

**MORAVIA CITY COUNCIL
REGULAR MEETING
TUESDAY, APRIL 12, 2022**

The regular meeting of the Moravia City Council was called to order by Mayor Roy Miller at 5:00 PM on Tuesday, April 12, 2022, at the Moravia Community Building. In addition to Mayor Miller, those present at the meeting were Councilpersons Sheila Kirby, Ken Martin, Gary Ehrle, Ron Deal, and John Baty. Sharla Stogdill, Mitch Main, Shaun Wubben, Marcia Benjamin, Stephen Pedrick, Sam Kirby, Nichole Moore, Amanda Smith, Tom Kramka, Carol Kramka, Pastor Christy Ehrle, Chris Sheldon, Megan Irving, Veronica Simpson, and Paul Simpson were also present. The meeting opened with a prayer by Pastor Christy 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: Martin-Aye, Ehrle-Aye, Baty-Aye, Kirby-Aye, Deal-Aye. Motion carried.

Motion by Ehrle and seconded by Kirby to approve the minutes of the March 8, 2022 regular meeting. Roll Call Vote: Martin-Aye, Ehrle-Aye, Baty-Aye, Kirby-Aye, Deal-Aye. Motion carried.

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

Comments from the public – Sam Kirby told the Council there is a group in Centerville that has been doing a movie night for a few years and they have all of the equipment for it. Plans are in the early stages to possibly have a movie night in Moravia on October 22 in conjunction with other activities such as a hay ride.

Motion by Martin and seconded by Kirby to approve and adopt Resolution 9-2022 – resolution setting time and place of hearing on a proposal to vacate a portion of Lake Avenue in the City of Moravia, Appanoose County, Iowa, as May 10, 2022, at 5:00 PM at the Moravia Community Building. Roll Call Vote: Martin-Aye, Ehrle-Aye, Baty-Aye, Kirby-Aye, Deal-Aye. Resolution approved and adopted.

Motion by Baty and seconded by Ehrle to approve and adopt Resolution 10-2022 – resolution setting time and place of hearing on a proposal to convey a portion of Lake Avenue in the City of Moravia, Appanoose County, Iowa, to Deborah White as May 10, 2022, at 5:00 PM in the Moravia Community Building. Roll Call Vote: Martin-Aye, Ehrle-Aye, Baty-Aye, Kirby-Aye, Deal-Aye. Resolution approved and adopted.

Motion by Deal and seconded by Martin to approve and adopt Resolution 11-2022 – resolution setting time and place of hearing on a proposal to convey a portion of Lake Avenue in the City of Moravia, Appanoose County, Iowa, to Tim Pettibone as May 10, 2022, at 5:00 PM in the Moravia Community Building. Roll Call Vote: Martin-Aye, Ehrle-Aye, Baty-Aye, Kirby-Aye, Deal-Aye. Resolution approved and adopted.

Clint Woodward was not in attendance to discuss the rules for the Trussell Park ball fields. Megan Irving was in attendance to represent the girls' softball league. Megan stated the girls' softball and boys' baseball will be sharing the field this year. The girls' games will start April 19. The water needs turned on at the bathrooms. Keys were discussed, as well as who is responsible for paying for electricity, toilet paper, and paper towels. The concession stand will not be open as there has not been any interest by any groups or parents to run the stand and it would need updated to meet ADLM requirements. There is no longer a water heater in the stand or the Pepsi cooler. Vandalism at the park was discussed. Bathroom doors have been busted. In the past, the toilet has been broken and the city spent over \$300 repairing it. Council is going to put a light at the bathrooms and more cameras at the park. Payment of the electricity at the park was discussed and Councilman Baty said the Moravia Union may help pay for part of the cost. The scoreboard was discussed but nobody knew if it worked. An insurance policy is required by both the boys' and girls' leagues to use Trussell Park.

