**MORRISTOWN CITY COUNCIL MEETING MINUTES**

Regular Meeting, 7:00 p.m.

Monday, August 5th, 2024

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| Members Present: | Tony Lindahl (Mayor), Jake Golombeski, Linda Murphy, Leon Gregor, Joe Caldwell |
| Others Present: | Ellen Judd (City Administrator), Cassie Eldeen (City Clerk), Mark Rahrick (City Attorney), Austin Schulz (Public Works), Tim Boese, Dave Schlie, Doug Scott, Stacy and John Chmelik, Lisa Merritt, Dan Morris, Rick Vollbrecht, Mike O’Rourke, Richard Carel, Pam Petersen, Lynnette Bohner, Jeff Wenker |
| 1. | Call to Order: | A regular meeting of the Morristown City Council was called to order on Monday, August 5th, 2024 at 7:00 p.m. in the Community Hall at 402 Division Street South by Mayor Tony Lindahl. |
| 2. | Pledge of Allegiance: | The Pledge of Allegiance was recited. |
| 3. | Additions/Corrections: |  |
|  | Addition A | Driveway Concern-Chmelik to explain |
|  | Addition B | Approve Pay App #2 from Holtmeier Construction |
|  | Addition C | Morristown Fire Relief Association Annual Audit Review  |
| 4. | Citizens Comments: | Pam Peterson is wondering who made the decision to widen Ann St. without anyone knowing, who is paying for the catch basins, and why are there still holes in the ground from tree removals. Doug replied stating that the catch basins were in the original plans. The widening of Ann St was discussed publicly at a January or February meeting. It has recently been compromised to 26 feet instead of 30. Discussion regarding sump baskets and homeowner at 110 Ann St. would like theirs removed. Rick Vollbrecht wanted to follow up on his failed 911 response from the flood. Mayor Lindahl was told by Sherriff Thomas that he checked into it and that the call was taken as non-emergent, so nothing was done with it. Rick also let the council know that SW 2nd St. is consistently blocking the road with meetings that are at a home on that street. Rick also asked for the port a potties to be cleaned more frequently than they are. Austin said he will take care of that.  |
| 5. | Consent Agenda: | Motion by Caldwell, seconded by Murphy and carried unanimously to approve the Consent Agenda. |
| 6. | **UNFINISHED BUSINESS:** | None |
| 7. | **NEW BUSINESS:** |  |
| *A* | Driveway | John Chmelik discussed in more detail how his driveway was cut incorrectly and has caused more damage to be done than necessary. The city had previously agreed to pay a portion of the additional cost incurred to the homeowner. Mr. Chmelik is appreciative of the city helping, but stated he feels that it should fall back on Holtmeier Construction. Mr. Chmelik brought estimates of the additional repairs and proposed the city paying for ¼ or ½. Murphy noted that the homeowner really did their homework, and it is unfair that they would have to pay the full amount to fix. Motion by Murphy, seconded by Caldwell, and carried unanimously to accept bid for city to pay ½ of the amount. There will be further discussion regarding deducting amount from contractor payment. |
| *B* | Pay App #2 | Motion by Murphy, seconded by Gregor and carried unanimously to approve new dress blues for the Fire Department in the amount of $622,566.72. |
| *C* | Fire Relief Review | Motion by Gregor, seconded by Golombeski and carried unanimously to approve audit report and giving the City Clerk authority to sign. |
| *D* | Resolution 2024-36 | Motion by Gregor, seconded by Golombeski and carried unanimously to approve Resolution 2024-36 Approving the transfer of funds to the Morristown Baseball Association. |
|  *E* | Resolution 2024-33 | Motion by Motion by Golombeski, seconded by Caldwell and carried unanimously to approve Resolution 2024-33 Establishing the Creation of Fund 403.  |
|  *F* | Resolution 2024-34 | Motion by Caldwell, seconded by Golombeski and carried unanimously to approve Resolution 2024-35 Creation of Fund 372.  |
| *G* | Resolution 2024-35 | Motion by Gregor, seconded Golombeski and carried unanimously to approve Resolution 2024-35 Approving Transfer of Funds. |
| *H* | Work Session | Discussion to schedule Work Session for Budget. Motion by Murphy, seconded by Gregor and carried unanimously to schedule work session August 21st at 7:00 pm.  |
