

**MORAVIA CITY COUNCIL  
REGULAR MEETING  
TUESDAY, SEPTEMBER 20, 2022**

The regular meeting of the Moravia City Council was called to order by Mayor Roy Miller at 5:00 PM on Tuesday, September 20, 2022, at Moravia City Hall. In addition to Mayor Miller, those present at the meeting were Councilpersons Ken Martin, Sheila Kirby, Ron Deal, Gary Ehrle, and John Baty. Sharla Stogdill, Mitch Main, Shaun Wubben, Marcia Benjamin, Paul Simpson, Tom Kramka, Carol Kramka, Amanda Smith, Stephen Pedrick, Pastor Christy Ehrle, Curg McCoy, and Joyce McCoy 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 Deal 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 Baty and seconded by Martin to approve the minutes of the August 9, 2022 regular meeting. Roll Call Vote: Martin-Aye, Baty-Aye, Deal-Aye, Kirby-Aye, Ehrle-Aye. Motion carried.

Motion by Martin and seconded by Deal to approve the minutes of the August 30, 2022 special 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 Kirby and seconded by Baty 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.

Curg and Joyce McCoy discussed the Moravia rock. The rock committee has proposed putting a shelter on top of the rock to protect it from the weather and they are seeking Council approval. The shelter would be paid for by donations. They are proposing constructing it with stainless steel legs and wooden trusses. Mayor Miller voiced concerns about it looking out of place with the other two gazebos in the park. Councilman Baty thought with it being a different type of structure than what we currently have in the park, that it would look fine. Councilwoman Kirby did not want to make a decision at the meeting but give the council time to think about it. Councilman Ehrle likes it as is without a shelter. Council requested to see a drawing of the proposed shelter before making a decision. Shaun Wubben said the rock committee had also talked about a pergola. Shaun will draw a couple of pictures for the council to review at the regular meeting in October.

Motion by Martin and seconded by Kirby to open the public hearing to institute proceedings to enter into a loan and disbursement agreement in a principal amount not to exceed \$400,000 at 5:16 PM. Roll Call Vote: Martin-Aye, Baty-Aye, Deal-Aye, Kirby-Aye, Ehrle-Aye. Motion carried. This being the time and place specified for holding the public hearing and taking action on the proposal to enter into a Sewer Revenue and Disbursement Agreement, the City Clerk announced that no written objections had been placed on file. Whereupon, the Mayor called for any written or oral objections, and there being none, the Mayor declared the public hearing closed. Motion by Baty and seconded by Deal to close the public hearing at 5:18 PM. Roll Call Vote: Martin-Aye, Baty-Aye, Deal-Aye, Kirby-Aye, Ehrle-Aye. Motion carried and public hearing closed. After due consideration and discussion, Council Member John Baty introduced the following Resolution No. 23-2022 and moved its adoption, seconded by Council Member Sheila Kirby. The Mayor put the question upon the adoption of said resolution, and the roll being called, the following Council members voted: Martin-Aye, Baty-Aye, Deal-Aye, Kirby-Aye, Ehrle-Aye. Nays-None. Whereupon, the Mayor declared the resolution duly adopted as hereinafter set out. Motion by Baty and seconded by Martin to approve payment of \$232,259.61 to KLC Construction for Pay Estimate 1 of the Sanitary Sewer Collection System Improvements Project. Roll Call Vote: Martin-Aye, Baty-Aye, Deal-Aye, Kirby-Aye, Ehrle-Aye. Motion carried. Council requested the clerk to make payment as soon as reasonably possible and not wait until the loan money had been received. Stephen Pedrick will schedule a conference call with the city, Chariton Valley Planning & Development, and him to discuss which funds are paid from the SRF loan versus the grant money. Clerk Stogdill inquired if loan payments could be set up to automatically deduct from the city's bank account. Stephen advised the city inquire with SRF.

Department Reports were given:

Fire – Fire Chief Paul Simpson reported fourteen calls in August, of which thirteen were ambulance calls and one fire/rescue call. IMWCA has called and emailed several times with questions on an injury claim. The injured party has been told numerous times to respond to their questions and return their telephone calls. Mayor Miller stated it is the injured party's responsibility and since he will not respond to the first claim or report the second claim, it is his responsibility to pay the claim personally. Council inquired if the fire chief has given the firefighter a different role on the fire department so no future injuries occur and Paul said he has. He is not going in fires any more and is responsible for set up, safety, and keeping track of those going in the fires instead. He also runs a pump but is not to be doing any hot work. Paul discussed storing the 1949 fire truck at the depot or a building at the fire department if they could get a grant. Clerk Stogdill reported the fire contracts for Appanoose County have all been signed and returned and sent to the Appanoose County Auditor. When fire contracts were sent out in 2017, the tax rate increased to the amount allowable by law of \$0.6075 per thousand dollars of assessed value. At that time, some townships had not budgeted enough so were allowed to keep the same rate for that current fiscal year but signed contracts to go to the increased rates in the future. Monroe Township in Monroe County sent their contract back to the city with the rate changed back to \$0.6000. Urbana Township called and said they did not budget for this either. Curg McCoy is on the board for Urbana Township and will check into it. The city sets the rate, not the townships. Since the rate changed in 2017, there should not be any changes five years later.