Nichole Moore from Chariton Valley Planning and Development reviewed required documents with the Council for the sanitary sewer project. Motion by Baty and seconded by Kirby to approve all CDBG documents for the sanitary sewer project. Roll Call Vote: Martin-Aye, Ehrle-Aye, Baty-Aye, Kirby-Aye, Deal-Aye. Motion carried.

Stephen Pedrick from French-Reneker reviewed an amendment to French-Reneker's contract for construction-related engineering services for the sewer lining project/lagoon upgrade. Motion by Baty and seconded by Deal to approve the amendment to the French-Reneker contract as presented. Roll Call Vote: Martin-Aye, Ehrle-Aye, Baty-Aye, Kirby-Aye, Deal-Aye. Motion carried. Stephen Pedrick also gave the council an update on the sewer lining project/lagoon upgrade. A public hearing will be held at the May meeting and then action can be taken on bids received.

Motion by Baty and seconded by Kirby to approve and adopt Resolution 12-2022 to provide for a notice of hearing on the proposed plans, specifications, form of contract, and estimate of costs for the sanitary sewer collection system improvement project and the taking of bids. Roll Call Vote: Martin-Aye, Ehrle-Aye, Baty-Aye, Kirby-Aye, Deal-Aye. Resolution approved and adopted.

No representatives from Piper Jaffray were in attendance at the meeting to discuss the sewer project finance update and possible action.

Nichole Moore from Chariton Valley Planning reviewed the CP/KCS railroad merger with the Council. If the merger goes through, Moravia will go from having three or four trains a day come through town to fourteen to eighteen trains per day. This is cause for several concerns for the town and its residents. If approved, it would be the year 2025 to 2027 before it would take place.

Department Reports were given:

Fire – Fire Chief Paul Simpson reported twelve calls for February and sixteen calls for March. They received a grant for backpack sprayers. Truck 476 has been repaired. They are considering buying a new ambulance that would be paid for by EMS funds. Mayor Miller requested the accident report for a fire fighter that went to the Emergency Room be turned in to city hall. Any accident needs to be reported to City Hall and an accident report completed in order to be paid by workman's comp insurance. Security cameras at the fire station were discussed. Cameras could be viewed at City Hall the same as the security cameras currently located at the shop and city hall. Motion by Ehrle and seconded by Baty to purchase security cameras for the Fire Department from Southern Iowa Technologies for \$1,769 and to apply for the ICAP grant to pay for \$1,000 of the cost. Roll Call Vote: Martin-Aye, Ehrle-Aye, Baty-Aye, Kirby-Aye, Deal-Aye. Motion carried. Insurance for the fire department was discussed. A borrowed pickup owned by Simpson and the 1997 Stephens ladder truck were on the policy. The city no longer has the ladder truck and Simpson no longer has the pickup so both will be removed from the policy. Mayor Miller stated nothing is to be added or removed from our insurance in the future by anyone except the Mayor or City Clerk. Any changes are to be reported to city hall and not added or removed by the fire department or anyone else. The liabilities of having Paul's personal pickup on the city's insurance policy could lead to an unnecessary lawsuit for the city. Mayor Miller requested an inventory list and a video to put in the city's safety deposit box of the fire department as well as the shop and city hall in case a fire or tornado damaged either of them. Council inquired about the carburetor for the truck that is sitting outside the fire department and Simpson stated it was not his priority to fix.

