

City of Morristown

IN SOUTHERN MINNESOTA LAKES REGION

Best Little Town By A "Dam Site"



Box 352

Morristown, MN 55052

(507) 685-2302

MORRISTOWN CITY COUNCIL MEETING MINUTES

PUBLIC HEARING 7:00 p.m.

Regular Meeting followed at 8:25 p.m.

Monday, November 6, 2023

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

Others Present: Travis Mullenmeister (PW), Bruce Morris (FD), Doug Scott (SEH), J. Schwichtenberg, S. Nordmeier, M. O'Rourke, J. Schlie, L. Karsten, R. Karsten, J. Regan, D. Schlie, L. Schlie, S. Willing, K. McMullen, J. Rossow, P. Remington, S. Krenik, E. Eklund, J. Chmelik, D. Dulas, O. Gonzales, J. Byers, J. Wenker, K. Anderson, V. Locklier, E. Kaspaski, D. Carter, R. Merritt, T. Ahlman, R. Gauthier, C. Gauthier, T. Pratt, T. Butterfield, J. Butterfield, T. Nusbaum, A. Nusbaum, R. Schniell, M. Mellon, D. Walz

1. **Call to Order:** Mayor Tony Lindahl called the meeting to order of the Morristown City Council on Monday, November 6, 2023, at 7:05 p.m. in the Council Chambers at 402 Division St., S, Morristown, MN.

2. **Pledge of Allegiance:** The Pledge of Allegiance was recited.

3. **Additions/Corrections to Agenda:**

- A. Investment into CD
- B. Plow Truck Cutting Edges Quotes
- C. Plow Truck Rear Axle Repair
- D. Contract Proposal for Final Bidding and Assessments

Motion by L. Gregor, seconded by J. Caldwell and was carried unanimously to accept the Agenda with the additions added and with the Fire Department report being pulled.

Motion by J. Caldwell, seconded by L. Gregor and was carried unanimously to close regular meeting at 7:10 p.m. and open public hearing.

PUBLIC HEARING – NOTICE ON IMPROVEMENT

The public meeting was opened with Doug Scott of SEH speaking with a corresponding power point presentation. He introduced himself and stated that the purpose of the meeting is to review the Feasibility Study for the Council's consideration of the project. Doug spoke of the different phases to the 2024-2025 road project – with Phase I (2024) includes Ann St., W to Division St.; Ann St., E (Division) to 2nd St., E; Washington St., SE (Division) to 3rd St., E; 1st St., SE (Washington to Main); and 2nd St., SE (Ann to Main). Phase 2 (2025) includes Chestnut St E (Division) to 3rd St., E; Division St., N (Franklin to Bloomer); 1st St., NE (Main) to dead end; and 2nd St., E (Chestnut to Ann, Main to Franklin, from Bloomer to dead end. Doug spoke of street and utilities issues consisting of the existing water main, lead pipes, water system breakage or leakage and flow due to the age of the original lines. He also stated that MN Dept of Health does not recognize 4" water mains as providing adequate distribution of public water and it does not meet the current municipal standards for fire flow protection. Doug spoke of the existing sanitary sewer and indicated that most of the system is in good working condition with only a few areas needing repairs as opposed to the storm sewers which appear to be from the original system and that drainage routes are flat with slow drainage. The scope of work with respect to these issues are full street reconstruction pedestrian safety improvements, complete water main replacement, complete water service replacement, drainage improvements and sanitary sewer spot repairs.

His presentation continued to the estimated cost of the phases. Phase 1 comes at an estimated construction cost of 2,013,105 adding in the construction contingency and project related costs the estimated total project cost for Phase 1 is \$2,828,345. Phase 2 total construction cost \$1,614,605 and total estimated total project cost \$2,260,445. With that said the funding for Phase 1 is estimated at Special Assessments – 34%=\$952,230, City Fund – 16%=\$456,945, 2022 Bonding Bill – 50%=\$1,409,175. Phase 2 is estimated at Special Assessments – 49%=\$1,107,540, City Fund – 7%=\$152,910, 2024 Bonding Bill (city is asking for \$1M from bonding bill) – 44%=\$1,000,000.

In final he presented the Morristown Special Assessment Policy in percentages and the Assessment Rates in dollar amounts as follows: Street Reconstruction (FF)- 50% at \$98.27/unit; Curb & Gutter (FF)-100% at \$23.28/unit; Driveways (Sq Ft)- 100% at \$86.47/unit; Reconstructed Sidewalks (FF)- 50% at \$42.05/unit; New Sidewalk (FF)-100% at \$84.10/unit; Storm Sewer Reconstruction (Sq Ft)- 50% at \$42.05/unit; Water Main (FF)- 50% at \$38.16/unit; Water Service – 100% at \$1,444/unit. Finally, he presented the timeline for public hearings and meetings that will take place prior to anything being finalized and signed off on. With all that said, Doug Scott opened the hearing for questions from citizens present.

