



**MORRISTOWN CITY COUNCIL MEETING MINUTES**  
**Regular Meeting 7:00 p.m.**  
**Monday, February 5, 2024**

**Council Present:** Tony Lindahl (Mayor), Jake Golombeski, Linda Murphy, Leon Gregor, Joe Caldwell

**Others Present:** Ellen Judd (City Administrator), Connie Medeiros (City Clerk), Mark Rahrck (City Attorney), Bruce Morris (Fire department), Jesse Thomas (Sheriff), Jack Schwichenberg, Kyle Green, Jim Lonergan (Zoning Board Chair), Steve Nordmeier, Rick Vollbrecht, Mike O'Rourke, Tylor Wilson, Jan Rossow,

1. **Call to Order:** Mayor Tony Lindahl called the meeting to order of the Morrystown City Council on Tuesday, February 5, 2024, at 7:02 p.m. in the Council Chambers at 402 Division St., S, Morrystown, MN.
2. **Pledge of Allegiance:** The Pledge of Allegiance was recited.
3. **Additions/Corrections to Agenda:**
  - A. New Business 7C: Fence for Baseball Field
  - B. New Business 7M: Resolution 2024-15 Public Hearing on Vacation

*Motion by Murphy, seconded by Caldwell and was carried unanimously to approve the additions/corrections to the agenda.*

4. **Comments and Suggestions from Citizens Present:** None.

5. **Consent Agenda:**

- A. Police Report – January 2024
- B. Fire Department Report – January 2024 – *Bruce to pull report for discussion*
- C. Public Works Report – January 2024
- D. City Council Meeting Minutes – Regular Meeting 1/2/2023, Session & Special Meeting 1/10/2023
- E. Zoning Board Meeting Minutes – 1/18/2024
- F. Financial Reports – 1/31/24
- G. Claims and Accounts – 1/1/2024-1/31/2024
- H. Water Bill Delinquency Report

*Motion by Gregor, seconded by Murphy and was carried unanimously to approve the consent agenda minus the Fire Department Report.*

Bruce Morris discussed the FD report. He informed the Council that the fire department is ready to bid on the pumper truck. It takes approximately 2 years to build. They will be locking in a price with \$150,000.

*Motion by Murphy, seconded by Gregor and was carried unanimously to approve the Fire Department Report presented by Bruce Morris.*

6. **Unfinished Business:**

- A. City Code Enforcement Process –

Council discussed the city code enforcement process. Citations will be issued in \$100 increments up to \$400, thereupon council will have the ability to request from the courts an abatement to enter the property and rectify the code violations. The Council will and can however determine any action to be taken on a case-by-case basis. Residents may request an appeal to any citation issued. The Council will also assess the costs to the taxpayer's taxes.

- B. Zoning Administrator Position, Appoint new Zoning Board Member –

The zoning administrator position was discussed by the council and J. Lonergan the Zoning Board Chair.

*Motion by Murphy, seconded by Golombeski and was carried unanimously to remove the current zoning administrator and transfer all zoning administrator duties to City Hall employees in the interim with assistance by J. Golombeski.*

*Motion by Caldwell, seconded by Golombeski and was carried unanimously to post the Zoning Administrator position at a rate of \$22.50 per closed permit.*

*Motion by Murphy, seconded by Golombeski and was carried unanimously to offer a position of zoning board member to R. Barney.*

C. Update on Public Works Job Posting –

City Administrator informed the Council that she has received 2 resumes as of the date of the meeting. The Council directed the City Administrator to schedule interviews.

**7. New Business:**

A. Part-time Snowplow Position

The Council discussed the snowplow position, and all agreed that the city will continue to use Timm's.

B. Part-time Event Custodian Position

The events coordinator (A. O'Rourke) has requested a part-time custodian to be on hand and present during Community Center functions.

