

**MORAVIA CITY COUNCIL
REGULAR MEETING
TUESDAY, NOVEMBER 15, 2022**

The regular meeting of the Moravia City Council was called to order by Mayor Roy Miller at 5:00 PM on Tuesday, November 15, 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, Shaun Wubben, Marcia Benjamin, Amanda Smith, Tom Kramka, Carol Kramka, and Deputy Houser were also present. The meeting opened with a prayer by Ken Martin and the Pledge of Allegiance. Mayor Miller welcomed the public.

Motion by Baty and seconded by Martin to approve the agenda. 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 October 11, 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. Motion by Deal and seconded by Kirby to approve and adopt Resolution 34-2022 – Resolution Authorizing Transfer of Funds. Roll Call Vote: Martin-Aye, Baty-Aye, Deal-Aye, Kirby-Aye, Ehrle-Aye. Resolution approved and adopted.

Comments from the public – None.

CDBG/SRF Sewer Project – Clerk Stogdill reported Municipal Pipe Tool (KLC's lining sub-contractor) is starting to get organized to move onsite for the lining work. A tax exempt form was signed so they can start purchasing materials.

Department Reports were given:

Fire – Eleven calls were reported for October. Councilman Baty talked to Paul Simpson about sending reports to townships.

Library – Amanda Smith reported the new library director, Sam Robinson, has started employment. A donation policy will be developed by the Board. A formalized policy and guidelines will be developed for volunteers. A new computer for the director has been purchased. An open house for the library is being planned. The vacuum needs to be replaced soon. A budget sub-committee has met and will be presenting a proposal to the board for approval before submitting to the city council. New program ideas are being explored to get more community involvement at the library. The after school tutoring program has had low participation. The board will be reevaluating the program to determine its continuation.

Cemetery – Councilman Martin reported the new road at the cemetery is finished and pins are in place for marking grave sites.

Parks – Councilwoman Kirby reported the movie night in the park was cancelled. Plans are underway for decorating for Christmas in the park. A fall festival flag is not attached very well to a pole and Shaun Wubben will fix it.

Streets – Councilman Deal reported on prices from the County for painting lines on Highway J18 and North & South Brandon Street. The cost to paint center lines is \$500; railroad markings is \$800, and white edge markings is \$1,000. After discussion, a motion was made by Deal and seconded by Martin to spend \$1,3000 to paint center lines and railroad markings. Roll Call Vote: Martin-Aye, Baty-Aye, Deal-Aye, Kirby-Aye, Ehrle-Aye. Motion carried.

Water – Delinquent accounts were reviewed. Over fifty delinquent letters were mailed out but no water shut-offs this month.

Sewer – Councilman Baty reported on one of the pumps at the lagoon not working. The pump is over twenty years old. A new 20 hp pump is shipped and should arrive this week. The lagoon has two pumps so is still working fine.

Nuisance properties and junk vehicles were discussed. The need for a code enforcer was reviewed.

City Staff – City Clerk Stogdill handed out ordinance updates to the council for their books at home. She will be attending a webinar on Friday, November 18 from 9 AM to 3 PM on budgeting. The city's budget workshops will start in January and each council member is tasked with bringing their department's requests and costs to the first workshop. Financial reports were reviewed. Shaun Wubben reported on the staff repairing a lagoon issue with ponds 1 and 2. The new section of Hillcrest Cemetery is plotted. Staff has been working on Christmas lights and replacing bulbs with LED bulbs. The old fire truck will be decorated again this year and put in the park on the square. A leak in the skid loader is being repaired. Preparations have been made for snow removal. The snow plow is ready to use.

Resident Complaints – Councilman Martin reported on chickens running loose at West View.

Clerk Stogdill conducted the third 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 Baty and seconded by Deal to approve the third 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.

Motion by Baty and seconded by Martin to approve and adopt 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. Ordinance approved and adopted.

Motion by Baty and seconded by Martin to approve and adopt 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. Ordinance approved and adopted.

Mayor Miller conducted the first reading of Ordinance No. 2022-07–Ordinance Providing for the Vacation of a Portion of the Alley Running East West between Lot 23 and 24, East Addition to Moravia, Appanoose County, Iowa. Motion by Baty and seconded by Kirby to approve the first reading of Ordinance No. 2022-07–Ordinance Providing for the Vacation of a Portion of the Alley Running East West between Lot 23 and 24, East Addition to Moravia, Appanoose County, Iowa. 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. 2022-07 – Ordinance Providing for the Vacation of a Portion of the Alley Running East West between Lot 23 and 24, East Addition to Moravia, Appanoose County, Iowa, due to the party who lives on the other side of the alley signed off that they are not interested in the alley. 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. 2022-07 – Ordinance Providing for the Vacation of a Portion of the Alley Running East West between Lot 23 and 24, East Addition to Moravia, Appanoose County, Iowa. Roll Call Vote: Martin-Aye, Baty-Aye, Deal-Aye, Kirby-Aye, Ehrle-Aye. Ordinance approved and adopted.

