

Minutes of the Regular Village Board Meeting Held July 9, 2024

The Board of Trustees of the Village of Mt. Morris met in Regular Session at 7:00 PM on July 9, 2024. The Village President called the meeting to order and directed the Clerk to call the roll. Upon roll being called Trustees Rojas, Kolling, McConnell, Higley, and Fay voted "Aye." President declared said motion carried. Trustee Rojas moved, and Trustee McConnell seconded the motion to excuse Trustee Hopkins. Upon roll being called all Trustees present voted "Aye". President declared said motion carried.

Village Treasurer Absent. Press Absent. Village Attorney Present.

VISITORS: Darlene Proeger, Sandra Stengel, Chad Stauffer, Larry Callant, John Finfrock, Paula Diehl, William Finney, Larry Jameson, Steve Gabrielson, Jeff Bold, Jordan Bresslar, Chief Cicchetti.

MINUTES: Trustee Fay moved, and Trustee Rojas seconded the motion to accept the June 25, 2024, minutes as presented. Upon roll being called all Trustees present voted "Aye". President declared said motion carried.

EXECUTIVE MINUTES:

TREASURER'S REPORT: No Report

CURRENT BILLS: Trustee Kolling moved, and Trustee McConnell seconded the motion to accept the current bills as presented with the addition of \$500 to the American Legion for new Flags, \$3000 to Boss Carpet for a deposit on carpet in the Clerk's office, and \$424 to Hidden Timber for mulch. Upon roll being called all Trustees present voted "Aye." President declared said motion carried.

PETITION & COMMUNICATION: Sandra Stengel presented a marketing update. She summarized Social Media Activity as it relates to advertising.

Amit Patel and William Finney presented to the Board and residents about iFiber being in town, and their work with Ogle County Economic Development Group. The next steps will come after approval from ComEd.

ADMINISTRATION:

CLOSE REGULAR SESSION: Trustee Kolling moved, and Trustee McConnell seconded the motion to close the regular session at 7:41 pm. Upon roll being called all Trustees present voted "Aye." President declared said motion carried.

PUBLIC HEARING: Trustee Rojas moved, and Trustee Kolling seconded the motion to open the Public Hearing at 7:42 pm to conduct a Public Hearing on Amendment No. 1 to Tax Increment Finance Campus Redevelopment Project Area Redevelopment Project and Plan. Upon roll being called all Trustees present voted "Aye." President declared said motion carried.

Attorney Lesage explained the legal process of adding property to the TIF District. The TIF Act requires notices, hearings, publications, and meetings. There were no further questions, comments, or discussions.

RECONVENE REGULAR SESSION: Trustee McConnell moved, and Trustee Rojas seconded the motion to open the regular session at 7:54 PM. Upon roll being called all Trustees present voted "Aye." President declared said motion carried.

STREET DEPT: Trustee Higley reported to the Board that the Village Street Department is going to start working on various sidewalks throughout town. The seal coating of the alleys is complete. The Village will handle mowing the terrace on the south side of Sunset.

Trustee Higley reports that the terrace issue will be addressed by the engineering company in the next few weeks.

President Labash commended Village Employees and Board Members on helping to facilitate the Let Freedom Ring festival and all the changes that were made this year.

WATER/SEWER: Trustee McConnell updated the Board that he continues to meet with Fehr Graham to address the concerns about the Sunset Project. Work continues on the Lead Line Inventory.

POLICE DEPT: Trustee Kolling moved, and Trustee Rojas seconded the motion to enter Executive Session, at the end of the Regular Session for the purpose of considering the appointment, employment, compensation, discipline, performance, or dismissal of a specific employee pursuant to Section 2 (c)(1). Upon roll being called all Trustees present voted "Aye." President declared said motion carried. Chief Cicchetti promoted the National Night Out in Mt. Morris on Tuesday, August 6th from 5 PM-8 PM there will be bounce houses, food, treats, and fun. Trustee Kolling reports that all the body cams are up and operational.

FINANCE: No Report.

PARK & RECREATION: President Labash mentioned a recent meeting he had with Oregon School District Superintendent Caposey, Mike Lawton, and Heidi Deininger. During the meeting, it was discussed about the school increasing its presence in Mt. Morris. Some ideas include JV Boys Baseball utilizing Dillehay as their primary practice field. The Baseball team would maintain the field and purchase temporary fencing and host some home games. Girls Softball would continue to play 2-3 games in Mt. Morris regularly. Jr. High Basketball team would play a home game at the Coliseum. Businesses in Mt. Morris would be included in Homecoming activities such as window painting and participation in the Homecoming Parade. Early in the season, the High School Band would hold a concert at the Bandshell in town, and the High School Choir would do carols during the Christmas on the Square event.

ORDINANCE: No Report.

PUBLIC PROPERTY: Trustee Fay reports that American Concrete Care has finished the basement flooring, looking to redo the voting room flooring next year. Drozd Painting has re-stained the Freedom Bell. Dixon Glass is going to fix the Voting Entrance door for roughly \$1,500.00. The deposit for Boss Carpet One will be sent and that will secure the Village's spot on their schedule.

END REGULAR SESSION: Trustee Rojas moved, and Trustee Fay seconded the motion to end the regular session at 8:16 PM. Upon roll being called all Trustees present voted "Aye." President declared said motion carried.

RECONVENE REGULAR SESSION: Trustee Kolling moved, and Trustee Fay seconded the motion to reconvene the regular session at 8:35 PM. Upon roll being called all Trustees present voted "Aye." President declared said motion carried.

OLD BUSINESS: Trustee Kolling moved, and Trustee McConnell seconded the motion to approve the MOU with the Police Union. Upon roll being called all Trustees present voted "Aye." President declared said motion carried.

NEW BUSINESS:

There being no further business to come before this Board. Trustee Rojas moved, and Trustee Fay seconded the motion to adjourn the meeting at 8:36 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 23, 2024, at 7:00 PM in the Village Board Room.

Brooke Duffy, Village Clerk

Phil Labash, Village President