Library – Amanda Smith reported on the library's donations, checkouts, and new patrons. A subcommittee has been created to hire a library director to replace Ann Repp who is retiring. Council agreed by consensus it was the city's responsibility to pay the invoice for \$132 for the newspaper ad and to pay for it out of the Mayor/Council budget. Council also agreed that the Mayor can approve the person they hire after they pass a background check. A 50/50 drawing was held at Fall Festival and they made \$69. The Board has decided all the

money raised from fundraisers will be in a fund labeled “General Library Programs and Projects.” After school homework help will begin Wednesday, September 21 from 2:30 PM to 4:00 PM for grades 6-12.

Cemetery – Councilperson Ehrle announced the new columbarium has been mounted on the base. The new road is in progress.

Parks – The park was in excellent shape for Fall Festival and the Moravia rock and landscaping look good. Councilwoman Kirby announced the stone has been set in wall at Trussell Park and bricks are being sold. She encouraged the Council to go to the park and look at it, stating it is beautiful. Mitch Main has not received word back on the light pole getting set.

Streets – Nothing to report.

Water – Delinquent accounts were reviewed. The city clerk reported one water remains shut off for the month for non-payment. Motion by Deal and seconded by Baty to write off Account #4298 for \$6.29. Roll Call Vote: Martin-Aye, Baty-Aye, Deal-Aye, Kirby-Aye, Ehrle-Aye. Motion carried. Consensus by Council to send thirty day notice of tax lien letter to Account #250. Account #4172 has an unpaid balance of \$397.89. The house has been sold. Attempts to collect the money have failed. Consensus by Council for clerk to file the account with the State Offset Program to collect.

Sewer – Discussed earlier in the council meeting.

Updates to nuisance properties and junk vehicles were discussed. Mitch Main notified the Council of tree branches on the right-of-way at 202 North Grant. Council advised him to contact Engle to have them removed.

City Staff – Clerk Stogdill reported the office being extremely busy and the additional work the CDBG grant and SRF loan have added to her responsibilities. Mitch Main reported city staff being busy getting ready for Fall Festival. He also reported a lawn mower in need of repair or replacement. The cost to repair is \$1,000. The mower has 1200 hours on it. The city mows 34 acres per week and needs reliable equipment. Mitch will get bids for different brands and sizes of mowers, including bids with trade-in. The Council discussed how to pay for a new mower if that is the decision that is made and Clerk Stogdill advised them of \$11,626 in Emergency Funds. The budget would need to be amended if we access those funds.

Resident Complaints – Councilman Baty reported a husky dog and German shepherd dog running loose in town. Mayor Miller will follow-up with Lacy Mullins on the cement stake and beware of dog sign. Councilwoman Kirby reported dogs being at Fall Festival and their owners not cleaning up after the dogs.

The third reading of Ordinance No. 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 conducted by Mayor Miller. Motion by Baty and seconded by Kirby to approve the third reading of Ordinance No. 2022-03. Roll Call Vote: Martin-Aye, Baty-Aye, Deal-Aye, Kirby-Aye, Ehrle-Aye. Motion carried. Motion by Deal and seconded by Martin to approve and adopt Ordinance No. 2022-03 - ordinance amending the code of ordinances of the city of Moravia, Iowa, by amending provisions pertaining to water and sewer infrastructure access. Roll Call Vote: Martin-Aye, Baty-Aye, Deal-Aye, Kirby-Aye, Ehrle-Aye. Ordinance approved and adopted.

Clerk Stogdill conducted the first reading of Ordinance No. 2022-04 – Ordinance amending the code of ordinances of the city of Moravia, Iowa, by amending provisions pertaining to Junk Vehicles. Motion by Martin and seconded by Deal to approve the first reading of Ordinance No. 2022-04 – Ordinance amending the code of ordinances of the city of Moravia, Iowa, by amending provisions pertaining to Junk Vehicles. Roll Call Vote: Martin-Aye, Baty-Aye, Deal-Aye, Kirby-Aye, Ehrle-Aye. Motion carried.

