

Morley Village Regular Council Meeting

MINUTES

189 S Cass St (Village Hall)

August 12, 2024

APPROVED MINUTES

CALL TO ORDER: at 7:00 PM by President Petersen

Present: Henry Petersen, President; Linda Kizer, Trustee; Austin Korpala, Trustee; Sandra Leal, Trustee; Serine Petersen, Trustee; Paul Block, Trustee; Terry Stilson, Clerk/Deputy Treasurer; Abbey Kooiman, Treasurer/Deputy Clerk.

Absent: Steve Weed, Trustee.

Guests: Gene Lawler, Chase Johnson, Michelle Lewis, Dana Myers, and Teresa O'Neil.

PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE

PUBLIC MATTERS AND COMMENTS: None.

ADDITIONS TO AGENDA: Kizer added "Leftover Event Items" to Events & Festivals.

CONSENT AGENDA: Korpala motioned to accept the consent agenda, as presented, with Block's support. Motion Passed unanimously.

Roll call vote: Yes – H. Petersen, Leal, Block, S. Petersen, Kizer, Korpala.

COMMITTEE REPORTS:

Administration & Finance:

- **Monies Reserved for dam repair** – Stilson reported that the past several years, monies have been budgeted for dam repair but hasn't been used to date. Since the dam will not be repaired again this year, she wondered whether the Council would like to put the monies into a CD to gain better returns. She estimated \$100,000 that has been reserved and not used. **Korpala motioned to put \$100,000 into a seven-month CD at 5.05%. Block supported the motion. Motion passed unanimously.**

Roll call vote: Yes – H. Petersen, Leal, Block, S. Petersen, Kizer, Korpala.

Police, Fire & Rescue:

- **Ordinance Officer** – Chase Johnson was previously interviewed by H. Petersen, Leal and Stilson. It was opened to the remainder of the Council to ask questions. Johnson provided some background information and experience. **Korpala motioned to hire Johnson as Village Ordinance Officer, dependent on background check, at 10-15 hours a week beginning at \$15.00 an hour and after 60 days \$15.50 an hour. Kizer supported the motion. Motion passed unanimously.**

Roll call vote: Yes – H. Petersen, Leal, Block, S. Petersen, Kizer, Korpala.

- Stilson stated that he would probably need a new uniform because the previous officer was a different size. Myers stated that they get uniforms from West Michigan Uniforms for a monthly fee. She will send the info to Stilson.

- **Fire Department report** – Lawler provided the Council with the June and July Fire Department report. He also stated that the DOJ is doing more investigation into the former Fire Chief's death and paperwork will need to be signed by the Fire Department and Village.

Streets & Sidewalks:

- H. Petersen stated he is seeking bids for drain work near 4th Street and Scott Street.

Events & Festivals:

- **Attorney Response – funding events** – the Village attorney emailed a determination that it is illegal for the village to provide funding for events like the Fall Festival, Christmas event, and monies to the Community Center or other nonprofits for events.

- **Leftover Event Items** – Kizer asked about the leftover crafts and games she has from past events. The consensus of the Council was that they did not want to store these since there may not be events like these in the future. The popcorn popper will remain the property of the Village, but H. Petersen told Kizer the Community Center can use it.
- The question about funding street Christmas decorations was raised and Stilson will look into this.

Millpond & Dam:

- **Updated Drawdown Application** – Stilson reported that she has sent in the revised Drawdown Application and is waiting to hear from the DEQ about it. She has talked to them and they thought the Village would not have to do the mussel survey.

Parks & Recreation:

- **Latimer Park bathrooms** – H. Petersen reported that Ron Irwin has had the door openings cut wider for the Latimer bathroom doors and will be working on finishing them.
- **Park Plan** – Stilson reported that she contacted the DNR about the Park Plan and they said they will not be reviewing it until this fall. They will send their changes and revisions, if any. Stilson stated that the Council needs to be thinking about what they want to submit for a grant proposal because it will be opening this winter.

Building, Grounds, Equipment & Employees: None.

Health & Safety: None.

Celebration on the Pond:

- Myers reported that the COP events on July 9-11 went well but fewer than expected participants were there. There was some vandalism by youth. She also provided next year’s letter of intent.
 - Kizer asked that the drivers not throw out candy to the children during the truck parade. She thought this was too dangerous. Myers responded that she will tell the drivers.
 - Myers asked about having a permanent COP sign on the corner of Cass and 6th Streets. H. Petersen stated that he did not want one on his property but they could use the side of the road. It was mentioned that the sign could be inserted on the Stop sign but some thought this would be illegal. Stilson will look into this.

UNFINISHED BUSINESS: None.

NEW BUSINESS: None.

PUBLIC QUESTIONS AND COMMENTS: None.

ADJOURNMENT: H. Petersen adjourned the meeting at 7:43 PM.

Respectfully submitted,
 Terry Stilson,
 Village of Morley Clerk