

**MORAVIA CITY COUNCIL
SPECIAL MEETING
TUESDAY, JANUARY 17, 2023**

A special meeting of the Moravia City Council was called to order by Mayor Roy Miller at 4:30 PM on Tuesday, January 17, 2023, at Moravia City Hall. In addition to Mayor Miller, those present were Councilpersons Ken Martin, Ron Deal, John Baty, Gary Ehrle, and Sheila Kirby. Sharla Stogdill, Mitch Main, Shaun Wubben, Amanda Smith, and Samantha Robinson were also present. The meeting opened with a prayer by Councilman Gary 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, Deal-Aye, Baty-Aye, Ehrle-Aye, Kirby-Aye. Motion carried.

Comments from the public – None.

City Clerk Sharla Stogdill reviewed a first draft of the city budget for fiscal year 2023/2024 with the City Council and Mayor. Each fund was discussed and line by line items with historical data was reviewed. A historical balance sheet showing an increase in the city's assets since 2015 was reviewed. The cost of employee health insurance is increasing. Loans, loan balances, and payments were reviewed. The tax rates for other towns in Appanoose County were reviewed, with Moravia being only the seventh highest tax rate out of eleven towns. This included having a lower tax rate than two towns with no city employees. Amanda Smith and Samantha Robinson discussed the library's proposed budget. The Enrich Iowa program that gives the Moravia Library \$1,200 annually may possibly be eliminated. Representatives from the Library attended a meeting of the Appanoose County Supervisors to discuss future plans for the library and to request an increase in funds received from the County. The Fire Department budget request was reviewed by the Council, with no changes from last year. Council agreed the Fire Department needs to pay more for property insurance due in increased costs in past years and also to pay a portion of worker's compensation insurance premiums. Employee wage increases were discussed. The cost of living increase for 2023 is 8.7%. Finalization of wage increases will be made at the January 24 special meeting.

A second budget workshop meeting will be held on Tuesday, January 24, at 4:30 PM, at Moravia City Hall where changes and additions to the budget will be reviewed before finalization and public hearings. The workshop meeting is an open meeting where the public is invited and welcome to attend.

Council Discussion Items – The emergency siren was discussed and after costs are reviewed may be added to the amended budget for 2022/2023 where we are going to amend for the fire department's purchase of a fire truck. Councilman Baty will let the Clerk know the costs. A proposal for additional office help by a contractor was presented. The contractor would need to provide their own insurance naming the City and provide prior to beginning work. This item will be added to the February regular meeting agenda. Councilman Baty discussed the painting of light poles be run through a grant through an organization.

Mayor Info and Discussion Items – Mayor Miller discussed paid holidays for employees. The item was tabled for the February regular meeting agenda. Complaints of dogs running at large still continue to be brought to City Hall. Residents are advised to call the Appanoose County Sheriff's office.

Motion by Baty and seconded by Kirby to adjourn at 7:07 PM. All Ayes. Motion carried.

/s/ Roy Miller, Mayor

Attest:

/s/ Sharla Stogdill, City Clerk/Treasurer