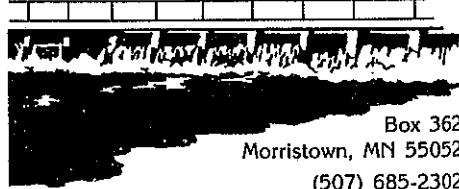


City of Morristown

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, October 01, 2018

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Council Present: Mayor Kurt Wolf, Lisa Karsten, Kathy Wolf, Seth Prescher, Tim Flaten
Others Present: City Attorney Mark Rahrick, Dan Morris, Mike O'Rourke, Mark Morris, Troy Dahle, Tim Minske, Adam Uittenbogaard, Tony Lindahl, Sheriff Troy Dunn, Deputy Trevor Peterson, Jack Schwichtenberg, Abdo, Eick & Meyers, Tom Olinger, Leon Gregor, Jacob Karsten, City Administrator Brad Potter and City Clerk/Treasurer Sheri Gregor

1. Mayor Kurt Wolf called the regular meeting of the Morristown City Council to order on Monday, October 1, 2018 at 7 p.m., in the Council Chambers, at 402 Division St. S..
2. The Pledge of Allegiance was recited.
3. Additions/Corrections to Agenda:
Motion by Lisa Karsten, seconded by Kathy Wolf, and carried unanimously to add to the Agenda Unfinished Business C. Mobile Home Water Project Update and New Business G. SkyWarn.
4. Comments and Suggestions from Citizens Present:
Dan Morris, Commercial Club President, informed the Council of the possibility that the Commercial Club may not open the Community Center bar for certain reception/dance events. Dan explained that if they aren't there, the Council will need to have someone present to monitor the Great Hall/Community Center from roughly 3 p.m. until 2 a.m..
5. Consent Agenda:
Motion by Lisa Karsten, seconded to Seth Prescher, and carried unanimously to approve the Consent Agenda to include only items A. E. and H.. The Public Works Report, Interim Report and Zoning Board September 24th Meeting Minutes will be presented at the October 15, 2018 Council meeting. Troy Dahle asks how the sale of the Fire Dept.'s old compressor was going. Brad Potter explained it will be posted and opened up for bids during a windowed time frame. Sealed bids will be opened at the Council's October 15th meeting, with proceeds going back into the Fire Department Fund. The Fire Hall was without generator power in the aftermath of the September 20th storm. Troy Dahle has received a bid of \$48,000.00 (new generator and electrical work) for the Fire Hall and will seek a second bid, in compliance with City policy. Delivery would be 10 to 12 weeks out. Future practice, if necessary, will be to set up a Command Center at the Fire Hall and the Relief Aid in the Community Center. Motion by Lisa Karsten, seconded by Seth Prescher, and carried unanimously to approve the Fire Department Report for September.
6. Unfinished Business:
 - A. Mike O'Rourke provided an update on the Babe Nordmeier Field playground. It is pretty much complete, except for a few pieces of equipment to be placed.

6. Unfinished Business: (cont.)

A. (cont.) A couple more donations, for the playground, are anticipated.

B. Tom Olinger, Abdo, Eick & Meyers, gave scenarios on his "Summary of Benefit Projections", in assessing the Fire Relief Association's retirement benefits. Leon Gregor spoke on behalf of the Fire Relief with his breakdown of assets, liability and appreciation figures. Leon also stated even without making any money for the rest of the year and adding in the desired increase, the relief association will still have a \$260,000.00 surplus at the end of 2018. Motion by Seth Prescher, seconded by Tim Flaten, and carried unanimously to approve the \$400.00 increase for the annual Fire Relief Association retirement benefit, effective January 1, 2019. Going forward, Tom Olinger suggests a yearly gradual increase to mitigate the risks.

C. Tim Minske spoke about the water meter repair project at the Mobile Home Community. The project got finished and went very well. Dahle Enterprise had dewatering set up for a week and the area was waterless 8' below water table. Mark Rahrick reminds us that if the repair costs come in lower than projected, the extra monies are to be used to reimburse the City for legal costs. Brad Potter and Tim Minske request the go ahead to purchase a Public Works stand-by generator w/manual throw switch, for approximately \$3,500.00 to \$4,000.00. Seth Prescher asks Brad Potter to bring the account number of the fund, to the next meeting, where this purchase will come out of.

Tim Minske touched on the sludge, from the sewage plant, that gets hauled away (spring and fall). But first Public Works sends in bio solid samples for testing at the UC lab to see if the sludge can be land spread. One of the samples came back off the charts from "moly" (a metal in lubricants/grease/oil) which is hazardous waste. In this case it would have to be shipped out of state. A second sample was taken and the level went down, so was able to be spread. This hazardous waste is most likely coming from home owners and businesses garages and shops dumping oil and grease. Seth Prescher asks Brad Potter to create a letter to go out to all city limits occupants. Lisa Karsten request the letter also be printed in bilingual language.

7. New Business:

A. Brad Potter informed the Council that a second person has been helping Jim Lundin with set-up and tear down for events. We are still working on either hiring or contracting this person. Another suggestion is to re-advertise the (on-call/part-time) custodian position or hire a service provider. Brad will post the position and is tabled until the October 15, 2018 meeting. Brad also would like to hire someone with water/waste water knowledge to work the part-time weekend shifts to help out Tim doing checks at the plant.

B. Per the recommendation of the Zoning Board, a motion was made by Lisa Karsten, seconded by Seth Prescher, and carried to waive the code requirement of zoning (building) permit fees for property owners having September 20, 2018 storm damage being reported by November 1, 2018, with permit(s) being obtained by April 1, 2019 and then the process follows the pre-storm existing footprint condition of the permit. Abstained from voting were Kurt Wolf and Tim Flaten.

