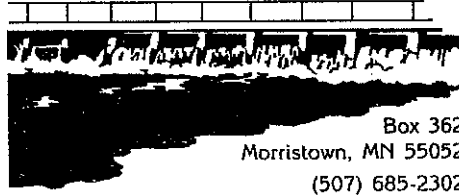


City of Morristown

IN SOUTHERN MINNESOTA LAKES REGION

Best Little Town By A "Dam Site"



Box 362
Morristown, MN 55052
(507) 685-2302

MORRISTOWN CITY COUNCIL MEETING MINUTES

Regular Meeting 7:00 p.m. Monday, May 4, 2020 Public Hearing 7:30 p.m.

Council Present: Mayor Tony Lindahl, Tim Flaten, Lisa Karsten, Jake Golombeski, Kathy Wolf

Others Present: City Attorney Mark Rahrick, Public Works Director Tim Minske, City Administrator Brad Potter and City Clerk/Treasurer Sheri Gregor

1. **Call to Order** – Mayor Tony Lindahl called the regular meeting of the Morristown City Council to order on Monday, May 4, 2020 at 7:00 p.m., in the Council Chambers, at 402 Division Street S..
2. **Pledge of Allegiance** – The Pledge of Allegiance was recited.
3. **Additions/Corrections to Agenda** – Added to New Business E. Ordinance §115.02 Peddler's License. Motion by Lisa Karsten, seconded by Tim Flaten, and was carried unanimously to approve the agenda, with the one addition.
4. **Comments and Suggestions from Citizens Present:** None
5. **Consent Agenda:**
 - A. **Police Report – April 2020**
 - B. **Public Works Report – April 2020**
 - C. **City Council Minutes – April 20, 2020**
 - D. **Financial Reports Month Ending – March 31, 2020 (Community Center Report, Cash Control Statement, Interim Report, Capital Reserve Balances)**
Motion by Lisa Karsten, seconded by Kathy Wolf, and was carried unanimously to approve the consent agenda, as presented.

Motion by Lisa Karsten, seconded by Tim Flaten, and was carried unanimously to close the regular meeting and open the public hearing at 7:30 p.m..

PUBLIC HEARING 2019-2020 Street Project – The public hearing was held to hear input from the public and property owners who will be assessed for the street improvements to be done this spring. Questions arose with the answers of mail boxes will be put back in place within one day, concrete driveways won't be disturbed, asphalt drives approaches will be repaired if need be, the dirt from the road will be put in the street not on the properties grass (yard) and the work will start and be finished simultaneously.

Motion by Lisa Karsten, seconded by Kathy Wolf, and was carried unanimously to close the public hearing and re-open the regular meeting at 7:50 p.m..

Motion by Lisa Karsten, seconded by Tim Flaten, and was carried unanimously to approve Resolution 2020-14: A Resolution Adopting Street and Drainage Assessments.

6. Unfinished Business:

- A. Zoning Board - Recommendation to Enforce the Ordinance 152 Violation Fine – Kurt Wolf of 404 3rd St SE.** – Motion by Tim Flaten, seconded by Lisa Karsten, to not take the recommendation of the zoning board to enforce the violation of Ordinance §152.103 Permits Required, which requires a fine of \$200.00. Tim Flaten, Lisa Karsten and Kathy Wolf voted in favor. Opposed by Tony Lindahl and Jake Golombeski. Vote is 3-2, motion passed.
- B. Zoning Administrator Position Posting** – Brad Potter is to post the vacant zoning administrator position and create a job description of responsibilities.
- C. Zoning Board Recommendation** – The Morristown Zoning Boards recommends to the city council that the acting zoning administrator and whoever is appointed to the new zoning administrator position is to follow the city code of ordinances and the proper procedures as written. Tim Flaten asks the zoning board to retract that statement, because as written will get a lot of people up here real quick, including every business in this town that is violating some type of ordinance. If that is what the zoning board wishes for, the person we hire needs to be prepared for mounds of people to be up here. Lisa Karsten states if they want the codes and ordinances followed to the letter, to start looking at very code and ordinance and get them cleaned up. Then bring them, one or more at a time, to the city council to vote on them. Tony Lindahl suggests the zoning board hold a work session.
- D. Office Assistant Interviews** – Brad Potter will set up the in-person interviews with each candidate; with Tony Lindahl, Lisa Karsten, Sheri Gregor and himself in attendance. The position will be for five days a month and as needed.
- E. Part Time Public Works Mower Position** – Richard Gauthier is helping to mow city properties. The position will be reposted and more widely advertised.
- F. Employee Annual Review – Tim Minske** – The open employee review was held for Tim Minske. One big accomplishment was getting his “B” wastewater license. Once the pandemic closures are lifted, Tim will go for the bio-solids licensing. Brad Potter spoke on he and Tim need good communication to be on the same page and expectations as a team. Motion by Lisa Karsten, seconded by Kathy Wolf, and was carried unanimously to approve of a 3% (\$0.98) hourly salary increase retroactive to Tim’s employment date of February 13, 2020.