Clerk Stogdill conducted the first reading of Ordinance No. 2022-05 – Ordinance amending the code of ordinances of the city of Moravia, Iowa, by amending provisions pertaining to all-terrain vehicles. Motion by Baty and seconded by Kirby to approve the first reading of Ordinance No. 2022-05 – Ordinance amending the code of ordinances of the city of Moravia, Iowa, by amending provisions pertaining to all-terrain vehicles. Roll Call Vote: Martin-Aye, Baty-Aye, Deal-Aye, Kirby-Aye, Ehrle-Aye. Motion carried. Motion by Baty and seconded by Kirby to waive the second and third readings of Ordinance No. 2022-05 – Ordinance amending the code of ordinances of the city of Moravia, Iowa, by amending provisions pertaining to all-terrain vehicles. Roll Call Vote: Martin-Aye, Baty-Aye, Deal-Aye, Kirby-Aye, Ehrle-Aye. Motion carried. Motion by Deal and seconded by Baty to approve and adopt Ordinance No. 2022-05 – Ordinance amending the code of ordinances of the city of Moravia, Iowa, by amending provisions pertaining to all-terrain vehicles. Roll Call Vote: Martin-Aye, Baty-Aye, Deal-Aye, Kirby-Aye, Ehrle-Aye. Ordinance approved and adopted.

Clerk Stogdill conducted the first reading of Ordinance No. 2022-06 – Ordinance Amending the Code of Ordinances of the City of Moravia, Iowa, by amending provisions pertaining to alcoholic beverage control. Motion by Baty and seconded by Martin to approve the first reading of Ordinance No. 2022-06 – Ordinance Amending the Code of Ordinances of the City of Moravia, Iowa, by amending provisions pertaining to alcoholic beverage control. Roll Call Vote: Martin-Aye, Baty-Aye, Deal-Aye, Kirby-Aye, Ehrle-Aye. Motion carried. Motion by Martin and seconded by Deal to waive the second and third readings of Ordinance No. 2022-06 – Ordinance Amending the Code of Ordinances of the City of Moravia, Iowa, by amending provisions pertaining to alcoholic beverage control. Roll Call Vote: Martin-Aye, Baty-Aye, Deal-Aye, Kirby-Aye, Ehrle-Aye. Motion carried. Motion by Deal and seconded by Kirby to approve and adopt Ordinance No. 2022-06 – Ordinance Amending the Code of Ordinances of the City of Moravia, Iowa, by amending provisions pertaining to alcoholic beverage control. Roll Call Vote: Martin-Aye, Baty-Aye, Deal-Aye, Kirby-Aye, Ehrle-Aye. Ordinance approved and adopted.

Clerk Stogdill reviewed the Street Finance Report for fiscal year 2022 with the Council. Motion by Kirby and seconded by Baty to approve and adopt Resolution 22-2022 – Street Financial Report for FY 2022. Roll Call Vote: Martin-Aye, Baty-Aye, Deal-Aye, Kirby-Aye, Ehrle-Aye. Resolution approved and adopted.

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

A proposal for three security cameras at the park and one additional camera at the fire department was reviewed by the Council. Motion by Baty and seconded by Martin to approve the security camera upgrades with Southern Iowa Technology for \$2,443. Roll Call Vote: Martin-Aye, Baty-Aye, Deal-Aye, Kirby-Aye, Ehrle-Aye. Motion carried.

Council Discussion Items – Councilman Martin discussed adding a Variants Committee to the Council. He left a brochure with information for the Mayor to review. Councilman Baty noticed the air conditioning cycled frequently in the council room. Mayor Miller will contact Southern Iowa Heating and Cooling. Councilman Ehrle discussed the railroad merger with the Council. He has had several discussions with the railroad. A community investment and settlement agreement was received from the railroad. Council requested the agreement be reviewed by our city attorney.

Mayor Discussion Items – Mayor Miller proposed replacing seven chairs in the council room at a cost of \$1,154.99 and free shipping. Motion by Baty and seconded by Kirby to purchase seven chairs for \$1,154.99 and pay from Mayor/Council funds. Roll Call Vote: Martin-Aye, Baty-Aye, Deal-Aye, Kirby-Aye, Ehrle-Aye. Motion carried. Mayor Miller provided information on a grant for radar speed signs. The cost is \$10,419 for two signs and the grant, if awarded, would pay the entire cost. Motion by Baty and seconded by Deal to approve Resolution 24-2022 – approval of transportation safety improvement program application for temporary radar speed limit signs. Roll Call Vote: Martin-Aye, Baty-Aye, Deal-Aye, Kirby-Aye, Ehrle-Aye. Resolution approved and adopted. Parking issues on Church Street were discussed. Council agreed by consensus to post No Parking signs on both sides of Church Street and requested Mitch Main to order the signs.

Motion by Martin and seconded by Kirby to adjourn at 7:17 PM. Ayes-All. Nays-None. Motion carried. Meeting adjourned.

/s/ Roy Miller, Mayor

Attest:

/s/ Sharla Stogdill, City Clerk/Treasurer