7. New Business: (cont.)

- B. (cont.) Mark Rahrlick had planned to meet with the Zoning Board on the night of (the storm) Thursday, September 20, 2018. Mark will attend the next Board meeting to discuss the City's options for getting property owners in violation of Ordinance §92.21 to comply. With owners receiving monthly administrative fines and no action being taken, assessing the owner's property tax is one choice. If that doesn't get results, the City has the power to take the owner to court and get permission to do the necessary repairs, at the owner's expense. The ordinances also provide that the City can charge the owner with a misdemeanor. The Board will furnish the Council with a recommendation after their Thursday, October 18, 2018 meeting.
- C. Motion by Lisa Karsten, seconded by Tim Flaten, and carried unanimously to approve Resolution 2018-17: A Resolution Accepting A Donation of \$1,500.00 from the Sons of the American Legion, for the Babe Nordmeier Field playground.
- D. Brad Potter furnished the Council a right-of-way ordinance template from the League of MN Cities. Brad and Mark Rahrlick will have a final form ready for the Council's review and schedule a public hearing for Monday, November 05, 2018 during the Council meeting. This ordinance will encompass standard basic rules on what can you do, what can't you do, requiring a City issued permit before you dig, pertaining to easements, drainage, water and sewer access, and such. This also includes utility companies, e.g. BevComm, Excel Energy and CenterPoint.
- E. Brad Potter and Mark Rahrlick made revisions to the City utility services language of Ordinance §50.117: Disconnection for Late Payment for the Council to examine. Motion by Seth Prescher, seconded by Lisa Karsten, and carried unanimously to hold a Public Hearing October 15, 2018 at 7:30 p.m., to revise the ordinance.
- F. Brad Potter recommended 2019 goals and actions for the City Council. The goals include keeping the public informed of City information, make processes easier for the public, examine and plan for infrastructure needs, assure traffic safety for citizens and clearly define processes, rules and procedures. Lisa Karsten added, now with having a city administrator, city committee appointments and the chain of command should be revisited.
- G. SkyWarn is looking for permission to spend up to a \$4,000.00 cap to upgrade some equipment including replacing their weather station that went out and other technology (possibly a drone to do damage assessments). Tim Flaten stated in the two SkyWarn accounts there should be approximately \$5,338.29 and \$17,945.57 available. Bids will be gotten and a final dollar amount presented to the Council, at the next meeting.

8. Correspondence and Announcements:

Lisa Karsten wants to give a big public shout-out "Thank You" to all of the volunteers, Adam, Troy, Troy, Kurt, and Brad who was here, for the clean-up, brush and tree removal, after the September 20th storm. Lisa stated the last tornado in the City limits was back in the 1900's and we hope it is that long before we have another one. Lisa, for one, is honored to live here, in a community that's got each other's backs.

8. Correspondence and Announcements: (cont.)

Mayor Kurt Wolf echoed Lisa expressing his gratitude and amazement at how clean and quickly storm damage was cleaned up. Kurt stated his home, on 3rd Street S.E., was one in disarray, due to the tornado, with his garage ending up in his back yard. Volunteers stepped up and chain saws were everywhere. Kurt thanked everyone in the room for their efforts and the long hours they put in. Tim Minske heard a lot of good positive things about the curfew and the deputies monitoring the roads. Troy Dunn wanted to thank all the volunteers and commended the Morristown Fire Department for their involvement also escorting people to their homes, City workers and the support of City staff. Tim Flaten enjoyed working together (at the Community Center relief staging area) with the small group, Rice County investigator and officer as they all handled the game plans every day and getting information out on social media. Tim Flaten stated there were 58 registered volunteers and probably 10 more volunteers for Sunday's clean up of the school, park and baseball field. Tim Flaten wanted to express a "special thanks" to the few citizens that stepped up alone and worked very closely with Dahle's and Public Works, all three days, cleaning up/hauling away the piles of brush/trees. Tim Minske praised all the citizens for doing a fabulous job, having their trees and brush stacked really nice for pickup. Mark Morris relayed an outside thank you from the wedding party and guests, who were very appreciative for allowing their wedding reception and dance to go on Saturday, at the Community Center, during the town's disaster. Mark also emphasized the importance of the decision, a few years ago, to put that generator in. To sum it up, Kurt Wolf emotionally voiced being proud to be a resident of Morristown.

9. Claims and Accounts:

Motion by Lisa Karsten, seconded by Seth Prescher and carried unanimously to approve the October 01, 2018 Current Claims and Accounts totaling \$15,023.09 from the General Fund, \$779.08 from the Fire Department Fund, \$3,255.20 from the Water Operations Fund, \$8,082.71 from the Wastewater Operations Fund and \$1,407.04 from the Refuse Fund, as presented.

10. Council Discussion and Concerns:

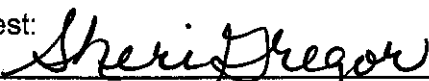
Seth Prescher requests the clerk send "Thank You's" to the Waseca Hockey Association, Hy-Vee, New Richland school system, BA, WEM School, and all the other whom donated supplies and volunteered to clean-up.

11. Adjournment:

Motion by Seth Prescher, seconded by Lisa Karsten, and carried unanimously to adjourn. The meeting adjourned at 8:40 p.m..

12. Next Regular Meetings: – Monday, October 15, 2018 & Monday, November 05, 2018

Attest:


Sheri Gregor, City Clerk/Treasurer

Kurt Wolf, Mayor