

Minutes of the Regular Village Board Meeting Held January 14, 2025

The Board of Trustees of the Village of Mt. Morris met in Regular Session at 7:00 PM on January 14, 2025. The Village President called the meeting to order and directed the Clerk to call the roll. Upon roll being called Trustees Rojas, Kolling, Higley, Fay, and McConnell voted "Aye." President declared said motion carried.

Trustee Rojas moved, and Trustee McConnell seconded the motion to excuse Trustee Hopkins. Upon the roll being called, all Trustees present voted "Aye." The president declared said motion carried.

Village Treasurer Absent. Press Absent. Village Attorney Absent.

VISITORS: Ryan Fletcher, Dave & Mary Jane Warkins, Jeff Bold, Chief Cicchetti, Denise Cheek, Sylvia Saunders, Jeff Stauter – Kreider Services, Andy Shaw, Constellation Energy Visitors – Paul Dempsey, Ryan Tozer, Bob Bolek, Allan Charles, Shane Harvey.

MINUTES: Trustee Rojas moved, and Trustee Fay seconded the motion to accept the December 10, 2024, Minutes as presented. Upon the roll being called, all Trustees present voted "Aye." The president declared said motion carried.

EXECUTIVE MINUTES: Trustee Fay moved, and Trustee McConnell seconded the motion to accept the December 10, 2024, Executive Minutes as presented. Upon the roll being called, all Trustees present voted "Aye." The president declared said motion carried.

TREASURER'S REPORT: Trustee Kolling moved, and Trustee Fay seconded the motion to accept the Treasurers Report as presented. Upon the roll being called, all Trustees present voted "Aye." The president declared said motion carried.

Trustee Rojas reminded Trustees to start thinking about budget items.

CURRENT BILLS: Trustee Rojas moved, and Trustee Fay seconded the motion to accept the Current Bills as presented. Upon the roll being called, all Trustees present voted "Aye." The president declared said motion carried.

PETITION & COMMUNICATION: Mary Jane Warkins inquired about the replacement of the signs coming into town from the east and west. Trustee Fay responded that he has been looking at businesses that could oversee the project. At this point most landscape companies are closed for the season, the project fund allotment could roll over into the new budget.

ADMINISTRATION: Andy Shaw from Lee Ogle Enterprise Zone came before the Board to request approval of Ordinances Amending the Lee Ogle Enterprise Zone. Ordinance 25-01 amending Ordinance 01-02-18 Amendment 16 to Addendum A is regarding rural Lee County involving camp grounds in the area. Investors are looking to add entertainment to that area by building a facility or facilities for golfing, go-carting, bowling and various other entertainments. This will open up roughly 20 jobs within the facilities.

Ordinance 25-02 amending Ordinance 01-02-18 Amendment 17 to Addendum A is regarding rural Ogle County just outside of Oregon at HA International. HA International intends to bring in production to manufacture "Feeders". This product is already manufactured at an Ohio plant, but will be relocated to HA International in Oregon, and will create approximately 17 new jobs.

Ordinance 25-03 amending Ordinance 01-02-18 Amendment 18 to Addendum A is in reference to Constellation Energy. Ryan Tozer – Manager of Government Affairs along with Plant Manager Shane Harvey, and Project Managers Allan Charles and Bob Bolek, spoke about the project they are looking to complete. They are replacing 6 low pressure turbines, 2 high pressure turbines, and do electrical system improvements to be completed by 2029.

Trustee Hopkins arrived at the meeting.

Trustee Rojas moved, and Trustee Fay seconded the motion to approve Ordinance 25-01 an Ordinance Amending Ordinance 01-02-18 Amendment 16 to Addendum A and Ordinance Amending Lee Ogle Enterprise Zone Boundary. Upon the roll being called, all Trustees present voted “Aye.” The president declared said motion carried.

Trustee Rojas moved, and Trustee Fay seconded the motion to approve Ordinance 25-02 an Ordinance Amending Ordinance 01-02-18 Amendment 17 to Addendum A and Ordinance Amending Lee Ogle Enterprise Zone Boundary. Upon the roll being called, all Trustees present voted “Aye.” The president declared said motion carried.

Trustee Hopkins moved, and Trustee Rojas seconded the motion to approve Ordinance 25-03 an Ordinance Amending Ordinance 01-02-18 Amendment 18 to Addendum A and Ordinance Amending Lee Ogle Enterprise Zone Boundary. Upon the roll being called, all Trustees present voted “Aye.” The president declared said motion carried.

Jeff Stauter from Kreider Services addressed the Board about updates they made at the suggestion of Chief Hough regarding the Hill Street Project. Jeff also commented that they have been working diligently to ensure the standards and requirements for the housing project can be met. The initial phase will include rental property managed by the Not-for-Profit group. Phase 2 of the project will include market rate housing.

Trustee Kolling moved, and Trustee McConnell seconded the motion to approve Ordinance 25-04 an Ordinance Authorizing the Approval of Tentative Plat of Hill Street Neighborhood Subdivision Pursuant to the Petition of Hill Street Neighborhood NFP. Upon the roll being called, all Trustees present voted “Aye.” The president declared said motion carried.

STREET DEPT: Trustee Higley reports that the two trucks sold for \$33,775.00 collectively. Public Works department would like to burn off the lagoon. Village Trustees discussed that they agree this is the best course.

WATER/SEWER: Trustee McConnell reports that he received an email from Fehr Graham, it appears the Village will be receiving the EPA Water Permit for the Sunset Lane Project towards the end of next week. This is looking hopeful that the Village will be on the EPA Intended Funding List.

POLICE DEPT: Trustee Kolling read the Press Release from Chief Cicchetti regarding the Police Departments recent search warrant and results.

FINANCE: Trustee Rojas reminded the Trustees to start thinking about projects for the new year and budget.

PARK & RECREATION: No Report.

ORDINANCE: No Report.

PUBLIC PROPERTY: Trustee Fay reports he met with an electrician; he will start working on the Police Department in the next few weeks. Rockford Tech will be able to update the system for the key cards. Trustee Fay mentioned the leased light displays and that it was a success working with the company, the intention is to increase funding in the budget for next year and lease additional displays for the three year period.

OLD BUSINESS:

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 7:37 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 January 28, 2025, at 7:00 PM in the Village Board Room.

Brooke Duffy, Village Clerk

Phil Labash, Village President