

Minutes of the Regular Village Board Meeting Held July 11, 2023

The Board of Trustees of the Village of Mt. Morris met in Regular Session at 7:00 PM on July 11, 2023.

The Village President called the meeting to order and directed the Clerk to call the roll. Upon roll being called all Trustees present voted "Aye." President declared said motion carried.

Village Treasurer Present. Press Absent. Village Engineer Absent. Village Attorney Absent.

VISITORS: Chief Cicchetti, Ryan Fletcher, Dave and Mary Jane Warkins, Jeff Bold, Sylvia Saunders, Tiffany West, Kathrine Higley, Jorden Sasscer, Micky Tate, Rob Urish, Paula Diehl

MINUTES: Trustee Fay moved, and Trustee Roja seconded the motion to accept the June 27, 2023, minutes as presented. Upon roll being called all Trustees present voted "Aye." President declared said motion carried.

EXECUTIVE MINUTES: Trustee Rojas moved, and Trustee McConnell seconded the motion to accept the June 27, 2023, minutes as presented. Upon roll being called all Trustees present voted "Aye." President declared said motion carried.

TREASURER'S REPORT: Treasurer Sasscer read the treasurer's report as of June 30. Treasurer Sasscer shared that the Village received the first Property Tax Distribution at the end of June in the amount of \$439,000. Treasurer Sasscer also discussed TIF District 2's first payment was in the amount of \$148,000. President Labash asked Treasurer Sasscer to explain how the sale of Sullivan's Grocery will impact Property Tax and Sales Tax Revenue. Treasurer Sasscer stated the Village will have two months left on the budgeted economic tax incentive. The Village will save \$15,000 that normally would be paid out from the annual budget. Trustee Rojas moved to approve the Treasurer's report, Trustee Fay seconded the motion to approve the Treasurer's report. Upon roll being called all Trustees present voted "Aye." President declared said motion carried.

CURRENT BILLS: Deputy Clerk Stauffer read the current bills. Trustee Kolling moved, and Trustee Hopkins seconded the motion to accept the current bills as presented with the addition of the fountain clean up. Upon roll being called all Trustees present voted "Aye." President declared said motion carried.

PETITION & COMMUNICATION: Micky Tate addressed the Board with concerns of boats, UTV vehicles, and weeds in Village Resident yards. President Labash advised Trustee Fay to follow up with the addresses in question with help from the Village Code Enforcement Officer.

Mary Jane Warkins addressed the Board asking the responsibilities and duties of the Village Code Enforcement Officer. President Labash advised that the Village Code Enforcement Officer works with Mount Morris along with many other communities and is giving the Village much needed support. President Labash also stated the Village Police Officers are enforcing Code and Ordinance violations as well.

Tiffany West and Kathrine Higley from the Let Freedom Ring Committee addressed the Board thanking them and the community for all their help with the Fourth of July Celebration. They are eagerly planning their October Fall Festival. President Labash thanked the LFR Committee for a wonderful celebration and parade.

ADMINISTRATION: President Labash addressed the Board and the Public regarding the Memorial Fountain on the Campus, he then asked Paula Diehl to discuss the project. Paula Diehl addressed the Board and the Public stating that the Kohler Foundation has agreed to appraise and help complete the restoration of the Memorial Fountain. Heritage Restoration from Peoria will be completing the fountain with a projected start date later this summer. The hope is to have the fountain completely restored by 2026.

President Labash addressed the Board asking for a Motion to appoint Paula Diehl as the representative for the Village on the Ogle County Economic Development Board. Trustee Kolling moved, and Trustee McConnell seconded the motion to approve the appointment of Paula Diehl to the Ogle County Economic Development Board as a representative for Mount Morris. Upon roll being called all Trustees present voted "Aye." President declared said motion carried.

President Labash addressed the Board and the Public informing them that Jerry Stauffer has stepped down from the Mount Morris Museum. President Labash would like consideration for a Mount Morris Museum Committee and asked for the Board and Public to contact the Village if they are interested in joining the Committee.

STREET DEPT: Trustee Higley discussed a few updates; the chip sealing project to repair roads in town has been completed and IDOT has approved the repair project for Sunset Lane. The Open Bid will be on August 3 at 2pm in the Village Hall Board Room. That project is set to begin the first or second week of September. Lastly, the Street Department is still looking for a candidate for the Public Works position.

WATER/SEWER: No Report

POLICE DEPT: No Report

FINANCE: No Report

PARK & RECREATION: Trustee Hopkins moved to approve the Memorandum of Understanding between the Oregon Park District and the Village of Mount Morris, Trustee Fay seconded the motion. Upon roll being called all Trustees present voted "Aye." Trustee McConnell abstained. President declared said motion carried.

Trustee Hopkins updated the Board and the Public on the OSLAD Grant for Zickuhr Park. The Village is waiting on approval from the State of Illinois for the Grant. The Village will be holding a meeting August 1, at 6pm in the Board Room with Hitchcock to display plans for the park renovation.

ORDINANCE: No Report

PUBLIC PROPERTY: Trustee Fay updated the Board on the new sign on the Main Doors of Village Hall.

CIVIL DEFENSE: No Report.

OLD BUSINESS: No Report.

NEW BUSINESS: Chief Cicchetti gave an update on the camera installation project throughout the Village per the request of Trustee McConnell.

There being no further business to come before this Board. Trustee Fay moved, and Trustee Rojas seconded the motion to adjourn the meeting at 7:35 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 July 25, 2023, at 7:00 PM in the Village Board Room.

Ali Stauffer, Deputy Village Clerk

Phil Labash, Village President