

Morley Village Regular Council Meeting

MINUTES

189 S Cass St (Village Hall)

August 14, 2023

APPROVED MINUTES

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

Present: Henry Petersen, President; Sandra Leal, Trustee; Paul Block, Trustee; Tim Baker, Trustee; Austin Korpala, Trustee; Terry Stilson, Clerk/Deputy Treasurer; Nancy Martin, Treasurer/Deputy Clerk.

Absent: Linda Kizer, Trustee; Serine Petersen, Trustee.

Guests: Chad Leal, Tammy Gunn, Dana Myers, Tiffani Prescott, Katrina Harkes, Teresa O'Neil, Shaun Scraggs, Katlyn Korpala and Shane Shaw.

PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE

PUBLIC MATTERS AND COMMENTS:

Celebration on the Pond (COP) – Myers provided the Village with a Letter of Intent for 2024 calendar year and a copy of their insurance. She stated that the car show had double the number of cars from last year and the light parade around 65 trucks. Since there was concern about security, they had about 7 or 8 security people who walked around the grounds. They also have drone footage that they will share on Facebook. The ball tournament had eight teams participating. They have a truck pull planned for October.

Morley Dam – Shaw distributed a handout “Morley Dam Overview” and stated he would like to put together a couple solution options for dam repair and dredging and assist in locating outside monies/grants. Shaw stated that he is interested in seeing electricity generated again by the dam and provided an illustration of the equipment that may be used. He will draft a Letter of Intent that the Village can review and sign but would like to see it signed as soon as possible. H. Petersen stated that there could be a special meeting called to approve it.

ADDITIONS TO AGENDA: None.

CONSENT AGENDA: Korpala motioned to accept the consent agenda as presented, and Block supported the motion. Motion passed unanimously.

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

COMMITTEE REPORTS:

Administration & Finance:

— **King & King Contract** – Korpala motioned to approve the audit contract with Baker supporting the motion. Motion passed unanimously.

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

Police, Fire & Rescue:

— **Morley Police** – Korpala stated that he would like to see the Village contract with the County for a policeman. He has talked with Sheriff Miller and Miller stated he would check it out. Korpala also talked with FSU. He stated that he would like to advertise on Indeed and put the wages at \$21 an hour at 20 hours a week.

○ Block replied that our current budget wouldn't be enough for this.

○ Stilson stated that S. Petersen could not find on Facebook how to post a job and Stilson has provided FSU Police Academy with an Ordinance Officer job description as was done last year.

○ O'Neil added that the Village may be able to obtain sponsorship through a Michigan Works grant from DOJ.

○ A millage was discussed. H. Petersen stated he didn't see the Village approving one. Baker stated that he will go door to door and talk to residents about a millage and report back at the next meeting.

— **Fire Department Proposal** – Korpala asked whether the Village would want to join the two townships and take more responsibility for the Fire Department. The benefit would be that the three entities will have more control over the

Fire Department and the Chief would work with the three entities. The Chief would hire and fire but would have to report to the three entities. Korpall reminded everyone about the meeting with the attorney and townships on September 20 at 7:00 PM at Aetna Township.

Streets & Sidewalks:

- **Village Hall Back Door** – H. Petersen stated that the back door of the Village Hall has been unlocked twice in the last few months. If anyone uses that door they need to make sure it is locked.
- **Sidewalk** – H. Petersen provided three bids for the sidewalk removal and installation. **Korpall made a motion to approve the Wright Crete bid of \$29,562 for tear out and new cement. Baker supported the motion. Motion passed unanimously.**

Roll call vote: Yes – H. Petersen, Leal, Block, Baker, Korpall.

- Baker asked about the possibility of having his youth group paint the curbs with the Village paying for supplies. H. Petersen replied to get with him and it could be done.

Events & Festivals: None.

Millpond & Dam:

- **Drawdown Millpond update** – Stilson reported that the DNR now wants to know how much sediment would go downstream of the pond with a full drawdown. The engineer will provide the Village with the figure.
- **Millpond Dredging CD** – **Baker made the motion to rollover the CD that will mature into a 15 month CD at 4.75% interest. Block supported the motion. Motion passed unanimously.**

Roll call vote: Yes – H. Petersen, Leal, Block, Baker, Korpall.

Parks & Recreation:

- **DNR Tree Grant** – Stilson reported that \$4030 from the tree grant has been received.
 - H. Petersen stated that one of the trees planted in the spring by the dam had been pushed over by someone and he replanted it on this day.

Building, Grounds, Equipment & Employees:

- **Picnic Tables** – H. Petersen stated that Mecosta County gave eight used picnic tables to the Village.
- **Maintenance Worker** – Korpall stated that he would like to have the maintenance worker at full time with benefits. Stilson replied that the former maintenance worker had asked numerous times for more hours, but the Council refused. The former maintenance worker was also doing all the mowing and plowing. The budget will be reviewed and more discussion at the next meeting.

Health & Safety: None.

Celebration on the Pond:

- **Drinking at Events** (continued discussion from previous meeting) – Myers stated that the COP does not sell alcohol and they have been monitoring it. H. Petersen stated that he had heard no complaints after the last event.

UNFINISHED BUSINESS:

- **Marihuana Revisited** – Korpall distributed a draft marihuana ordinance for the Council’s review and discussion at the next meeting. He would also like to see all new businesses apply and pay a fee to start a business within the Village.
- **Geodome** – Tabled.

NEW BUSINESS: None.

PUBLIC QUESTIONS AND COMMENTS:

ADJOURNMENT: H. Petersen adjourned the meeting at 8:45 PM.

Respectfully submitted, Terry Stilson, Village of Morley Clerk