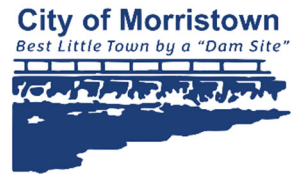


MORRISTOWN CITY COUNCIL MEETING MINUTES

Regular Meeting, 7:00 p.m.

Monday, November 4, 2025



Members Present: Tim Flaten (Mayor), Leon Gregor, Anna Nusbaum, Val Kruger, Joe Caldwell

Members Absent: -

Ellen Judd (City Administrator), Cassie Eldeen (City Clerk), Mark Rahrnick, Austin Schulz, Kyle Morris, Kyle Green, Steve Nordmeier, Johnathon Chmelik, Sharon Krenik, Elden Eklund, Sherrie Brunner, Curtis Chavie, Holly Chavie, Rashelle Peters, Matt Peters, Steve Felix, Pam Petersen, Taj Baker, Katlyn Imrick, Charlie Peters, Mike Mellow, Tony Lindahl, John Schlie

Others Present:

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1. Call to Order: A regular meeting of the Morristown City Council was called to order on Monday, November 4th, 2025, at 7:00 p.m. in the council chambers at 402 Division Street South by Mayor Tim Flaten.
 2. Pledge of Allegiance: The Pledge of Allegiance was recited.
 3. Additions/Corrections:
 4. Citizens Comments: John Chmelik is questioning status of the street project punch list. He has an issue with some of his cement and hasn't seen or heard from anyone. Judd stated that they are waiting for Lee to return from vacation because to fix it correctly is a bigger issue than what was originally thought. But, it is still on the list.
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5. Consent Agenda: Motion by Nusbaum, seconded by Gregor, and carried unanimously to approve the consent agenda. The consent agenda included the following items and motions:
 - Routine* Motion to approve the Police report, Fire Department report, Public Works report, City Council minutes, Zoning Board minutes, financial reports, and the Claims and Accounts as presented.
 - H. Tree Pickup Motion to approve Christmas Tree pickup the week of January 5th-9th, 2026
 - I. Snow Removal Motion to approve the quote from Timm's Trucking for Snow Removal.
 - J. MN Paid Leave Motion to approve the new language addition for Minnesota Paid Leave to the employee handbook
 - K. ACH Motion to approve adoption of the ACH Policy.
 - L. Resolution 2025-30 Motion to approve Resolution 2025-30, approving Archambault's as a new ACH Vendor.
 - M. Ordinance 2025-6 Motion to approve posting Ordinance 2025-6, Right-of-Way Ordinance for 10 days on the City's official posting boards and website.
 - N. Resolution 2025-31 Motion to approve Resolution 2025-31 Summary publication for Ordinance 2025-6.
 - O. Phones Motion to approve Phone Refresh Agreement with Bevcomm.
 6. **UNFINISHED BUSINESS:**
 - A. Sheriff Contract *Mayor Flaten* gave a quick summary of the Sheriff Contract, cost, and concerns to residents in attendance. He wants to get the public's input.
Pam Petersen – 107 Bloomer St. E – Stated she goes on frequent walks, isn't a slow walker, but can hardly cross the road because the cars aren't slowing down. She has heard rumors that speeding tickets aren't being given to violators. She is wondering what we are paying them to do.
Nusbaum clarified that they have asked Rice County for more speed enforcement.
John Chmelik – 300 Division St. S – Said that if they aren't enforcing speed, noise, etc., for a city service they are pretty worthless.
Mayor Flaten clarified that that the deputies are fantastic and it's nothing personal
Steve Felix – 425 Franklin St. W – Stated that in the last 9 months, he has only seen somebody patrolling past his out maybe 4 times. Steve inquired how many hours per shift they are patrolling vs. doing their paperwork. Stressed that police presence

needs to be visible to the residents, or it appears they are stealing from the taxpayers. He believes that council should be dictating more of what times they are here in Morristown.

Caldwell spoke about a meeting he was in with Sheriff Thomas, Administrator Judd, and Councilmember Nusbaum. They let Sheriff Thomas know they need assistance with authority for snow emergencies and were met with a response stating the ordinances aren't work the paper they are written on. That gave the impression that he doesn't want to be here in Morristown. Wording changes were made to ordinances, hoping to turn things around. That has yet to happen. They asked if they could select a few important ordinances that could be enforced. Sheriff Thomas said they weren't going to do more work for essentially less money.

Gregor said he has a hard time with how much the taxpayers are paying and aren't getting their "bang for their bucks"

Kruger said he knows people will be upset if they end up ending the sheriff contract. That is why we want people to show up this month and next month, so please be honest. We want to hear the honest truth.

Matt Peters – 71 Jacks Dr – Resident used to see (on his security cameras) deputies patrol past his home at 8 am, 11am, 3 pm on a daily basis. Now they haven't seen they for close to 8 months.

John Schlie – 203 Franklin St. W – Resident said that there are 3 vehicles on the public street and they don't have license plates. We shouldn't have to tell them to address that, they should be seeing these things and addressing them.

Rice County Commissioner Charlie Peters – Said he will be taking his notes back to Sheriff Thomas. He said that he agreed with most perceptions and that he sees it all over the county.

Sherrie Brunner – 313 Thruen St. W – Inquired if we no longer have the contract, and there is a 911 call, will they respond? The answer is yes.

Steve Nordmeier – Rice County Deputies are great to work with on the Fire Department. Things can happen and response times can vary. They have to come through Morristown even if they don't have a contract. I don't believe we have to pay to have 40 hours of police protection when they aren't doing much. If they aren't willing to help enforce the city ordinances, that is reason enough to not have them in town.

Adam Hackney – Questioned asked when the contract started and why. If the contract can't/won't be met, then we don't need them. Let's save the money.

Flaten – The Contract is up in June 2026 and we have to give 6 months' notice if we are cancelling the contract, and that is why we are bringing this all up now. We will do this again at the December Council Meeting and try to get as many people as we can to share their feedback. Please share your thoughts either way, we want the public's input. Thank you for sharing yours tonight.

7. **NEW BUSINESS:**

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| A. | Solar Panels | Gregor, Nusbaum, & Judd attended the last Rice County Planning and Zoning Meeting to object to the project. The board tabled the item until the next meeting, November 6 th . Discussion if council wants to continue to object to the project. Caldwell, Gregor, and Judd will attend. Mayor Flaten called for a special meeting for Thursday at 6 pm. |
| B. | Concrete | Discussion about concrete work at WaterTower Splash Pad, City Hall Sidewalk fixes, Well #1 fixes, and WWTP fixes and connecting of sidewalks. Work to be done in the spring. Nusbaum would like to see at least one more quote. Council gave Judd some more names to call to see if they are interested in getting us a quote. |

- C. IT Services Review three IT companies quote for services because the plan we currently have is being discontinued. Tabled until next month so council members have more time to review the quotes.
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8. **CORRESPONDENCE & ANNOUNCEMENTS:**

EDA There is a vacancy on the EDA board. Please apply at City Hall or on the website.

9. **COUNCIL DISCUSSION & CONCERNS:**

Nusbaum said that First Stop and Trunk or Treat were great, well done. Chmelik stated that First Stop (Fire Department) gave out over 300 bags.

10. **ADJOURNMENT:** Motion by Nusbaum, seconded by Kruger, and carried unanimously to adjourn at 8:25 p.m.

11. **NEXT MEETING:** Monday, December 1, 2025 – 7:00 p.m.

Approved:

Mayor, Tim Flaten

Attested:

City Clerk, Cassie Eldeen