

**MORAVIA CITY COUNCIL  
REGULAR MEETING  
TUESDAY, AUGUST 9, 2022**

The regular meeting of the Moravia City Council was called to order by Mayor Roy Miller at 5:00 PM on Tuesday, August 9, 2022, at Moravia City Hall. In addition to Mayor Miller, those present at the meeting were Councilpersons Ken Martin, Ron Deal, Gary Ehrle, and John Baty. Councilperson Ken Martin arrived at the meeting at 5:20 PM. Sharla Stogdill, Mitch Main, Shaun Wubben, Marcia Benjamin, Paul Simpson, Tom Kramka, Carol Kramka, Amanda Smith, Megan Irving, Chad Whitney, Stephen Pedrick, and Jordan Horstick were also present. The meeting opened with a prayer by Jordan Horstick 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, Baty-Aye, Deal-Aye, Kirby-Aye, Ehrle-Aye. Motion carried.

Motion by Deal and seconded by Baty to approve the minutes of the July 12, 2022 regular meeting. Roll Call Vote: Martin-Aye, Baty-Aye, Deal-Aye, Kirby-Aye, Ehrle-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: Martin-Aye, Baty-Aye, Deal-Aye, Kirby-Aye, Ehrle-Aye. Motion carried.

Comments from the public – None.

Megan Irving and Chad Whitney, representing the Fall Festival Committee, spoke with the Council regarding the upcoming Fall Festival on September 15-17. The master schedule is still in process. Entertainment is booked. Insurance policy will be given to the city prior to Festival. The city will order the same number as last year of porta-johns (5 regular and 1 handicap) and a map for placement will be provided to the city. The recycling trailer will be at the Festival again this year. The campers will be parked in grass lot south of city hall and along South William Street. Driveways will not be blocked. Mayor Miller agreed to do the welcome speech at the Festival. Items to be completed prior to Festival were discussed, including washing the shelter houses and streets, tires for the big tent, power hookup and water for the carnival, the banner hung on stage, keys, and cleaning supplies. Due to safety concerns, there will be a restriction of motorized vehicles in the park. Motion by Baty and seconded by Deal to allow the use of the streets and park for Fall Festival. Roll Call Vote: Martin-Aye, Baty-Aye, Deal-Aye, Kirby-Aye, Ehrle-Aye. Motion carried.

Motion by Kirby and seconded by Baty to reschedule the September regular council meeting to September 20. Roll Call Vote: Martin-Aye, Baty-Aye, Deal-Aye, Kirby-Aye, Ehrle-Aye. Motion carried.

Stephen Pedrick from French-Reneker updated the Council on the sewer lining project. KLC has begun work on the project. Several point repairs are open. KLC anticipates being finished with the point repairs the first part of September. The Davis-Bacon wage rates increased a few hours before our bid opening, requiring the city to do a change order with the new pay rates. Motion by Baty and seconded by Deal to approve Change Order #1 for \$4,764.16 due to increase in Davis-Bacon wages. Roll Call Vote: Martin-Aye, Baty-Aye, Deal-Aye, Kirby-Aye, Ehrle-Aye. Motion carried. The change in the loan limit amount was discussed. It gives the city room for changes that may happen during the project. The city will only borrow the amount actually needed. Resolution No. 21-2022 – Resolution to fix a date of September 20, 2022, for a public hearing on a proposal to enter into a Sewer Revenue Loan and Disbursement Agreement and to borrow money there under in a principal amount not to exceed \$400,000 was introduced by Councilman Martin and seconded by Councilman Ehrle. After due consideration thereof by the Council, the Mayor put the question upon the adoption of the said resolution and the roll being called, the following named Council Members voted: Martin-Aye, Baty-Aye, Deal-Aye, Kirby-Aye, Ehrle-Aye. Whereupon, the Mayor declared the resolution duly approved and adopted. Stephen stated the loan closing will be on September 30 and access to funds shortly after that. Public hearing will be published in Moravia Union.

Department Reports were given:

Fire – Fire Chief Paul Simpson reported 19 calls in July. The fire department has received ten new pagers from the Monroe County 911 Board. New gear is needed (minimum of six coats/pants) and it will take 12 months to receive the gear. Paul will apply for grants but requested permission from the Council to order the gear and have it paid for if grants are not received or do not cover the entire cost. Consensus by Council for Paul to order the gear. The department will have a raffle at the Fall Festival and all money will be used toward the cost of new gear as well. Paul inquired about the security cameras affecting the radios and garage doors at the station. Mayor Miller talked to the company that installed the cameras and they said it was not possible for it to interfere. Paul requested their telephone number so he could call them directly. Mayor Miller requested an accident report for the last injury the fire department had and said the injured party has not reported their injury to the IMWCA company nurse. The department needs to look at the injured party having a different role at the fire department so no more injuries occur. Clerk Stogdill reported receiving seven fire signed contracts back from townships, however, three townships have not signed and returned their contracts (Union, Urbana, and Monroe).