| *I* | Work from Home | Motion by Caldwell, seconded by Golombeski and carried unanimously to approve Ellen to work from home during Parental Leave.  |
| *J* | Curb Stop Repair | Council received an estimate from Dahle’s for Curb stop repair. Request is to be able to approve repair with this estimate until the end of 2024. Motion by Murphy, seconded by Gregor and carried unanimously to approve estimate for the duration of 2024. |
|  *K* |  Cannabis | Discussion about Cannabis Retail Business Registration and if the City of Morristown wants to delegate that authority to Rice County. Rice County is in the process of developing their ordinance and it should be ready in September. Motion by Murphy, seconded by Gregor to wait to review Rice County’s ordinance and go from there. |
| *L* | GovDeals | Motion by Linda, seconded by Caldwell to give Ellen and Austin permission to sell items on GovDeals.  |
|  *M* | Assess Fines | The City Clerk updated Council on Homeowner’s POA contacting her and not being aware of any issues or fines. They have been trying to evict the renter and are in the process of filing the legal papers to do so. They want to sell the property. The council decided that the fines will remain in place and once renter is evicted, they will re-assess fine enforcement. Clerk will send letter to advise them of situation. |
| *N* | RPZ | Motion by Caldwell, seconded by Murphy and carried unanimously to approve DSG Quote. |
| *O* | Events in Great Hall | Reviewed proposed Agreement between The City of Morristown and the Morristown Commercial Club. The question was asked if the Commercial Club was going to also still take care of the bookings until 6/30/25. Council will review proposed agreement. |
| *P* | Project Committee | Motion by Murphy, seconded by Golombeski and carried unanimously to approve Ellen, Austin, Leon, and Tony to Project Committee. All four must agree, then an email should be sent to the rest of council. Then at the next meeting it will be brought up and officially approved.Motion by Caldwell, seconded by Golombeski and approve unanimously to approve the change in road width from 30’ to 26’. |
| *Q* | Floodplain Ordinance | Motion by Murphy, seconded by Caldwell to proceed with getting contractors for new FEMA Floodplain Ordinance. |
| *R* | Reviews | Council reviewed the staff reviews. All staff are now on the same review schedule, so nobody is missed or late.  |
| 8. | **CORRESPONDENCE & ANNOUNCEMENTS:** |
|  | City Council Election | Morristown City Offices that are up for election during the 2024 General Election are Mayor for a two-year term as well as two positions for Council Member at four-year terms. The General Election will be held Tuesday, November 5, 2024. Filing for candidacy is open from Tuesday, July 30, 2024, through Tuesday, August 13, 2024. |
|  | Hydrant Flushing | Public Works will be waiting until September 3rd to resume hydrant flushing due to the continued high-water table. |
| 9. | **COUNCIL DISCUSSION & CONCERNS:** |
|  |  | Reminder National Night out is tomorrow evening, August 6th from 6-8 pm at the baseball field. John Chmelik asked who is taking care of landscaping and fixing after road repairs. Motion by Murphy, seconded by Caldwell and carried unanimously to close regular meeting and open the closed meeting to discuss Litigation of Lawsuit at 8:27. |
|  | **CLOSED MEETING:**  | Litigation Regarding Assessment AppealsMotion by Murphy, seconded by Caldwell and carried unanimously to close meeting regarding assessment appeals at 8:56. Motion by Murphy, seconded by Gregor and carried unanimously to open the closed meeting for City Administrator Review. |
|  | **CLOSED MEETING:** | A performance review was conducted for the City Administrator.Motion by Murphy, seconded by Golombeski and was carried unanimously to adjourn closed meeting at 9:27. |
| 10. | **ADJOURNMENT:** | Motion by Murphy, seconded by Golombeski and was carried unanimously to adjourn the Regular Meeting at 9:27 p.m. |
| 11. | **NEXT MEETING:** | Work Session: Wednesday, August 21st – 7:00 p.m.Regular Meeting: Tuesday September 3, 2024 – 7:00 p.m. |
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| Attested: |  |  | Mayor, Tony Lindahl  |
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|  | City Clerk, Cassie Eldeen |  |  |