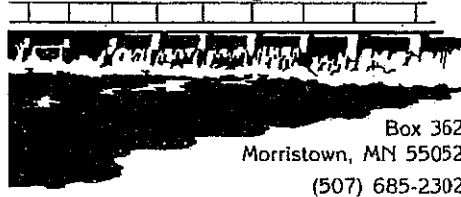


City of Morristown

IN SOUTHERN MINNESOTA LAKES REGION

Best Little Town By A "Dam Site"



Box 362
Morristown, MN 55052
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MORRISTOWN CITY COUNCIL MEETING MINUTES

Regular Meeting 7:00 p.m.

Budget Work Session after Regular Meeting

Monday, December 7, 2020

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

Others Present: Adam Uittenbogaard, Tim Minske, Linda Murphy, Steve Nordmeier, Justin Hunt, Dan Morris, Ryan Schiell, Randy & Kathy Archambault, City Attorney Mark Rahrck, City Administrator Michael Mueller, City Clerk/Treasurer Lisa Duban.

1. **Call to Order:** Tim Flaten called the regular meeting of the Morristown City Council to order on Monday, December 7, 2020 at 7:03 p.m., in the Community Center great hall, at 402 Division Street.
2. **Pledge of Allegiance:** The Pledge of Allegiance was recited.
3. **Additions/Corrections to Agenda:** Motioned by Lisa Karsten, seconded by Tim Flaten and was carried unanimously to approve the agenda.
4. **Comments and Suggestions from Citizens Present:** Linda Murphy noted that the past couple of water bills she has received have been incorrect. Michael Mueller and Lisa Duban noted that there have been some billing issues since the new water meter installation and some bills are being calculated incorrectly. Lisa Duban is working to correct the errors in the system. John Ankrum mentioned that some citizens are interested in having a parade with lights for the holidays. Tony Lindahl mentioned that he should contact the Commercial Club.
5. **Consent Agenda:**
 - A. **Police Report – November 2020**
 - B. **Fire Department Report – November 2020**
 - C. **Public Works Report – November 2020**
 - D. **City Council Meeting Minutes – November 16, 2020**Motioned by Lisa Karsten, seconded by Tim Flaten, and was carried unanimously to approve the consent agenda with the corrections already made.
6. **Unfinished Business:**
 - A. **Approve Summary for Ordinance 2020-6 & 2020-7 to Publish** – Motioned by Lisa Karsten, seconded by Tim Flaten, and was carried unanimously to approve Summary Ordinance for 2020-6. Motioned by Lisa Karsten, seconded by Tim Flaten, and was carried unanimously to approve Summary Ordinance for 2020-7.
 - B. **Roland to Restore Ditch** – Michael Mueller noted he left a message and sent a letter to Mr. Moesler which was returned by the post office and has not received a response. Michael has no updates on the subject. Tim Minske noted that he had talked to Moesler. Moesler is getting a bid from Timm's Trucking to complete the work.
 - C. **Water Meters** – City Administrator Michael Mueller updated the Council that approximately 17 first and second water meters remain to be replaced. Tony Lindahl noted that we really need to get the first water meters complete as those residents have not been getting accurate bills. Michael and the office staff will continue to work on getting all the meters replaced.

Motioned by Tim Flaten, seconded by Lisa Karsten, and was carried unanimously to close the regular meeting at 7:15 p.m. and open the public hearing.

PUBLIC HEARING- 7:15p.m. Truth-in-Taxation – No public comment. Motioned by Lisa Karsten, seconded by Tim Flaten, and was carried unanimously to close the 7:15 p.m. and re-open the regular meeting.

D. Resolution 2020-31 A Resolution Adopting the Final 2020 Property Tax Levy, Collectible in 2021 - Motioned by Lisa Karsten, seconded by Kathy Wolf, and was carried unanimously.

E. Sheri Gregor – Michael Mueller stated that a letter was received from Sheri Gregor, the former city clerk, claiming she was owed pay for zoning board meetings, election hours and election mileage totaling \$421. Michael noted that he is concerned that Sheri had a chance to pay herself for some of these items but did not. He also expressed a concern that if we pay this, we could be opening a door to continue to get claims for money owed. Motioned by Tim Flaten, seconded by Lisa Karsten, and was carried unanimously to pay Sheri Gregor for amounts claimed not to exceed \$421 upon verification on accuracy of the claims.

