

## Minutes of the Regular Village Board Meeting Held May 10, 2022

The Board of Trustees of the Village of Mt. Morris met in Regular Session at 7:00 PM on May 10, 2022.

Village President Labash called the meeting to order and directed the Clerk to call the roll. Upon roll being called, the following answered present: Rojas, Kolling, Pennington, Hopkins, Higley, Stauffer. Upon roll being called all Trustees present voted "Aye." President Labash declared said motion carried.

Attorney Lesage was present. Press absent. Treasurer Jordan Sasscer absent. Village Engineer Corey Buck absent.

**VISITORS:** Dave & Mary Jane Warkins, Jeff Bold, Sylvia Saunders, Mike Fay, Scott Beck, Chris Corcoran, Lawrence Vickers.

**MINUTES:** Trustee Pennington moved, and Trustee Stauffer seconded the motion to approve the April 26, 2022, minutes as presented. Upon roll being called all Trustees present voted "Aye." President declared said motion carried.

### **EXECUTIVE MINUTES:**

**TREASURER'S REPORT:** Trustee Rojas read the treasurers report on behalf of Treasurer Jordan Sasscer. President Labash addressed the board and public as a reminder that the projects up for approval discussion tonight are budgeted expenses within the new budget. Trustee Stauffer moved, and Trustee Kolling seconded the motion to approve the Treasurers report as presented. Upon roll being called all Trustees present voted "Aye." President declared said motion carried.

**CURRENT BILLS:** Trustee Rojas moved, and Trustee Stauffer seconded the motion to accept the current bills as presented. Upon roll being called, all Trustees present voted "Aye." President declared said motion carried.

**PETITION & COMMUNICATION:** Mike Fay came before the board to commend the street department on a job well done with the roto mill and overlay work on Brayton Rd. and Bruce Ln. Chris Corcoran came before the board to inquire if the street department would notify residents of Sunset Street about closures before work is to begin? President Labash said notification would go out to residents. Lawrence Vickers came before the board to inquire about the ordinance on leash law and fence ordinance. He inquired about police salary and board member residency. Lawrence also inquired about the criminal reform law. Attorney Lesage addressed that he was aware there are laws regarding this, but as he's not a police officer he can't speak on it. President Labash asked if he wished the board to take action on this matter and advised Lawrence, he would have a conversation with the new police Chief about the issues addressed and pass on contact information. President Labash stated the board was now aware if that was the intent of Lawrence.

**ADMINISTRATION:** President Labash advised that at fiscal year it is his responsibility to appoint the trustees to their departmental positions and at this time does not wish to make any changes to the appointed positions. Trustee Kolling moved, and Trustee Stauffer seconded the motion to keep Board Trustees in their current positions until the next fiscal year. Upon roll being called, all Trustees present voted "Aye." President declared said motion carried.

**STREET DEPT:** Trustee Higley discussed the current leaf vac and the need for an upgraded leaf vac. The street department received three quotes to review. The street department will retain the 2002 leaf vac, this trade value will come off the quote from Bonnell. More equipment options, lower overall cost, and parts/repair availability were considered. Trustee Higley moved, and Trustee Rojas seconded the motion to purchase a leaf vac from Bonnell Industries in Dixon at a price of \$73,417.00. Trustee Pennington inquired about the warranty of the equipment; Trustee Higley stated the warranty would be 100%. Upon roll being called, all Trustees present voted "Aye." President declared said motion carried.

**WATER/SEWER:** No report. Trustee Pennington addressed the Brayton Street project and inquired about the curb and gutter. President Labash advised we didn't lose any curb, and the reason Brayton was deteriorating as it has is due to bus traffic.

**FINANCE:** No Report.

**PARK & RECREATION:** Trustee Hopkins addressed the renewal of the Oregon Park District agreement. This allows residents to attend Nash in Oregon and participate in activities and programs put on by the recreation center without having to pay non-resident fees. Trustee Hopkins moved, and Trustee Kolling seconded the motion to approve the annual contract with Oregon Park District Agreement for the period of June 1, 2022 – May 31, 2023. Upon roll being called, all Trustees present voted "Aye." President declared said motion carried.