Library – Amanda Smith reported 56 items donated to the library last month. They had 290 checkouts and renewals and 76 e-books. The library has six new patrons. The Library Board accepted the resignation of Ann Repp effective October 1, 2022. A skype meeting will be held with State Library Consultant Becky Heil to advise the Board on searching for a new director. A strategic planning meeting will be held November 10 with Becky Heil. After school homework help will begin September 21 from 2:30 PM to 4:00 PM at the library for grades 6-12. A 50/50 fundraising drawing will be held at the Fall Festival. The Fall Festival fish fry and dessert auction was very successful. Every member of the Library Board and the Friends of the Library board participated. Elizabeth Cremeens cancelled her future program dates for the music program due to lack of participation. Tom Kramka stated he is doing more research on a handicap lift for the library. The initial quote has increased considerably when shipping costs are added and special features. A concrete ramp was discussed. Mitch Main and Councilman Baty will check into those costs.

Cemetery – Councilperson Ehrle discussed the north addition to Hillcrest Cemetery. There will be 450 traditional burial spots in the new addition and the price will remain at \$300 per space. Two rows running east and west will be opened up originally, which will be 140 spaces. Twenty maple and oak trees are at the new section and may be purchased in honor of someone for the price of \$275. Engraved granite plaques will be placed at the base of the trees. They are also adding a 48 niche columbarium, the first in Appanoose County. Niches will be sold for \$1,350 each, which includes engraving. Motion by Kirby and seconded by Baty to approve the additions to Hillcrest Cemetery. Roll Call Vote: Martin-Aye, Baty-Aye, Deal-Aye, Kirby-Aye, Ehrle-Aye. Motion carried.

Parks – Lightbulbs at gazebo have been stolen and problems with the lights being turned off and on. Security cameras will be installed.

Streets – Councilman Ehrle discussed the railroad merger. He has contacted Grassley's office with concerns. Noise, traffic delays, fire trucks, school routes, and pedestrian safety are all a concern. An executive from the head office will be coming to Moravia to look at the overpass and tracks and to hear our concerns. Mitch Main reported that Shaun and Jordan painted 25 mph stencils on the streets. Reflective signs and new types of speed signs were discussed to try to slow down traffic. Mitch stated they plan to trim trees hanging over roadways and signs and will be putting more cold patch on streets.

Water – Delinquent accounts were reviewed. The city clerk reported mailing 45 delinquent letters this month. Motion by Baty and seconded by Martin to write off Account 4090 for \$15.10. Roll Call Vote: Martin-Aye, Baty-Aye, Deal-Aye, Kirby-Aye, Ehrle-Aye. Motion carried. Mitch Main attended a water workshop in Newton. He has selected five new locations for lead and copper testing.

Sewer – Mitch and Shaun are working on a new skimmer basket for the backhoe for cleaning out the lagoon ponds. Mitch reported on the reader at the lagoon not working correctly. A technician from Jetco repaired it; a wire was unplugged inside the reader. A new padlock and key code entry have been installed at the lagoon. While Jetco was here, they also did their annual maintenance check. Mitch met with KLC to show them the locations of the point repairs.

Nuisance properties and junk vehicles were discussed. Councilman Baty wants to check with Iowa Codification to see if the definition of a junk vehicle can be changed in our ordinances.

City Staff – Clerk Charla Stogdill reported the year-end closing of the books with a ClerkBooks representative was completed. Debbie White declined her portion of Lake Avenue and Tim Pettibone is going to accept it. New paperwork and public hearing will be held. Information has been uploaded for the IMWCA payroll audit. The July 2022 reports as well as the FY 2021-2022 reports were reviewed with the Council. End of year adjustments were reviewed and approved by the Council.

Resident Complaints – Mayor Miller discussed a dog that bit an individual. The dog does not have a license with the city and no proof of rabies vaccination has been given to the city. The owner of the dog will be contacted.

Grant Writer Position – Councilman Ehrle requested to hold off on this position for the time being.

Ordinance 2022-03 – Ordinance amending the code of ordinances of the City of Moravia Iowa by amending provisions pertaining to water and sewer infrastructure access was discussed. Council agreed by consensus to strike the words "Prohibition of" and "No property owner shall install, construction, or allow to be installed or constructed any improvements over a City water main" in Section 90.21. Also strike the words "Prohibition of" and "No property owner shall install, construction, or allow to be installed or constructed any improvements over a City sewer main" in Section 95.11. The third reading of Ordinance 2022-036 will be held at the September 20 regular meeting as well as consider the approval and adoption of the Ordinance.

Motion by Baty and seconded by Deal to approve and adopt Resolution No. 20-2022 – Resolution to Transfer Funds for the Fiscal Year Ending June 30, 2022. Roll Call Vote: Martin-Aye, Baty-Aye, Deal-Aye, Kirby-Aye, Ehrle-Aye. Resolution approved and adopted.

Council Discussion Items – Councilman Ehrle discussed the inappropriate language and behavior by residents at city hall and on the telephone to city hall. He strongly suggests if residents have a complaint that they request to be put on the agenda to discuss at a council meeting or discuss during public comment time at a council meeting. Inappropriate behavior at city hall will not be tolerated. Our employees are city servants and should not have to put up with this type of treatment. Councilman Martin inquired if the tube close to the school is going to be repaired and if Helmick's mailbox will be in the way. Mitch will advise.

Mayor Discussion Items – None.

Motion by Martin and seconded by Kirby to adjourn at 7:37 PM. Ayes-All. Nays-None. Motion carried. Meeting adjourned.

/s/ Roy Miller, Mayor

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