

## **MORRISTOWN CITY COUNCIL MEETING MINUTES**

Regular Meeting      Wednesday, January 04, 2017

Members Present: Mayor Kurt Wolf, Council Lisa Karsten, Scott Allen, Kathy Wolf

Others Present: Attorney Mark Rahrick, City Engineer Rich Revering, Police Chief David Osborne, Troy Dahle, Randy Krueger, Pat Kaderlik, Jack Schwichtenberg, Tim Flaten, Steve Nordmeier, Mike O'Rourke, Adrienne O'Rourke, Adam Uittenbogaard, Dan Morris, Kyle Green, Adam Schlie, Richard Potter, Craig Challgren, City Clerk Sheri Gregor

1. The regular meeting of the Morristown City Council was called to order on Wednesday, January 04, 2017 at 7:00 p.m., in the Council Chambers at 402 South Division Street by Mayor Kurt Wolf.
2. The Pledge of Allegiance was recited.
3. Additions/Corrections to the Agenda:  
Kurt Wolf removed item 7. New Business D. from the agenda; as it is a duplicate of 6. Old Business A. .Lisa Karsten adds an item to the agenda; 7. New Business O. Changing Locks.\_A motion was made by Lisa Karsten, seconded by Scott Allen, and carried unanimously to approve the corrections to the agenda.
4. Consent Agenda:  
A request was made to pull the Fire Department Report.  
A motion was made by Lisa Karsten, seconded by Scott Allen, and carried unanimously to approve the Consent Agenda, minus the Fire Department Report.  
Fire Chief Troy Dahle told that the Annual Fire Department Meeting will be held Monday, January 9th with a 6 p.m. social hour and 7 p.m. dinner. The Fire Department purchased a rescue boat using most of the \$23,500 in grant monies for that purpose. Custom bars and lights are being added. A motion was made by Lisa Karsten, seconded by Scott Allen and carried unanimously to approve the Fire Department Report.

5. Comments and Suggestions from Citizens Present:

Mike O'Rourke, on behalf of the Cannon Valley Players, asked permission to start using the Community Center Hall to practice (Sunday afternoons and Wednesday nights), build the set and hold their annual all-male play (February 24th, 25th and 26th). A motion was made by Lisa Karsten, seconded by Scott Allen, and carried unanimously to let the Morristown Players use the building Sundays and Wednesdays for practice starting possibly the 8th of January, and having their show the 24th, 25th and 26 of February.

Mike O'Rourke mentioned, on behalf of the playground committee, their goal is to raise \$50,000.00, and through grants (Adam Uittenbogaard is writing an application for a DNR grant, which Rich Revering told us about) hoping to receive another \$50,000.00, totaling \$100,000.00.

Mike O'Rourke brought up that before weddings start up again, the kitchen refrigerator's cooling problem needs to be addressed. A motion was made by Scott Allen, seconded by Kathy Wolf, and carried unanimously to get it fixed. Scott Allen will contact Jim Hilpiper to look into the repair.

Dan Morris wanted to remind the Council that the Morristown Township will be holding "Recycle Day" out at Timm's Trucking again; possibly on Saturday, April 1, 2017. Dan asked the Council if the City would want to join in this clean-up. Dan felt that more advertising needs to be done, so more residents are aware of this event. This item will be put on the next meeting's agenda.

Dan Morris, on behalf of the Commercial Club, informed the Council that many people that come to events at the Community Center have asked if there is an ATM available. Dan has learned that the Round Bank of Waseca would be interested in installing one in the Community Center at no cost or responsibility to the City. This item will be added to the next meeting's agenda.

Dan Morris asked if the City was going to be sending out newsletters. One thing Dan would like to see is a list published of the different businesses, organizations and individuals recognized for their donations to the Community Center over the past 15 years.

Steve Nordmeier, Chairman of the "Dam Days" Committee, request to hold their meetings on Tuesday nights, in the Council Chambers, when they get ready to start. This item will be put on the next meeting's agenda.

Steve Nordmeier stated the committee is looking at possibly having All-Star Wrestling at Dam Days and are looking for a place to host the event that would work. Steve asked if the Community Center Hall is available. A wedding reception and dance has been booked for that date at the Community Center.

