

MORRISTOWN CITY COUNCIL MEETING MINUTES

7:00 P.M. Special Meeting

Monday, April 10, 2017

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

Others Present: Attorney Mark Rahrlick, Jack Schwichtenberg, Tim Flaten, Margaret Butler, Mark Morris, Chris Anderson, Jim Lonergan, Sheriff Troy Dunn, Stuart Nordmeier, Cody Kolstad, Tony Lindahl, Ryan Schiell, Adrienne O'Rourke and City Clerk Sheri Gregor

The special meeting of the Morristown City Council was called to order on Monday, April 10, 2017 at 7:00 p.m., in the Council Chambers at 402 S. Division Street by Mayor Kurt Wolf.

The Pledge of Allegiance was recited.

Mayor Kurt Wolf opened the meeting up for discussion whether to continue our Police Department or to enter into a contract with the Rice County Sheriff's Department. Kurt Wolf asked the Council Members if they had any new information they wanted to share. Seth Prescher, Kathy Wolf, and Scott Allen voiced that most people's opinion is in support of keeping a local police department. Lisa Karsten didn't have any new information. Kurt Wolf mentioned he has heard a mix of opinions from citizens. Kurt Wolf discussed some estimates and stated that if we keep our police department we may have to pay more taxes for salaries and additional technology requirements. Sheriff Dunn spoke on behalf of the contract. There was discussion both ways on city or county and Council input on expenses and hiring a chief and part-time. Kurt Wolf asked if the citizens are willing to pay higher taxes to keep our police department. Lisa Karsten states the County contract will be cheaper. Kurt Wolf said that you've heard a lot of the key points; Kurt knows how he feels as a citizen and an elected official. He thinks it's worth our time, money and energy to give it a try.

A motion was made by Kurt Wolf to contract with Rice County for 2 years at 60 hours a week, to handle our police needs, seconded by Lisa Karsten. Kathy Wolf voted in favor of this motion. Scott Allen and Seth Prescher opposed. The motion was carried by a 3 to 2 vote.

A motion was made by Lisa Karsten, seconded by Scott Allen, and carried unanimously to adjourn. The meeting adjourned at 8:10 p.m.

The next regular meeting will be held Monday, May 01, 2017 at 7:00 p.m.

/s/ Kurt Wolf
Kurt Wolf, Mayor

ATTEST:

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