Library – Amanda Smith from the Library Board presented a report to the Council. Carol Cloyed gave a verbal resignation from the Library Board and Dee Schelker mailed a written resignation. Motion by Kirby and seconded by Martin to approve the resignations of Carol Cloyed and Dee Schelker from the Moravia Library Board. Roll Call Vote: Martin-Aye, Ehrle-Aye, Baty-Aye, Kirby-Aye, Deal-Aye. Motion carried. Amanda stated they have four people who have agreed to fill the four open slots on the Library Board. They are Sally Johnson, Arianna Weillbrenner, Tom Kramka, and Carol Kramka. Motion by Martin and seconded by Baty to approve the appointments of Sally Johnson, Arianna Weillbrenner, Tom Kramka, and Carol Kramka to the Moravia Library Board. Roll Call Vote: Martin-Aye, Ehrle-Aye, Baty-Aye, Kirby-Aye, Deal-Aye. Motion carried. Amanda stated the board will be moving their meeting location to the community building to better accommodate the needs of board members. The library had a large donation of 590 items donated to them, including books, magazines, DVDs, and other miscellaneous items. Library Director Ann Repp is consulting with State Library District Consultant Becky Heil to see if she can do an orientation for our new board members. She is also talking with Becky about assisting the board members in finding out what our community needs and how the library can assist in meeting those needs in more up-to-date ways. Action by the board on the handicap accessibility has been temporarily postponed until new members are updated and involved. The library is open during the community Easter egg hunt on April 16 and the announcer at the egg hunt will invite everyone to come inside the library to borrow some of the fun Easter books and check out the library. The library has been contacted by teachers at the school who would like to bring their classes to the library for their end of school year field trips. Ann is in the process of finding people who would enjoy reading to the children and members of the Library Board and Friends of the Library will assist with the students. Summer programs have been scheduled. On May 14 at 10 AM, author Maggie Rivers will talk about writing a book and getting a book published. There will be a puppet show on June 6 called "Appleseed" with live music throughout the show. The Iowa State University Insect Zoo will be here on June 20 from 1:30 PM to 2:30 PM to do a presentation called "Bring those Bugs Inside." They will have multiple insects to show the kids. The new bid for the library for heating and air conditioning without new duct work is \$2,100 cheaper than original bid. Mayor Miller will confirm the cost and Clerk Stogdill will check the budget to see if it can be done in the current physical year. Councilman Baty requested it be piped to the east side of the building instead of the west side due to the possibility of a new handicap ramp being placed on the west side.

Cemetery – Nothing to report.

Parks – Councilwoman Kirby reported the Betterment Committee found a place for the new interpretive sign at the culture corner on the northwest side of the park. Sam Kirby and Bill Benjamin will install the cement, with the assistance of city crew if necessary. Mayor Miller requested the water be turned on at the water fountain in the park.

Streets – The city purchased four tons of cold patch and have used most of it patching the streets. Contractors that have been contacted by Mitch have not been interested in the road project at the junction of Highway 5. Mitch will contact more contractors. Councilman Deal thanked city crew for working on Deborah Street stating it was much better. Several ditches and culverts need to be cleaned out. Speeding through town was discussed. Radar speed limit signs are much needed and Councilman Ehrle will talk to our grant writer about getting a grant for the signs.

Water – Delinquent accounts were reviewed. Sixty delinquent letters were sent out to residents and six customers had water shut off for non-payment in April. The city clerk reported a new yellow billing card with the tear-off sheet on the top or bottom instead of the side will be used for the May water billing to see if it works better at the Post Office than the current tear-off sheet on the side of the card. She purchased a one month supply to see how it works before purchasing a large supply. Council agreed by consensus to dig up and cap the sewer for Account 161 at the city's expense to get them off of the late list every month.

Sewer – Mitch Main reported servicing the pumps at the lagoon and checking the lift station.

Updates to nuisance properties and junk vehicles were reviewed. The status of 106 North Henry was discussed. It was reported there is a pile of old appliances at the east end of Milwaukee Street that need to be removed. A car with no license plates needs removed at 101 North East Street. The trash in the yard at 310 West Church Street is blowing everywhere. Renter and landlord will be sent pictures and a letter to remove it.

City Staff – Clerk Sharla Stogdill reported applying for \$600 in rebates for the new heating and air conditioning units at City Hall. The property next to City Hall has been purchased. The camper has been removed and new owner stated he will be leveling the lot and removing the cabin buildings. The clerk published a notice in the Moravia Union regarding mowing requirements. This is the only notice required to give to residents. The annual required report for the ARPA funds has been submitted. Financial reports were reviewed with the council. Mitch Main reported he has been getting items needed in order to spend the money budgeted in the current year's budget. He has pre-ordered rock for the cemetery project. The seasonal employees have started working. Lawn mowers have been serviced and truck repairs completed. Shaun Wubben reported cleaning of debris in the parks and cemeteries. Mowing has started and the park is ready for the annual Easter egg hunt. The new weed eater attachment for the lawn mower has been mounted. Streets have been cleaned on the square with the school's sweeper attachment. A tree was cut down in Hillcrest Cemetery.

