

**MORAVIA CITY COUNCIL  
REGULAR MEETING  
TUESDAY, DECEMBER 13, 2022**

The regular meeting of the Moravia City Council was called to order by Mayor Roy Miller at 5:00 PM on Tuesday, December 13, 2022, at Moravia City Hall. In addition to Mayor Miller, those present at the meeting were Councilpersons Ken Martin, Sheila Kirby, Ron Deal, and John Baty. Councilman Gary Ehrle was absent. Sharla Stogdill, Shaun Wubben, Mitch Main, Marcia Benjamin, Tom Kramka, Carol Kramka, Sondra Scott, Brad Scott, and Christy Ehrle were also present. The meeting opened with a prayer by 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, Baty-Aye, Deal-Aye, Kirby-Aye, Ehrle-Absent. Motion carried.

Motion by Deal and seconded by Kirby to approve the minutes of the November 15, 2022 regular meeting. Roll Call Vote: Martin-Aye, Baty-Aye, Deal-Aye, Kirby-Aye, Ehrle-Absent. Motion carried.

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

Comments from the public – At the end of the council meeting, Brad Scott inquired why the citation for the trailer wasn't sent to him instead of the property owner it was parked on. Council stated they are required to send the citation to the property owner. The Council has decided to drop the citation since the trailer of junk had been removed from the city limits.

Sondra Scott requested the alley between her property at 104 North East Street and the property at 108 North East Street be vacated. She has talked to Mary Nye and she is fine with closing it. She stated there is no parking space at the property to get off of the street. She cannot sell the property without a driveway, cannot build a garage, or put rock on it. Councilman Baty stated since the property is currently in litigation, they would not be able to proceed. This would have to be put on hold until out of litigation. Sondra was not aware the property was in litigation.

CDBG/SRF Sewer Project – Clerk Stogdill reported the city received a direct deposit of \$126,130 on December 6 for the CDBG grant funds. Lining project is set to start in February.

Department Reports were given:

Fire – The fire department reported nine calls in November, of which eight were medical. Councilman Baty discussed a pumper truck the department is considering buying. Clerk Stogdill noted there would have to be a budget amendment prior to purchasing it.

Library – Tom and Carol Kramka from the Library Board reported there has not been a board meeting in December yet. Ron Repp resigned from the Friends of the Library. Their budget proposal was given to the city clerk and will be presented at budget workshops in January. Tutoring participation has increased. There has been a lot of participation in kids' activities at the library.

Cemetery – Nothing to report

Parks – Councilwoman Kirby reported the shelters in the park were not decorated for Christmas this year due to health issues. Council complimented city workers on the decorated fire truck in the park.

Streets – Nothing to report.

Water – Delinquent accounts were reviewed. Forty-five delinquent letters were mailed December 1<sup>st</sup> and three waters were shut off for non-payment. Council agreed by consensus to send a thirty day notice of tax lien to Account 250. Councilman Baty will talk to Account 50 regarding their delinquent sewer bills. Mitch Main reported on the DNR audit. No deficiencies were found. A summary of recommendations was reviewed. Mitch noted the additional desk time and paperwork involved for him since taking over the water and sewer operator position.

Sewer – Mitch Main reported on alarms that had been going off at the lift station. The issue has been resolved by installing new heaters. The new motor at the lagoon is functioning as expected. The issue of muskrats at the lagoon has been resolved.

Nuisance properties and junk vehicles were discussed. The council agreed by consensus to drop the citation for the trailer of junk located at 502 East North Street and moved to 404 West North Street. The trailer has been removed from the city limits. Councilman Baty will get new pictures of junk vehicles since the ordinances have been updated regarding the definition of a junk vehicle and legal procedures will begin.

City Staff – City Clerk Stogdill reported the results of the IMWCA audit on November 15. The city had two high level recommendations both regarding the fire department. IMWCA needs the date of the last FIT test for current fire fighter members. This must include the invoice from the exam provider for the FIT tests as documentation. Also required by IMWCA is to provide the date of each member's last fire fighter physical. This must include the completed physician's assessment form found on the IMWCA website. Sharla requested each council person to submit their department's budget requests to her by January 6 so it can be included in the worksheets at the first budget workshop. A budget amendment hearing will be held at the January regular meeting instead of the current meeting due to the clerk being off work one week due to Covid and missing the publication requirements deadline for a public hearing. Holiday closures for city hall are Friday, December 23 and Monday, December 26 for Christmas and January 2 for New Year's Day. Council agreed by consensus not to pay the invoice from Chariton Valley Planning & Development for services provided to the region, stating we pay for the services they

provide to us. Sharla reviewed financial reports with the Council. Mitch Main thanked the council and Shaun Wubben for their understanding during the time he was off work. Shaun Wubben had nothing to report.

Resident Complaints – Councilman Baty reported a diseased raccoon near his house. A second diseased raccoon was reported to city hall. Both raccoons have been removed from the city limits.

Railroad Update – No responses or answers to telephone calls have been received from the railroad. Councilman Deal reported funding of \$3 million was requested from the railroad for repair of streets that will be used as an alternate route when trains are coming through town and no response has been received. It was noted train traffic has already increased through Moravia.

The Council discussed Chapters 55 and 57 of the Moravia Code of Ordinances – Animal Protection and Control and Dangerous and Vicious Animals. The Iowa League of Cities provided the Council with sample ordinances from towns that have stricter guidelines. Council tabled the ordinance review for the January regular meeting.

Council Discussion Items – Councilman Baty has requested an estimate of the cost of sandblasting light poles for next year's budget.

Mayor Discussion Items – Mayor Miller received a second request for the city to update their ordinances to prohibit the use of jake brakes within the city limits. If the ordinance is passed, the state provides the signs. Council agreed by consensus to start the procedure to update our ordinances.

Motion by Baty and seconded by Kirby to adjourn at 6:18 PM. Ayes-All. Nays-None. Motion carried. Meeting adjourned.

/s/ Roy Miller, Mayor

Attest:

/s/ Sharla Stogdill, City Clerk/Treasurer