*Motion by Murphy, seconded by Golombeski and was carried unanimously to post for a position of part-time custodian during CC functions. The pay rate for this position will be \$20.00/hr.*

C. Fence for Baseball Field

Rick Vollbrecht presented the 2 requested quotes for the baseball field green privacy windscreen. R. Vollbrecht stated that of the 2 Prairie Creek Fence is preferred and will be contracted.

*Motion by Caldwell, seconded by Murphy and was carried unanimously to approve Prairie Creek Fence for the installation of green privacy windscreen at the baseball field.*

D. Cannon Valley Players use of Great Hall

*Motion by Murphy, second by Caldwell and was carried unanimously to allow the Cannon Valley Players access and use of the Community Center for preparations.*

E. Petition to Vacate Ann St E from WEM School District

The Petition to Vacate Ann St., E from WEM School District was presented to the Council. Further action will be taken further below in the minutes with a Resolution.

F. Petition to the State of MN for New Flag Review

J. Schwichenberg presented to the Council a signed petition to the State of MN for the New Flag review. Council briefly discussed the matter and informed J. Schwichenberg to forward to the Tim Walz, Governor and Brian Daniel, House Representative.

G. Safety Money Allocation

*Motion by Gregor, seconded by Caldwell and was carried unanimously to approve the distribution of the safety money. \$10,000 will be allocated to the Fire Department and the remainder will be allocated to the Sheriff's contract.*

H. Policy for City Hall Making Change for Water Bills, Petty Cash

*Motion by Murphy, seconded by Caldwell and was carried unanimously to approve the removal of petty cash from City Hall.*

I. Resolution 2024-14 Creation of CRA Fund 704 for Fire Department

Resolution 2024-14 Creation of CRA Fund 704 for Fire Department was tabled for discussion to the March Council meeting.

J. Resolution 2024-13 Accepting Donation from the Fire Relief

*Motion by Caldwell, seconded by Gregor and was carried unanimously to accept Resolution 2024-13 Accepting Donation from the Fire Relief.*

K. Investment Update

City Administrator along with L. Gregor presented the investment update of city funds. The funds will be invested as follows: \$50,000 has been allocated to an Edward Jones CD at the rate of 4.65% for 18 months; and \$71,000 has been allocated to an Edward Jones CD at the rate of 4.40% for 24 months.

L. Post for Public Works Operator Position

Council discussed the 2<sup>nd</sup> public works operator position in terms of the potential advancement of the current public works operator to the lead position the current public works operator position will be posted as a part time position at the payrate of \$23-\$25/hr.

M. Resolution 2024-15 Public Hearing on Vacation

*Motion by Gregor, seconded by Caldwell and was carried unanimously to accept Resolution 2024-15 Public Hearing on Vacation.*

N. Jason Tlusty Review –

The Council was presented with the City Administrator’s performance review of J. Tlusty. The City Administrator’s and L. Murphy’s recommendations to the Council be that J. Tlusty receive a monetary increase of \$1.12/hr.

*Motion by Murphy, seconded by Caldwell and was carried unanimously to increase J. Tlusty pay by \$1.12 on the merits of his performance review.*

**8. Correspondence and Announcements:**

A. February 12<sup>th</sup> 2024, Street Project Neighborhood Meeting, 6-8 p.m.

**9. Council Discussion and Concerns:**

J. Caldwell requested an update on the new 40-hour Sheriff’s Contract. Sheriff Jesse Sheriff was in attendance and stated that he had provided the City Administrator with the new contract. In short, the contract is now for 40 hours with a decrease of \$50,000 from the 60-hours contract. The Council will discuss and provide feedback and thoughts at the next meeting. The new contract does not need to be presented at a public hearing.

S. Nordmeier requested that for further meetings with respect to the street project not be scheduled on Monday’s that the Fire Department has their meetings.

**10. Adjournment:**

*Motion by Golombeski, seconded by Murphy and was carried unanimously to adjourn the February City of Morristown City Council meeting at 8:00 p.m.*

**11. Next Meeting:** Monday, March 4, 2024 – 7:00 p.m.

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Tony Lindahl, Mayor

Attest,

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Connie Medeiros, City Clerk