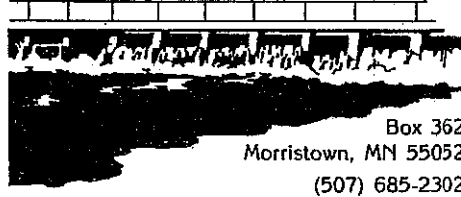


# City of Morristown

IN SOUTHERN MINNESOTA LAKES REGION

*Best Little Town By A "Dam Site"*



## MORRISTOWN CITY COUNCIL MEETING MINUTES

Regular Meeting 7:00 p.m. Monday, November 2<sup>nd</sup>, 2020

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

**Others Present:** Adam Uittenbogaard, Jake Duncan, Linda Schreffler, Jim Schreffler, John Ankrum, Rice County Sargent Justin Hunt, Public Works Director Tim Minski, Sharon Krenik, Pastor Elden Eklund, Steve Nordmeier, Tyler Velske, Ryan Schiell, Office Assistant Tasia Voegele, City Administrator Michael Mueller, Linda Murphy, Robin Leavens, Lisa Duban, City Civil Attorney Mark Rahrck.

1. **Call to Order:** Tim Flaten called the regular meeting of the Morristown City Council to order on Monday, November 2<sup>nd</sup>, 2020 at 7:00 p.m., in a meeting room at the American Legion located at 101 Main Street, Morristown, MN 55052.
2. **Pledge of Allegiance:** The Pledge of Allegiance was recited.
3. **Additions/Corrections to Agenda:** Motioned by Lisa Karsten, seconded by Kathy Wolf and was carried unanimously to approve the agenda.
4. **Comments and Suggestions from Citizens Present:** John Ankrum brought up a concern about vehicles not yielding to pedestrians at stop signs near the cable company.
5. **Consent Agenda:**
  - A. Police Report – October 2020
  - B. Fire Department Report – October 2020
  - C. Public Works Report – October 2020
  - D. City Council Meeting Minutes – October 19, 2020

The Public Works Report was pulled and three corrections were made to the minutes for October 19, 2020. Motioned by Lisa Karsten, seconded by Kathy Wolf, and was carried unanimously to approve the consent agenda with three corrections to the October 19, 2020 minutes and the exclusion of the Public Works Report.

Tim Minske requested that a notice be posted changing the next hydrant flushing to November 9, 2020. Repairs are scheduled to be completed on the water tower from 11/10/20-11/11/20 and the flushing needs to be completed prior to these repairs.

Tim Minske noted that the Council had approved the purchase of a new sidewall manway hatch door from Great Plains for the water tower and Tim Minske had planned to complete the install himself. After additional research, Tim Minske suggests that the City hires Great Plains to complete the installation for approximately \$3,800 to make sure it is done correctly. Tim Flaten asked if we need to obtain bids for this work. Lisa Karsten noted that Great Plains would likely

want to complete the installation since the door is being purchase from them. Tim Minske noted that Great Plains is the only company in Minnesota that carries supplies and completes repairs for Aqua Store tanks like the one in Morristown. Motioned by Lisa Karsten, seconded by Kathy Wolf, and was carried unanimously to retain Great Plains to install the sidewall manway hatch door. Tim Minske coordinate the install with Great Plains.

Tim Minske will be in contact with Fire Chief Adam Uittenbogaard regarding fire protection from 11/10/20 to 11/11/20 while the water tower is out of service. Tim Minske will need to start a secondary pump to fill the tankers. Motioned by Lisa Karsten, seconded by Kathy Wolf, and was carried unanimously to approve the Public Works Report as presented.

## **6. Unfinished Business:**

**A. Bank Account Removal & All Accounts- Sheri Gregor** - City Administrator Michael Mueller noted the bank requested that the city add the removal of Sheri Gregor to the City Council Meeting Agenda for their records. Michael noted that he included "All Accounts" in the event other financial institutions requested to see a motion by the Council for the removal of Sheri Gregor. Motioned by Lisa Karsten, seconded by Kathy Wolf, and was carried unanimously to remove the former City Clerk Sheri Gregor from the Bank account and all city financial accounts.

**B. Resolution 2020-27 (Gordy Adams Unpaid Fines)** - City Administrator Michael Mueller noted that he talked to Daniel Lee and Gordy Adams and both were sent certified letters regarding the unpaid fines. This motion requires that the fines be paid by 12/15/20 or the unpaid fines will be assessed to property taxes. Motioned by Lisa Karsten, seconded by Kathy Wolf, and was carried unanimously to approve Resolution 2020-27 assessing the property on first Street the unpaid fines.

