

MORRISTOWN CITY COUNCIL MEETING MINUTES

Regular Meeting, 7:00 p.m.

Monday, December 1, 2025



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

Members Absent: -

Others Present: Ellen Judd (City Administrator), Cassie Eldeen (City Clerk), Mark Rahrnick, Austin Schulz, Kyle Morris, Kyle Green, Sheriff Jesse Thomas, Jill Stagman, Steve Nordmeier, Johnathon Chmelik, Pam Petersen, Charlie Peters, John Schlie, Mark Morris, Arlen Krause

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| 1. | Call to Order: | A regular meeting of the Morristown City Council was called to order on Monday, December 1st, 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: | None |
| 4. | Citizens Comments: | |
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PUBLIC HEARING TRUTH IN TAXATION (TNT HEARING)

Motion by Caldwell, seconded by Kruger, and carried unanimously to close regular meeting and open the Public Hearing at 7:04.

Terri Byers was wondering why there was such a tax increase this year. Their taxes are in overall \$1,200 more. She wanted to know what tax money is being used for. Flaten and Judd both explained the accounts and how they are broken down.

Arlen Krause stated they nobody will be able to sell their houses if the taxes keep getting so high. Asked what the city is going to do for taxes next year?

Mark Morris explained to the room how everyone's houses/property are based on tax valuation. Every property is different; therefore, their increase amounts are going to be different.

Motion by Gregor, seconded by Nusbaum, and carried unanimously to close the public hearing and open the regular meeting at 7:21.

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| 5. | Consent Agenda: | Motion by Caldwell, seconded by Gregor, and carried unanimously to approve the consent agenda. The consent agenda included the following items and motions: |
| | <i>Routine</i> | 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. | Ordinance 2025-6 | Motion to approve Ordinance 2025-6 Alcoholic Beverages Amendment. |
| I. | Resolution 2025-34 | Motion to approve Resolution 2025-34 Alcoholic Beverage Amendment Summary Publication. |
| J. | Ordinance 2025-7 | Motion to approve posting Ordinance 2025-7 Section 32.04 and 32.05 Amendment Fire Call Rates for 10 days. |
| K. | Pay Review | Motion to approve a step increase for full-time and part-time staff with a 3% COLA, as budgeted, effective January 1, 2026, excluding the event set-up position. |
| L. | Sewer Reimb | Motion to approve \$2,000 reimbursement payment to Adam Hackney to help with right-of-way restoration expenses. |
| M. | Resolution 2025-32 | Motion to approve Resolution 2025-32 Adopting the Final 2025 Property Tax Levy. |
| N. | Master Fee | Motion to set the Master Fee Schedule Public Hearing for January 5, 2025, at 7:00 p.m. or soon thereafter. |
| O. | Resolution 2025-33 | Motion to approve Resolution 2025-33 Accepting a Donation, Food Warmer. |
| P. | Annual Pay | Motion to approve the annual pay amounts as presented for City Council and Zoning Board, with the approval to pay each Zoning Board Member who attends the December meeting \$25. |

6. **UNFINISHED BUSINESS:**

- A. IT Pantheon, Tech Support of Mn, and Bevcomm spoke about their IT services they offer.
- B. Sheriff Contract Ongoing discussion with Sheriff Thomas, Council Members, and residents.
Pam Petersen – Still of the mindset that we aren't getting value for our money. There are concerns when the new students come to the school. They would be focused on the school and not on the town. Where is the value. Why won't we get any ordinance enforcement?
Jesse Thomas – have we ever not shown up when there is an emergency? Have you thought of an ordinance to pass to keep them out of here (School). Thinks they are getting missed messages.
Council Members and Mayor - all shared frustrations with having to pay more if we want ordinance enforcement, as they feel that it falls in the 40 hours of work time. Unsure what the confusion is, there was an in-person meeting. There is a big misunderstanding here. If we are going to have a cop here, let's let them do their job.
Commissioner Charlie Peters – Clarified on some of the issues from last meeting.
John Chmelik – In the past they used to interact with the students and more residents. Would like to see that again.
- C. Solar Panels Discussion regarding interim Use Permit for Solar Panels at PID 1323300001. Meeting will be set up with Solar Panel Representative, two Council members, Attorney Rahrack, and Judd.

7. **NEW BUSINESS:**

- A. Fireman's Dance Motion by Flaten, seconded by Kruger, and carried unanimously to approve a one day Liquor License to the Fire Relief for their Fireman's Dance May 9th, 2026
- B. WEM Meeting Discussion on calling a meeting with the WEM schoolboard. Judd to contact to see if they would be willing to meet before or after their next school board meeting on December 15, 2025.
- C. Event Set-up Motion by Gregor, seconded by Nusbaum to hire Loryn Caldwell for the Event Set-up position at \$21.55 per hour. Voting yes: Gregor, Nusbaum, Flaten, and Kruger.
Abstaining: Caldwell.

8. **CORRESPONDENCE & ANNOUNCEMENTS:**

9. **COUNCIL DISCUSSION & CONCERNS:**

10. **ADJOURNMENT:** Motion by Caldwell, seconded by Nusbaum, and carried unanimously to adjourn at 9:39 p.m.
11. **NEXT MEETING:** Monday, January 5, 2025 – 7:00 p.m.

Approved:

Attested:

Mayor, Tim Flaten

City Clerk, Cassie Eldeen