7. New Business

A. Archambault Contract – Michael Mueller presented the contract and expressed concerns that the city has been overcharged on some accounts and Archambault has been under charging for the mobile home for quite some time. Archambault also expressed that there have been issues in the past with poor communication and inaccurate information which made it difficult to bill correctly. Michael noted that the city received a bill from the MN Dept. of Revenue in the amount of \$2,093.53 for back refuse taxes owed for various reason. Michael and Archambault have concluded that there are 309 residential accounts and 69 mobile home sites that Archambault should be servicing and the city be charging. Michael suggested that we include the charges the city pays for garbage including city hall, the maintenance shop and Dam Days, into each resident fees so that the city can avoid paying the 17% refuse tax. Archambault agreed that if Dam Days is cancelled, they would reimburse the city for that amount. Overall, the contract rate is increasing, and Archambault would charge \$13.96/residence and \$14.41/mobile home. The residents would then in turn be charged \$16.44/residence and \$17.35/mobile home. Tony Lindahl & Tim Flaten expressed concern that residents should be charged the base service charges for water, sewer and trash regardless if the service is used. Michael noted that in the past residents have been allowed to not have trash and turn their water or sewer service off and not be charged the base rate.

B. Engineering Bids – Michael Mueller noted that he has been doing research and has met with different engineering companies that the city could contract with. The city currently uses Bolton & Menk and Michael has met with and received quotes from Short Elliot Hendrikson (SEH) and Widseth. Council suggested that these three companies come to the next council meeting to present their services. **Resolution 2020-30- Polling Places for 2021:** Motioned by Tim Flaten, seconded by Lisa Karsten, and was carried unanimously to approve resolution 2020-30.

C. Zoning Board Pay – The Zoning Board mentioned discussing a raise from \$15/meeting to \$25/meeting at one of their meetings this year, but they were unsure if it had been brought to the council. City staff has not found anything in zoning or council minutes regarding a raise. Motioned by Lisa Karsten, seconded by Kathy Wolf, and was carried by majority vote to increase the Zoning Board pay to \$25/meeting and it be effective 1/1/2020. Lisa Karsten asked if there is someone closing zoning permits as she has one that has not been closed out. Michael Mueller mentioned that he has had trouble getting a hold of Skyler Gregor the Zoning Administrator. Jake Golombeski agreed to reach out to Skyler Gregor to touch base.

D. Tim Minske – Mark Rahrack noted that the Council could request that the meeting be closed but Tim has the final say as to whether he would like it to be an open meeting. Council suggested that the meeting be closed. Tim requested that the meeting be an open meeting. Michael described concerns regarding Tim not following the chain-of-command, the covid policy and having communication issues. Tim Minske noted the lack of chain-of-command on 11/9/2020 was due to the fact that he was with Tony Lindahl all day because of the water line break so he just communicated to him; he did not know that the city had a covid policy and it is not accurate; when

Michael scheduled Richard to help at the sewer plant, Tim declined because he is the license holder and Richard is not qualified to do rounds; he called Troy Dunn about the positive covid test because he did not want any of the deputies going in the shop until it was cleaned; when John Ankrum called him about icy roads, Tim told John to call Michael; there is no policy about what is to be done if he is sick or gone; when he talked to Michael about having covid, Tim said he would go to the plant and the tower and Michael would take care of the roads; it is not his job to complete Standard Operating Procedures (SOP); and that the city has a permit for the plant and a licensed operator must run the plant, therefore the license operator has more power than the mayor or the Administrator. They also discussed issues with health insurance information and Michael not knowing what Tim's job entails. Overall, the council decided that there were communication issues and Michael and Tim should meet one time per week and work on communication. Motioned by Lisa Karsten, seconded by Tim Flaten, and was carried unanimously to approve Michael and Tim meeting one time per week to work on communication issues.

E. Minnesota Dept. of Revenue Tax order for Garbage Service - This was discussed earlier along with the garbage contract. Michael noted that included in the tax order is a \$154.51 penalty due to tax not being collected by Archambault for the city garbage service which is taxed at a commercial rate.

8. Correspondence and Announcements: Steve Nordmeier apologized that he was not aware that it was a closed meeting.

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: Tim Flaten and Steve Nordmeier noted that an anonymous business owner in town donated \$1,600 for the Christmas lights because he wanted to see Morristown lit up. Council asked Steve to thank the donor.

Motion by Tim Flaten, seconded by Lisa Karsten, and was carried unanimously to close the regular meeting for the Roland Mediation closed meeting at 8:48 p.m

Motion by Lisa Karsten, seconded by Tim Flaten, and was carried unanimously to close the Moesler Mediation closed meeting and open the up the regular meeting 9:17 p.m

11. Adjournment: Motion by Lisa Karsten, seconded by Kathy Wolf, and was carried unanimously to adjourn at 9:18 p.m.

12. Next Meeting: Monday, December 21, 2020 – 7:00p.m.

Budget Work Session – 2021 Preliminary Budget – December 7, 2020 9:18p.m.

1. Unfinished Business:

2. 2021 Budget- Council agreed to the proposed budget and asked that a resolution be made to finalize it at the next meeting.

3. Adjournment: 10:24 p.m.

Attest:



Lisa Duban, City Clerk



Tony Lindahl, Mayor