Tim Minske brought to the council’s attention that the City is to follow the LMC policies and to make sure any contractors hired are insured and OSHA certified, if applicable. Also, employees that operate any city trucks, need to meet certain requirements (medical card, registered, CDL licensed).

7. New Business:

- A. Water Disconnection List** –The council was presented a list of the March delinquent city utility billings. Disconnection letters will be sent to those who are behind as the City is not obligated, due to the COVID-19 pandemic crisis, to allow customers an extension. Motion by Lisa Karsten, seconded by Tim Flaten, and was carried unanimously to increase the utility late fee from \$5 to \$25 beginning July 1, 2020.

7. New Business: (cont.)

B. Resolution 2020-13: A Resolution to Post “No Parking” Signs on 1st Street S.E.

Motion by Jake Golombeski, seconded by Lisa Karsten, and was carried unanimously to approve Resolution 2020-13: A Resolution Prohibiting Parking Along 1st Street S.E. Between Main Street E. and Washington Street E.. Six signs will be posted all along this street. Properties adjacent to 1st Street S.E. will receive notice of this parking regulation. Violators will be fined, and vehicles may be impounded. A violation nuisance letter and administrative fine was sent to the tenant at 106 1st Street S.E.. As there has not been compliance from the tenant, the property owner will be held accountable and will start to receive the said letter and fines.

C. City Concern Discussion Semi Tractors and Current Ordinances – Ryan Schiell presented a letter and remotely joined the meeting wanting the Ordinance 2016-7 amendment removed, to allow him to have his semi kept at his residential property. The Zoning Board is asked to look at the two conflicting ordinances and make a recommendation to the council.

D. City Administrator Report – The Dollar General has submitted an official application for land use rezoning. Notices will be sent to neighboring properties located within 350 feet of the planned site and a public hearing notice published in the Life Enterprise newspaper. The MNDOT and Rice County have approved the Dollar General access drive off County Road 44 (Holland Avenue). The City will be proposing a development agreement (water/sewer hookup) to the developer, Ratcliff Development LLC. Officials met regarding the WEM use of the Babe Nordmeier baseball field, as to updating the agreement. Brad Potter will present the revised personnel policy to the council on May 18, 2020. The compost site issues were discussed seeking to achieve a solution. The Minnesota COVID-19 restrictions still apply to business.

E. Ordinance §115.02 Peddler’s License – Motion by Tim Flaten, seconded by Lisa Karsten, and was carried unanimously, through Labor Day, to waive the \$25 license fee, for transient merchants (food trucks/food stands); providing these vendors notify the City of their plans, where they can set up on city properties and all customers must participate in grab and go, no socializing.

8. Correspondence and Announcements:

The Morristown Farmer’s Market will be open on Saturday mornings 9am – Noon in the parking lot across from the Dam, (May 30th, June, July, August). Partakers at this time are the Karstens’ and Dahle Gardens. All vendors welcome.

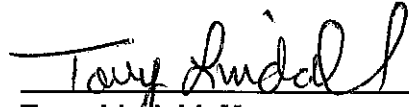
9. Claims and Accounts:

A/B. Current and Late Claims and Accounts – Motion by Lisa Karsten, seconded by Tim Flaten, and was carried unanimously to approve the May 4, 2020 current claims and accounts totaling \$3,784.03 from the general fund, \$1,000.00 from the fire relief fund, \$1,385.71 from the fire department fund, \$2,553.41 from the water operations funds, \$3,696.52 from the waste water operations fund; and the late claims and accounts totaling \$6,510.29 from the general fund, \$741.38 from the fire department fund, \$533.48 from the water operations fund, and \$4,932.10 from the wastewater operations fund, with the Skywarn siren battery claim of \$440.16 credited back to that fund, due to the warranty claim.

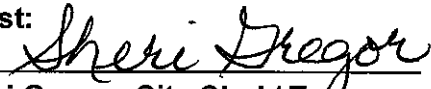
10. Council Discussion and Concerns: Many of the county road signs in town are very faded. Brad Potter is to contact Dennis Luebbe, Rice County Highway Engineer, about possibly replacing the signs and what should be done about the grassy triangle area, bordering County Road 15 (Main St. E./Washington St E.), as street improvements start June 1, 2020.

11. Adjournment: Motion by Tim Flaten, seconded by Lisa Karsten, and was carried unanimously to adjourn at 9:38p.m..

12. Next Regular Meetings: Monday, May 18, 2020 and Monday, June 1, 2020 at 7 p.m.
Public Hearing: Rezoning for Dollar General location Mon, June 1, 2020 at 7:30 p.m.



Tony Lindahl, Mayor

Attest: 

Sheri Gregor, City Clerk/ Treasurer