Many residents voiced their unhappiness with the assessments that will affect their property taxes. They voiced their concerns with the project in full and the extent of disruption. The residents see no need for sidewalks that are part of the project as being necessary and/or wanted. The council informed the residents that the sidewalks are part of the project for allowance of the grant money from the state. The main concern is the necessity of this project, the price tag of this project and the assessments to the residents. Council and Doug Scott stressed to the group that what was being presented was not the final project just a projection. The council informed the

residents that the cost being presented is not the actual final numbers and that they had asked SEH to prepare an aggressive project with the understanding that many changes can and will be made prior to the final project. Nothing is written in stone.

Motion by L. Gregor, seconded by J. Caldwell and was carried unanimously to close the public hearing at 8:25 p.m. and open regular meeting.

4. Comments and Suggestions from Citizens Present:

- S. Nordmeier thanked the council and community for a great turnout on Halloween. The Truck and Treat was a success as was the FD first stop and CC's second stop.
- M. O'Rourke inquired about the closing of the compost site – he would like to turn off cameras. The Council briefly discussed and opined that it should stay open as late as possible or until first snow fall. Council will revisit in December.
- B. Morris (FD Chief) New Hires

Motion by L. Murphy, seconded by L. Gregor and was carried unanimously to accept B. Morris request to hire 4 new applicants to the Fire Department with hire dates of January 4, 2024.

- B. Morris/S. Nordmeier discussed the new tanker truck that at present time is being wrapped. FD is requesting approval to begin the process of putting out bids for sale of current tanker truck.

Motion by J. Caldwell, seconded by L. Murphy and was carried unanimously to approve the beginning process of putting out bids for sale of current tanker truck.

5. Consent Agenda:

- A. Police Report – October 2023
- B. Fire Department Report – October 2023
- C. Public Works Report – October 2023
- D. City Council Meeting Minutes – Regular Meeting 10/2/2023 & Work Session 10/17/2023
- E. Zoning Board Meeting Minutes – 10/26/2023
- F. Financial Reports – 10/31/23
- G. Claims and Accounts – 10/1/2023-10/31/2023

Motion by J. Caldwell, seconded by L. Gregor and was carried unanimously to approve the Consent Agenda.

6. Unfinished Business:

A. 204 Franklin St – 90-day progress update – Updates have been completed. Premises is in compliance to what was asked of homeowner.

B. Event Set-up Position – Jessica Purdie & Ryan Seykora

Motion by J. Caldwell, seconded by J. Golombeski and was carried unanimously to hire Jessica Purdie and Ryan Seykora to the Community Center Set-up position. Conditional that Jessica Purdie will be the main contact and only utilize Ryan's assistance with large set-ups.

C. Change Order from Wencil – Wencil has been back to area to rectify issues.

7. New Business:

A. Resolution 2023-20 – Doug to Explain

Motion by L. Murphy, seconded by L. Gregor and was carried unanimously to accept Resolution 2023-20 a Resolution Ordering Improvement and Preparation of Plans with the change to Washington Street.

B. Ordinance 2023-5 - Section 92.70 – Cannabis

Motion by L. Gregor, seconded by J. Caldwell and was carried unanimously to accept Ordinance 2023-5 – An Ordinance Creating Section 92.70 of the Morristown City Code Regulating Use of Cannabis on Public Property.

C. COLA – Council briefly discussed and tabled until December meeting for further discussion.

D. Earned Safe and Sick Time (ESST) – Council briefly discussed and tabled until December for further discussion with respect to options,

E. Training Reimbursement Policy

Motion by L. Gregor, seconded by L. Murphy and was carried unanimously with respect to the Training Reimbursement Policy for CDL change being at 75% 1st year and 50% 2nd year.

F. Firefighter Pay Schedule Agreement – Council briefly discussed. No action needed to be taken. Fire Department pay schedule is part of Fire Department's by-laws.

G. Drug and Alcohol Consortium & MMUA Membership – Council briefly discussed. No action was taken.

H. Second Public Works Cell Phone - \$41/month

Motion by J. Caldwell, seconded by J. Golombeski and was carried unanimously to approve the purchase of a 2nd cellphone for the Public Works Department (J. West).

I. Resolution 2023-18 – Post Election Write-In Vote Counting

Motion by L. Gregor, seconded by J. Golombeski and was carried unanimously to accept Resolution 2023-18 A Post-Election Write-In Vote Counting

J. 4H Club - Permission to use Government room free of charge

- i. Halloween party, Nov 12th starting at 4pm
- ii. Christmas Party – Dec 10th at 4pm
- iii. June 9th – Scrap booking – date may change

Motion by J. Golombeski, seconded by J. Caldwell and was carried unanimously to approve the request of the 4H Club to waive government room charge.

K. ATM at Community Center – O'Rourke's to explain – M. O'Rourke commented that the Commercial Club will be contracting to have an ATM located in the Community Center.

L. Hydrant Removal for Fire Department – B. Morris informed the council that the FD removed hydrants due to lack of use.

Motion by J. Golombeski, seconded by L. Murphy and was carried unanimously to accept the expense of removing the hydrants.