6. Unfinished Business:

- A. Dan Morris spoke on behalf of his wife, Nancy. The National Weather Service, in Chanhassen, MN is considering placing a Doppler Radar (a specialized radar tracking system using the Doppler effect to determine the location and velocity of a storm, clouds, precipitation, etc.) in this area

- A. (cont.) (Morristown). The Morristown Skywarn is very interested in the concept. Skywarn has funds to cover the primary cost and the NWS will foot the rest. More information is to follow, if this proposition develops.
- B/C. After a discussion, Lisa Karsten requested that Kurt Wolf contact Pantheon, Business Ware, Marco, MNIT, Logis and League of MN Cities, in regards to updating our IT System to determine who would be the right fit for our needs and/or give a presentation.
- D. FEMA - Flooding Update – Pictures were taken and quotes turned in for repairs and work to be done.
- E. Disaster Assistance For Individuals/Households – First step is to register with FEMA at [www.Disaster Assistance.gov](http://www.Disaster Assistance.gov) or (800) 631-3362. Deadline for SBA low-interest federal loans is 01/31/17.
- F. Mark Rahrick and Kurt Fischer, city civil and prosecuting attorneys respectively, concurred on revisions to the current dangerous dog's ordinance. These changes will give law enforcement the tools to designate whether the animal is potentially dangerous or dangerous. A dangerous animal will have to be registered and there are restrictions on how they are held. The definition "when unprovoked" is added to protect the public and give law enforcement the tools to do that and yet be even handed, so an animal that is provoked on his own property isn't unnecessarily put down. Another change is the procedure that if a dangerous animal owner appeals the decision (that his/her animal is dangerous), a hearing will be conducted by a third party; instead of the City Council.
- G. The EDA Board is seeking two new additional members. The EDA meets quarterly. The Council will discuss changing the eligibility requirements of prospective members at the next City Council meeting.
- H. A procedure to fill the vacant council seat by appointment was discussed; beginning with the position is open to any interested resident currently living in the City limits. The information will be published at City Hall, City's website, BevComm channel cable, Post Office and posted on Facebook. A motion was made by Lisa Karsten, seconded by Scott Allen, and carried unanimously to approve the application for appointment with changes discussed, the addition of a reference letter provided by the applicant, no interview process, deadline to turn in application by Friday, January 20, 2017 by 5 p.m. A motion was made by Lisa Karsten, seconded by Kathy Wolf, and carried unanimously that all council members review applications and pick their top three and submit their names to the City Clerk. A motion was made by Lisa Karsten, seconded by Scott Allen, and carried unanimously to appoint the new council member by motion at the February meeting, prior to the meeting notify all applicants to attend, the swearing in and filling the seat will commence immediately following the motion, on February 6th.

- H. (cont.) In case of a motion resulting in a tie or no consensus by a three out of four vote; a motion was made by Lisa Karsten, seconded by Kathy Wolf, and carried unanimously to go three rounds and after that the Mayor, Kurt Wolf, will make the appointment.
- I. Mark Rahrlick reviewed the changes in the NRG Energy agreement and noted they were unsubstantial and notified the city that a lender is involved. Rick Vollbrecht signed, excepting the changes.
- J. The City received eight sealed back pack blowers' bids, for the six blowers. The bids were awarded to Ryan Culhane - 1 @ \$175.00, David Culhane - 1 @ \$160.00 and Adam Schlie 4 @ \$156.00.
- K. Ordinance 92.21: Building Maintenance and Appearance. A representative for the homeowner of 105 1 St. N.E. spoke of their plans to begin demolition and construction as soon as the weather breaks. A second letter will be sent to the homeowner of 206 W. Bloomer St. to request their plan of action, otherwise administrative fines will ensue.
- L. The City will reimburse the unspent portion (\$173.26) of a 2014 grant received from the Minnesota Historical Society for \$3,900.00. The grant was used to hire a professional historian to do some research on the mill to make an application to Minnesota to find out if it was eligible to apply for the national registry.
- M. A motion was made by Lisa Karsten, seconded by Scott Allen, and carried unanimously to amend the motion from December, regarding vacating the alley by 302 2nd Street NW, to including vacating the rest of the valley, all the way to Division Street (as on the map), reserving a right-of-way for utilities. Mark Rahrlick and Sheri Gregor will work on the publication to hold a public hearing, and then adopt a resolution. After this procedure, Mark Rahrlick will record a certificate with the county, presenting this vacation.
- N. A motion was made by Lisa Karsten, seconded by Scott Allen, and carried unanimously to table discussion of building an ice rink until the October meeting.

7. New Business:

- A. A motion was made by Scott Allen, seconded by Kathy Wolf, and carried unanimously to terminate the on-sale liquor, off-sale liquor, Sunday liquor, tobacco and gaming licenses; reimbursing the remaining fees to Harlan Melchert of Archie's Bar. A motion was made by Scott Allen, seconded by Lisa Karsten, and carried unanimously to approve the new owner of Archie's Bar, Monty Melchert, new licenses for the on-sale liquor, off-sale liquor, Sunday liquor, tobacco and gaming for the prorated fee of six months.
- B. A motion was made by Lisa Karsten, seconded by Scott Allen, and carried unanimously to amend the October 17, 2016 minutes and repost them.

