

Morley Village Regular Council Meeting

**MINUTES**

189 S Cass St (Village Hall)

September 11, 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; Linda Kizer, Trustee; Serine Petersen, Trustee; Terry Stilson, Clerk/Deputy Treasurer; Nancy Martin, Treasurer/Deputy Clerk.

**Absent:** None.

**Guests:** Ashlee & Juan Feliciano, Chad Leal, Dana Myers, Tiffani Prescott, Katrina Harkes, Katie Hatcher, Teresa O'Neil, Katlyn Korpala and Michelle Lewis.

**PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE**

**PUBLIC MATTERS AND COMMENTS:**

**Festival** – Ashlee Feliciano asked whether she could have a Halloween Festival in the parking lot across from the stores on October 28 from 5:00 to 8:00. There would be trunk or treat, food truck, etc. Consensus of the Council was that it was okay.

**ADDITIONS TO AGENDA:** Stilson added Street Marking bid.

**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, Kizer, S. Petersen.

**COMMITTEE REPORTS:**

**Administration & Finance:**

- **Blight Ordinance Addition** – Stilson explained that there have been problems with people living in campers and trailers in Village backyards and putting their runoff on the ground. After complaints, she called the Health Department about one incident, and they gave the property owners a letter stating that they needed to rectify the situation in 30 days. The Health Department told Stilson that it would be better for the Village to have an ordinance against living in backyards and then people could be fined and prosecuted. The current Blight Ordinance has “tents, shelters, canopies and tarps” but nothing about trailers. Language added to the Ordinance follows: “(G) *Temporary Living Quarters – Recreational vehicles including motor homes, tiny homes, travel trailers, fifth wheels, and popup campers may not be used as permanent living quarters within the Village of Morley. Temporary use of the aforementioned vehicles of thirty (30) days or less per resident in one calendar year is permitted. Any temporary use of the aforementioned vehicles will need proper hookups to water and sewer or be self-contained. The exception to this restriction is Mecosta Pines Campground and any other campground the Village of Morley Council deems authorized.*” **Korpala motioned to accept this addition to the Blight Ordinance with Baker’s support. Motion passed unanimously.**

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

**Police, Fire & Rescue:**

- **Fire Department** – Korpala stated that the Fire Department received a grant for \$30,000 for equipment.
- **Morley Police** – Korpala stated that he realizes there is no extra money for a full time policeman in Morley. He has talked to some residents about a millage and some were not opposed.
- **Meeting with Attorney** – A joint meeting with Aetna and Deerfield Townships will be held on September 20 at 7:00 PM at Aetna Township concerning the Fire Department.

### Streets & Sidewalks:

- **Trash Bids** – Stilson reported that the current trash contract will expire on January 30, 2024. She distributed the original bid proposal to the Council that had been sent out six years ago. **S. Petersen motioned to distribute the bid proposal to refuse services for the upcoming three-year term. Block supported the motion. Motion passed unanimously.**

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

- **Street Markings** – **Baker motioned to accept the PK Contracting paint street marking bid on Third, Fourth, and East Streets for \$3,966.00. Korpall supported the motion. Motion passed unanimously.**

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

H. Petersen stated that he doesn't want the side parking line to be painted on Fourth Street.

### Events & Festivals:

- **Fall Festival** – Kizer reported that the Fall Festival will be held on October 14 from 3:30 to 5:30 PM at the Morley Community Center and as a kickoff to the Haunted Halls which will be held October 14, 21 and 28 from 7:00 to 10:00 PM and Tuesday, October 31 from 7:00 to 9:00 PM.
- **Visit with Santa** – Kizer stated that past Santa Visits have been held on Friday nights and was wondering whether it would be better to have it held on a Saturday. The consensus was that it was okay to have it on Saturday. It will be held on December 9.

### Millpond & Dam:

- **Drawdown Millpond update** – Stilson reported that the DNR now wants sediment samples taken if the pond will be completely drawn down. H. Petersen is waiting for a company to return his call who could put steel pilings in and repairs could be made without a complete drawdown.
- **Millpond Treatment** – PLM had emailed and asked whether the Village wanted to treat the Eurasian watermilfoil they found in their latest survey. The consensus was that it was too late in the year to have additional treatments to the Pond.
- **LOI from Shane Shaw** – Baker stated that he had received the LOI from Shaw the same day of this meeting. He will forward it to the Council.

### Parks & Recreation:

- **Geodome** – **Korpall motioned to approve Tom Burden's bid of \$2700 to \$3000 for installing the Geodome in Latimer Park using Covid monies. We will check to see if he could use the cement already purchased by the Village. Baker supported the motion. Motion passed unanimously.**

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

### Building, Grounds, Equipment & Employees:

- **Review Budget** – Stilson distributed the current budget and stated that she and Martin have reviewed it and cannot see where the Village could pay for a full time policemen and full time maintenance worker.

### Health & Safety: None.

### Celebration on the Pond:

- **Review COP Contract** – Stilson asked whether a statement stating that a key or combination to locks on the gate be furnished to the Village in case of emergency to access the property. Discussion followed. Kizer asked whether it would help COP if we received payments quarterly. We received an affirmative answer. **Kizer motioned to add the verbiage to the Agreement and add quarterly \$1625 payments due October 1, January 1, April 1 and July 1. Block supported the motion. Motion passed unanimously.**

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

### UNFINISHED BUSINESS:

- **Marihuana Revisited** – Korpall distributed a draft marihuana ordinance for the Council's review in August. Kizer asked why not recreational? That will be added. Stilson had a number of edits. Korpall will incorporate the edits and distribute to the Council for approval in October.
  - Stilson will contact MML to see what needs to be done, if anything, with the State to opt back in.

**NEW BUSINESS:** None.

**PUBLIC QUESTIONS AND COMMENTS:**

— Lewis stated that the police department needs to be funded. There are people in the park after dark. Korpala stated that Shane Shaw has a constable that the Village could use. He will research the issue.

**ADJOURNMENT:** H. Petersen adjourned the meeting at 8:49 PM.

Respectfully submitted,  
Terry Stilson,  
Village of Morley Clerk