Motion by Deal and seconded by Kirby to open the public hearing at 5:52 PM to convey a portion of the alley running east west between Lot 23 and 24, East Addition to Moravia, Appanoose County, Iowa, to Rex L. Argo and Lori L. Argo. Roll Call Vote: Martin-Aye, Baty-Aye, Deal-Aye, Kirby-Aye, Ehrle-Aye. Motion carried. Clerk Stogdill reported no questions or comments, verbally or written, had been received at City Hall. Mayor Miller asked for questions or comments from the public in attendance at the hearing and none were received. Motion by Baty and seconded by Kirby to close the public hearing at 5:53 PM to convey a portion of the alley running east west between Lot 23 and 24, East Addition to Moravia, Appanoose County, Iowa, to Rex L. Argo and Lori L. Argo. Roll Call Vote: Martin-Aye, Baty-Aye, Deal-Aye, Kirby-Aye, Ehrle-Aye. Motion carried. Motion by Baty and seconded by Martin to approve and adopt Resolution No. 32-2022 – Resolution Authorizing Conveyance of a Portion of the Alley Running East West Between Lot 23 and 24, East Addition to Moravia, Appanoose County, Iowa, to Rex L. Argo and Lori L. Argo. Roll Call Vote: Martin-Aye, Baty-Aye, Deal-Aye, Kirby-Aye, Ehrle-Aye. Resolution approved and adopted.

Motion by Baty and seconded by Deal to open the public hearing at 5:54 PM to convey a portion of Lake Avenue in the City of Moravia, Appanoose County, Iowa, to Tim Pettibone. Roll Call Vote: Martin-Aye, Baty-Aye, Deal-Aye, Kirby-Aye, Ehrle-Aye. Motion carried. Clerk Stogdill reported Debbie White had originally requested this portion of Lake Avenue since she had property adjoining it, but decided she did not want it. Tim Pettibone did want the alley. No questions or comments, verbally or written, had been received at City Hall. Mayor Miller asked for questions or comments from the public in attendance at the hearing and none were received. Motion by Martin and seconded by Kirby to close the public hearing at 5:55 PM to convey a portion of Lake Avenue in the City of Moravia, Appanoose County, Iowa, to Tim Pettibone. Roll Call Vote: Martin-Aye, Baty-Aye, Deal-Aye, Kirby-Aye, Ehrle-Aye. Motion carried. Motion by Baty and seconded by Kirby to approve and adopt Resolution No. 33-2022 – Resolution Authorizing Conveyance of a Portion of Lake Avenue in the City of Moravia, Appanoose County, Iowa, to Tim Pettibone. Roll Vote: Martin-Aye, Baty-Aye, Deal-Aye, Kirby-Aye, Ehrle-Aye. Resolution approved and adopted.

The Council discussed Chapters 55 and 57 of the Moravia Code of Ordinances – Animal Protection and Control and Dangerous and Vicious Animals. Councilman Ehrle had submitted suggestions he felt were needed. Mayor Miller reported some towns have residents post bonds if they own a breed of dog that is considered vicious. Fines were discussed if ordinances or agreements are violated. A penalty clause was discussed. The Council tabled discussions for the December regular council meeting.

Another incident took place at city hall of rude and disrespectful behavior toward the city clerk and mayor. This type of behavior will not be tolerated and the sheriff's office will be called to remove individuals. A sample policy for customer behavior toward city employees and government officials was discussed. Changes applicable to the City of Moravia will be made and put on the December agenda.

Clerk Stogdill reviewed proposed budget amendment changes with the Council. Councilman Baty will find out the cost of the new motor at the lagoon and that will be added to the changes. Clerk Stogdill will complete the amendment paperwork and have a public hearing regarding the proposed changes.

Council Discussion Items – Councilman Ehrle inquired about the light not working at the Moravia sign on the Highway 5 entrance. Councilman Baty will contact REC. Councilman Ehrle discussed mowing the steep hillside at the lagoon. He suggested planting trees on the hillside and getting a grant to pay for the trees. Discussion was held regarding the hillside being decomposed saw dust and whether it could support the trees, and leaves getting into the lagoon from the trees. The DNR would need to be contacted to see if it is allowed. Councilwoman Kirby noted there needs to be a street light at the railroad tracks. Councilman Baty will contact Alliant Energy. Councilman Baty inquired if the Trunk or Treat event at the church could be moved to the square so surrounding houses would have children come to their house for treats. Pastors Jonathan or Jordan will be contacted. Councilman Baty thanked City Clerk Sharla Stogdill for her excellent work and all the improvements she has made for the city. Councilman Martin inquired about the status of the railroad project. A letter has been sent but no response has been received.

Mayor Discussion Items – Mayor Miller received a request to have the Junior Class fundraiser (Thelma's chicken) set up on the square or at Trussell Park. Council agreed by consensus and felt the park on the square would be the best place to hold the fundraiser.

Motion by Martin and seconded by Baty to adjourn at 6:47 PM. Ayes-All. Nays-None. Motion carried. Meeting adjourned.

/s/ Roy Miller, Mayor

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