by Ehrle to approve the third reading of Ordinance No. 2021-03. Roll Call Vote: Martin-Aye, Baty-Aye, Kirby-Aye, Ehrle-Aye, Deal-Absent. Motion carried. Motion by Martin and seconded by Kirby to approve and adopt Ordinance No. 2021-03 – Abandoned Vehicles. Roll Call Vote: Martin-Aye, Baty-Aye, Kirby-Aye, Ehrle-Aye, Deal-Absent. Ordinance adopted and approved.

The third reading of Ordinance No. 2021-04 – Failure to Assist was read by Mayor Miller. Motion by Baty and seconded by Martin to approve the third reading of Ordinance No. 2021-04. Roll Call Vote: Martin-Aye, Baty-Aye, Kirby-Aye, Ehrle-Aye, Deal-Absent. Motion carried. Motion by Kirby and seconded by Baty to approve and adopt Ordinance No. 2021-04 – Failure to Assist. Roll Call Vote: Martin-Aye, Baty-Aye, Kirby-Aye, Ehrle-Aye, Deal-Absent. Ordinance adopted and approved.

The third reading of Ordinance No. 2021-05 – Interference with Official Acts was read by Mayor Miller. Motion by Baty and seconded by Martin to approve the third reading of Ordinance No. 2021-05. Roll Call Vote: Martin-Aye, Baty-Aye, Kirby-Aye, Ehrle-Aye, Deal-Absent. Motion carried. Motion by Kirby and seconded by Baty to approve and adopt Ordinance No. 2021-05 – Interference with Official Acts. Roll Call Vote: Martin-Aye, Baty-Aye, Kirby-Aye, Ehrle-Aye, Deal-Absent. Ordinance adopted and approved.

The third reading of Ordinance No. 2021-06–Public Disorder was read by Mayor Miller. Motion by Martin and seconded by Kirby to approve the third reading of Ordinance No. 2021-06–Public Disorder. Roll Call Vote: Martin-Aye, Baty-Aye, Kirby-Aye, Ehrle-Aye, Deal-Absent. Motion carried. Motion by Ehrle and seconded by Baty to approve and adopt Ordinance No. 2021-06 – Public Disorder. Roll Call Vote: Martin-Aye, Baty-Aye, Kirby-Aye, Ehrle-Aye, Deal-Absent. Ordinance adopted and approved.

Consensus by the Council to change the regular December meeting from the 14th to the 16th due to the Clerk unable to attend on the 14th.

Council Discussion Items – Councilman Baty complimented the city employees on the good work they do. Mitch and Shaun do a great job around town and all of the little things they do are great. Sharla does a great job on the city books. Sam Swenson will be talking to IHCC about classes on solar power. Councilman Ehrle has talked to Sam Swenson at the school about sharing a grant writer. The grant writer would be paid a percentage of the amount of the grant they obtain, with the city paying for city grants and the school paying for school grants. The Council would determine the types of grants they want to apply for.

Mayor Discussion Items – The recycling trailer has only made \$46 the last two months in Moravia. They may stop coming to Moravia or just come every other month. Out of town people are welcome to bring their recycling to the trailer also. A notice will be put in the newspaper that we have to increase our usage. Mayor Miller reminded the Council and employees of the importance of confidentiality of city business.

Motion by Baty and seconded by Kirby to enter into closed session under Iowa Code 21.5 (C) for the purpose of discussing strategy with council in matters that are presently in litigation or where litigation is imminent. Roll Call Vote: Martin-Aye, Baty-Aye, Kirby-Aye, Ehrle-Aye, Deal-Absent. Motion carried and council entered closed session at 7:12 PM.

Council came out of closed session and entered open session at 7:40 PM.

Motion by Kirby and seconded by Martin to adjourn at 7:40 PM. Ayes-All. Nays-None. Motion carried.

/s/ Roy Miller, Mayor

Attest:

/s/ Sharla Stogdill, City Clerk/Treasurer