- C. A motion was made by Scott Allen, seconded by Lisa Karsten, and carried unanimously to accept Resolution 2017-1, naming Kurt Wolf, Lisa Karsten and Sheri Gregor as authorized signers on the City's accounts at Lake Country Community Bank. Roll Call: Scott Allen-yes, Lisa Karsten-yes, Kathy Wolf-yes, Kurt Wolf-yes.
- D. Removed
- E. A motion was made by Scott Allen, seconded by Kathy Wolf, and carried unanimously to accept the Mayor's changes of City Committee Appointments for 2017; they are as follows: Assistant Mayor – Lisa Karsten, replacing Edward Schmidtke; Community Center – Kathy Wolf, replacing Stephanie Culhane, Fire and Police – Kurt Wolf, replacing Rick Vollbrecht; Streets – temporarily Kurt Wolf, replacing Edward Schmidtke; Water and Sanitary Sewer – Lisa Karsten, replacing Rick Vollbrecht. Once a new council member is appointed, the appointments may change. A list of all city committee appointments will be posted for public viewing.
- F. A motion was made by Lisa Karsten, seconded by Scott Allen, and carried unanimously to approve the change to the Master Fee Schedule for 2017, being the monthly garbage fee increase of \$1.84 (from \$10.85 to \$12.69) and a (\$0.16 increase on waste tax; not shown on schedule) which occurred on your October billing; with the addition of the one-time dangerous animal registration fee of \$500, and the addition of Hall rental fees.
- G. A motion was made by Lisa Karsten, seconded by Kathy Wolf, and carried unanimously to renew our website contract with Two Lakes Design, for one year at \$800.00.
- H. The City Clerk, Sheri Gregor, request to reinstate the Mayor signing mid-month claims, authorized to do so per city code.
- I. A motion was made by Scott Allen, seconded by Lisa Karsten, and carried unanimously to approve the paid 2016 end-of-the-year salaries for Fire Dept. Officers and Captains.
- J. A motion was made by Lisa Karsten, seconded by Scott Allen, and carried unanimously to approve the 2016 firefighter's salaries.
- K. A motion was made by Scott Allen, seconded by Kathy Wolf, and carried unanimously to authorize the Morristown Historical Society to apply for the National Register application grant.
- L. A motion was made by Lisa Karsten, seconded by Scott Allen, and carried unanimously to authorize Randy Krueger, Public Works Operator, to purchase a refrigerator, in the amount of up to \$500.00; to use in the Public Works building. Also do a 50/50 split of the \$17,644.00 wastewater/capital outlay office equipment and furnishings funds, transferring half (\$8,822.00) into public works department small tools and minor equipment fund.
- M. A discussion was held on garbage being set out a night or two before garbage collection not being secured or tipping over, causing trash to blow all around.
- N. Adrienne O'Rourke wondered if a group could use the Community Center to workout two times a week, especially during the winter, and open to everyone

- N. (cont.) in the community. A motion was made by Lisa Karsten, seconded by Scott Allen and carried unanimously to allow a community exercise group to use this building and authorize a second key holder; as determined by Adrienne O'Rourke.
- O. A motion was made by Lisa Karsten, seconded by Kathy Wolf, and carried unanimously to change the locks at the Public Works Department, at the Water/Wastewater Plant, and the Community Center with one key fitting all exterior doors of the Community Center.
8. Correspondence and Announcements:  
Lake Country Community Bank - Community Shred Day rescheduled to January 21st.
9. Claims and Accounts:  
A motion was made by Scott Allen, seconded by Lisa Karsten, and carried unanimously to pay the January 04, 2017 Current Claims totaling \$18,706.30 from the General Fund, \$18,648.44 from the Fire Department Fund, \$2,049.62 from the Water Operations Fund, \$3,423.88 from the Wastewater Operations Fund, \$4,217.22 from the Refuse Fund, and the Late Claims totaling \$392.10 from the General Fund, \$1,193.18 from the Fire Department Fund, and \$615..87 from the Wastewater Operations Fund.
10. Council Discussion and Concerns:  
Lisa Karsten request she and Kurt Wolf meet with Public Works personnel, Pat Kaderlik and Randy Krueger after the meeting; and then with Dorian Cornelius within 24 hrs.
11. Adjourn & Next Meeting:  
A motion was made by Scott Allen, seconded by Kathy Wolf to adjourn. The meeting adjourned at 9:40 p.m.  
The next regular meeting will be held Monday, February 06, 2017 at 7:00 p.m.

ATTEST:

/s/ Sheri Gregor  
Sheri Gregor, City Clerk/Treasurer

/s/ Lisa Karsten  
Assistant Mayor, Lisa Karsten