**C. Second Water Meters - Information update** - City Administrator Michael Mueller updated the Council that approximately 10 first water meters and 10 water only meters remain to be replaced. Phone calls to residents have not been successful so notes will be added to the water bill post cards sent out in November to contact the city about replacement. After that we will attempt to use door hangers to get resident to contact about replacement.

## **7. New Business:**

**A. Bank Account Authorization – Add New City Clerk** Motioned by Lisa Karsten, seconded by Jake Golombeski, and was carried unanimously to add Lisa Duban to the city bank account.

**B. Change City Hall Hours- 8:00a.m.- 4:30 p.m.** – City Administrator Michael Mueller noted that with this change to City Hall will no longer be closed for the lunch hour and there will no longer be any half days. Lisa Karsten noted the City Hall staff discussed what hours will work best for their schedules and that is the reason for the change. Motioned by Lisa Karsten, seconded by Kathy Wolf, and was carried unanimously to change City Hall hours to Monday through Friday from 8:00 a.m. - 4:30 p.m. with no closure over the lunch hour and no half days.

**C. Canvass of Votes - 11/13/2020** – City Administrator Michael Mueller and the City's Civil Attorney Mark Rahrlick explained that cities are required to canvass votes between 3 and 10 days after the election. Mark Rahrlick impressed upon the Council that if the canvass is scheduled on 11/13/20, the last day that votes can be canvassed, that the Council be sure that at least 3 members can say they can be there for a quorum. Tim Flaten, Lisa Karsten, Kathy Wolf and Jake Golombeski noted that they should be able to make it. Tim Flaten suggested doing a work session after the canvass meeting. Lisa Karsten was opposed to a work session that day. Motioned by Lisa Karsten, seconded by Kathy Wolf, and was carried unanimously to Canvass Votes on 11/13/20 at 7:00 p.m. Motioned by Lisa Karsten, seconded

by Kathy Wolf, and was carried unanimously to close the regular meeting at 7:15 p.m. and open the public hearing.

**PUBLIC HEARING- 7:15 P.M.** – Ordinance Relating to Chickens. The ordinance includes rules and regulations to the keeping of chickens within city limits. Lisa Karsten noted that on the top of page three of the Ordinance the wording should to be changed from the City of Waterville to the City of Morristown. Lisa Karsten and Tim Flaten thanked the members of the zoning board who helped draft the ordinance. Summary of public comments/concerns included but were not limited to if the Council would need to consent as a neighboring property, who is going to enforce the ordinance, heat sources, disposal of feces, and rodents. Motioned by Tim Flaten, seconded by Jake Golombeski, and was carried unanimously to close the 7:15 p.m. Public Hearing and open the 7:30 p.m. Public Hearing.

**PUBLIC HEARING- 7:30 P.M.** – Pollinator Garden - Native Vegetation. The purpose of this ordinance is to establish minimum standards for lawn maintenance while recognizing that a variety of landscapes within a community adds diversity and richness to the quality of life for all residents. The City's Civil Attorney, Mark Rahrck, summarized recent changes to the ordinance to include permits granted only to property owners vs. renters, the permit is non-transferable, applicants providing information regarding the contents of the variety pack, and maintenance plans relating to variety packs. Summary of public comments/concerns included but were not limited to the appropriate terminology for the ordinance (pollinator garden vs. native vegetation), the definition of pollinator gardens in comparison to native vegetation, and plant species that would fall under a pollinator garden as opposed to native vegetation. Motioned by Tim Flaten, seconded by Lisa Karsten, and was carried unanimously to close the 7:30 p.m. Public Hearing and re-open the regular. Motion by Tim Flaten, seconded by Lisa Karsten, and was carried unanimously to re-open the regular meeting at 7:46 p.m.

**8. Correspondence and Announcements:** Steve Nordmeier noted that at the Halloween event put on by the Commercial Club and the Fire Department was a success. Approximately 170 kids participated.

**9. Claims and Accounts:**

**A. Current and Late Claims and Accounts.** Motioned by Lisa Karsten, seconded by Kathy Wolf, and was carried unanimously to approve claims and accounts.

**10. Council Discussion and Concerns:** Introduction of Lisa Duban, the new City Clerk.

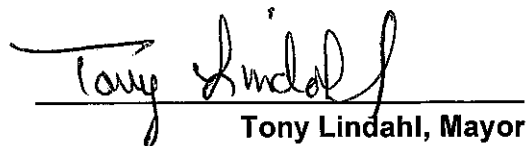
**11. Adjournment:** Motion by Lisa Karsten, seconded by Tim Flaten, and was carried unanimously to adjourn at 7:46 p.m.

**12. Next Regular Meeting:** Monday, November 16, 2020 7:00 p.m.

Attest:



\_\_\_\_\_  
Lisa Duban, City Clerk

  
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Tony Lindahl, Mayor