Trustee Hopkins discussed the need for new mowing equipment and reviewed the current quotes and warranty information. Trustee Hopkins moved, and Trustee Pennington seconded the motion to purchase the 2019 Grasshopper mower from Peabody's in Sterling in the amount of \$17,500.00. Upon roll being called, all Trustees present voted "Aye." President declared said motion carried.

Trustee Hopkins advised DLR students were going to be out planting Red Oak trees on the south side of Dillehey, to replace trees damaged over the years. During their time, they will also clean out the various flower beds throughout the parks. President Labash inquired about the flower beds, if the Village will be planting, or if they will just clean them out. Trustee Hopkins advised Mary Jane Warkins has planted hostas in prior years. Mary Jane mentioned cutting back the trees in Mounder Park over the flower beds, and she would continue to volunteer working on the flower beds. President Labash advised to keep the flower beds low maintenance and weed free.

**POLICE DEPT:** Trustee Kolling reported that per Chief Cicchetti the police department has been cracking down on ordinance violations. President Labash advised he has a meeting scheduled with Trustee Stauffer, Casper Manheim and Chief Cicchetti regarding roles and responsibility of ordinance violations and enforcement.

**ORDINANCE:** Trustee Stauffer advised with the addition of the new Chief he's noticed a shift in the attitude of ordinance enforcement and that officer Wigton is hanging warning notices of ordinance violations. There is a nuisance property in town that is finally being demolished. Overall happy with code enforcement.

**PUBLIC PROPERTY:** Trustee Stauffer addressed the need for summer help and has made the decision to hire Micah Wehler after reviewing applications. Trustee Stauffer moved, and Trustee Hopkins seconded the motion to hire Micah Wehler for seasonal help for approximately 20 hours per week at a wage of \$12 to start on 5/16/22. Upon roll being called, all Trustees present voted "Aye." President declared said motion carried.

Trustee Stauffer addressed the HVAC system in the Village building and the need for it to be replaced. After an air quality analysis showed some rooms in the building didn't fare well it was realized the furnaces, were 26 years old. The money for this project will come out of ARPA funds. Trustee Stauffer received 4 quotes for replacement. After review he decided the quote from Loescher would be the best option. Trustee Stauffer moved, and Trustee Pennington seconded the motion to waive the bid process and purchase 4 furnace units and 5 air conditioners for Village Hall and award the project to Loescher Heating and Air Conditioning in the amount of \$35,180.00. Upon roll being called, including Village President, all Trustees present voted "Aye." President declared said motion carried.

Trustee Stauffer expressed the need for a utility vehicle for Village use. Trustee Stauffer moved, and Trustee Pennington seconded the motion to purchase the Cub Cadet M550 from Birkey's in Polo for the sum of \$9524.00 from Public Property Department. Upon roll being called, all Trustees present voted "Aye." President declared said motion carried.

Trustee Stauffer moved, and Trustee Kolling seconded to accept the agreement from the Kable Band as presented for the summer of 2022. Upon roll being called, all Trustees present voted "Aye." President declared said motion carried.

Trustee Stauffer commented that there are new memorial benches going up in the food serving area. Our employees will widen the concrete pad to 9.5 ft X 24 to the east. There will be four benches in total. One bench will be for Angie Ghibellini, and one bench will be for Phyliss Cunningham.

**CIVIL DEFENSE:** No Report.

**OLD BUSINESS:** No Report.

**NEW BUSINESS:** Dave Warkins came before the board about tar and chip seal and inquired as to why does the Village need to go through county for the bid process. Trustee Highly explained the process to satisfaction.

There being no further business to come before this Board. Trustee Stauffer moved and Trustee Rojas seconded the motion to adjourn the meeting at 8:08 PM. Upon roll being called all Trustees present voted "Aye." President declared said motion carried.

The next regular Village Board Meeting will be held on May 24, 2022, at 7:00 PM in the Village Board Room.

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Brooke Knight, Deputy Village Clerk

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Phil Lash Village President