M. Resolution 2023-16 Final Polling Place

Motion by J. Golombeski, seconded by L. Murphy and was carried unanimously to accept Resolution 2023-16 A Resolution Designating Final Polling Place

N. Resolution 2023-17 Assessment of Delinquent Water Bills

Motion by J. Golombeski, seconded by L. Gregor and was carried unanimously to accept Resolution 2023-17 Authorizing Assessment of Delinquent Water Bills for Collection in 2024.

O. WEM Prom Committee – Request to waive hall fees for After-Prom (May 4-5, 2024)

Motion by J. Caldwell, seconded by L. Murphy to approve WEM Prom Committee the rental of the Great Hall for \$250.00 and not waive the fee completely.

P. Resolution 2023-19 Accepting a Donation to the Fire Department

Motion by J. Golombeski, seconded by J. Caldwell and was carried unanimously to accept Resolution 2023-19 A Resolution Accepting Donation to the Fire Department.

Q. Pay Community Co-op Bill through bank account in advance

Motion by L. Murphy, seconded by J. Golombeski and was carried unanimously to allow the payment of the Co-Op invoice through bank account.

R. Copier Rental Agreement

Motion by J. Caldwell, seconded by L. Gregor and was carried unanimously to approve the rental agreement with EO Johnson for the Toshiba Estudio 3025AC 30 CPM Color.

S. Water Bill Delinquency Report – Council discussed depth. City Clerk will mail out delinquency letters and turn off water on scheduled turn off day.

T. Connie Review – Review was moved to end of meeting.

U. Investment into CD

Motion by L. Murphy, seconded by L. Gregor and was carried unanimously to invest into the Edward Jones 12-month CD at 5.45% with Wells Fargo.

V. Plow Truck Cutting Edges Quotes

Motion by J. Caldwell, seconded by J. Golombeski and was carried unanimously to accept Napa quote for the plow truck cutting edges.

W. Plow Truck Rear Axle Repair

Motion by L. Gregor, seconded by J. Golombeski and was carried unanimously to accept Freightliner quote for plow truck rear axle repair conditional that Freightliner expedite work.

X. Contract Proposal for Final Bidding and Assessments

Motion by L. Murphy, seconded by J. Golombeski and was carried unanimously to accept the contract proposal for final bidding and assessments as of today November 6, 2023, and 2024 project.

Motion by L. Murphy, seconded by J. Golombeski and was carried unanimously to close regular meeting and open closed meeting for Connie's review.

City Clerk discussed review and items for improvement. Council discussed. Not a monetary review.

Motion by J. Golombeski, seconded by L. Gregor and was carried unanimously to close the closed meeting and open regular meeting.

8. Correspondence and Announcements:

- Utility Bills can now be emailed. Please call City Hall to enroll or email admin@ci.morristown.mn.us
- November 29th Senate Capital Investment Tour – Leon Gregor and Joe Caldwell will attend.

9. Council Discussion and Concerns:

10. Adjournment:

Motion by J. Golombeski, seconded by L. Murphy and was carried unanimously to adjourn the Morristown City Council meeting at 10:10 p.m.

11. Next Meeting: Monday, December 4, 2023 – 7:00 p.m.

Tony Lindahl, Mayor

Attest:

Connie Medeiros, City Clerk

Morristown Meeting Sign-in Sheet

City Council

Monday, November 6, 2023

Print Name

Sign

1 Lisa Karsten
2 Rick Karsten
3 John Regan
4 Jack Schwichtenberg -
5 Dave Schlie
6 Lynda Schlie
7 Doug Scott
8 David Woz
9 Sheila Willing
10 John Schlie -
11 Kelli McMullen
12 Janis Rossow
13 Pete Remington
14 Mike Olawski -
15 Diane Pitar
16 Steve Nordmeier -
17 Sharon Krenik
18 Elden Eklund
19 Jonathan Chmelik
20 DALE DULAS
21 Oscar Gonzalez
22 JOHN BYERS
23 Debra Wilkerson
24 Richard "Dick" Presher
25 Jeffery Winkler
26 BONNIE MORSE
27 Kathy Anderson Vicki Lockier

Lisa Karsten
Rick Karsten
John Regan
Jack Schwichtenberg
Dave Schlie
Lynda Schlie
Doug Scott
David Woz
Sheila Willing
John Schlie
Kelli McMullen
Janis Rossow
Pete Remington
Mike Olawski
Diane Pitar
Steve Nordmeier
Sharon Krenik
Elden Eklund
Jonathan Chmelik
DALE DULAS
Oscar Gonzalez
JOHN BYERS
Debra Wilkerson
Richard "Dick" Presher
Jeffery Winkler
BONNIE MORSE
Kathy Anderson Vicki Lockier

- 28 Emily Kasper
29 Dalia Cagle
30 Randy Merritt
31 Jon Ahlman
32 Rick Carolyn Braithier
33 Theresa Drael
34 Todd & Jeanne Butterfield
35 Tyler & Anna Nussbaum
36 Gann Mearns
37 Ryan Schuel
38 Mike Miller
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