Resident Complaints – A Westview resident reported hearing that the Nazarene Church is going to put in a pond and cabins on the church property and the resident was concerned about flooding issues this may cause at Westview. Councilmen Martin and Deal stated the church does not have any plans to install a pond or cabins, but they are building a new parsonage. The resident also reported internet and computer problems at Westview. A resident at Westview Acres was not able to attend the meeting in person but sent an email requesting the city consider having a drainage tile professional assess the drainage in the easement between the 900 block of Deborah and Pamela stating the easement is continually saturated with water and creates a breeding ground for mosquitos. Council stated this project will be reviewed and considered after the sewer lining project is complete.

Mitch Main has completed the requirements for his sewer license. The Council thanked Chris Sheldon for his work as an Affidavit Operator and his assistance in the transition of responsibilities from him to Mitch. Chris stated he did not need two weeks' notice for his employment to end. Motion by Baty and seconded by Deal to appoint Mitch Main as the city's full water and sewer operator and remove Chris Sheldon as the city's affidavit water and sewer operator effective Sunday, April 17, 2022. Roll Call Vote: Martin-Aye, Ehrle-Aye, Baty-Aye, Kirby-Aye, Deal-Aye. Motion carried.

Clerk Sharla Stogdill conducted the second reading of Ordinance No. 2022-1 – Sewer Rates. The ordinance is to raise the minimum sewer rate \$3.50 to \$37.50 per month. At the budget workshop meetings, it was determined to raise the sewer minimum rate \$7 to pay for the lagoon upgrade, raising it by half the amount this year and half next year. Motion by Baty and seconded by Kirby to approve the second reading of Ordinance No. 2022-01. Roll Call Vote: Kirby-Aye, Martin-Aye, Deal-Aye, Ehrle-Aye, and Baty-Aye. Motion carried.

The ICAP insurance policy was discussed. Councilman Ehrle conducted the annual audit of the policy. Council agreed by consensus to remove the Stephens ladder truck and the borrowed Silverado from the policy. All future changes, additions, and removals of items from the insurance policy are to be through the Mayor or City Clerk only.

Council Discussion Items – Councilman Ehrle discussed fuel tanks for the city on a rent to own basis from Agriland. The cost would be \$9,000. ICAP requirements for fuel tanks was discussed by Mayor Miller. Clerk Stogdill will check on fuel contract dates. The topic was tabled for further information and will be on the agenda at the May regular council meeting. Councilman Baty requested Mitch and Shaun put up a pole at Trussell Park for a light and he would do the electrical work. Baty had discussed grants with the fire captain at Ottumwa and they told him if the fire department services any kind of federal or state land, you get bonus points for grants. Lake Rathbun and the resort would qualify for this since it is untaxed ground. Baty will discuss with the Moravia Fire Chief.

Mayor Discussion Items – Mayor Miller inquired about rules for a food truck in Moravia. Our ordinances only address a peddler's permit which costs \$250 per day to discourage door-to-door sales. Council wants to encourage new businesses to come to Moravia and said they would let the food truck park inside the city limits at no cost for two months on a trial basis, and if no problems occur, they will update the ordinances accordingly. The person inquiring about a food truck will be contacted and told there are no concession stands at ballgames, so they could set up the food truck at the ball field if interested.

Motion by Martin and seconded by Ehrle to adjourn at 7:44 PM. Ayes-All. Nays-None. Motion carried. Meeting adjourned.

/s/ Roy Miller, Mayor

Attest:
/s/ Sharla Stogdill, City Clerk/Treasurer