

Morley Village Regular Council Meeting

MINUTES

189 S Cass St (Village Hall)

March 11, 2024

APPROVED MINUTES

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

Present: Henry Petersen, President; Sandra Leal, Trustee; Serine Petersen, Trustee; Austin Korpall, Trustee; Paul Block, Trustee; Terry Stilson, Clerk/Deputy Treasurer.

Absent: Linda Kizer, Trustee; Abbey Kooiman, Treasurer/Deputy Clerk

Guests: Michelle Lewis, Juan & Ashlee Feliciano, Eric Simon, Katrina Harkes, Chad Leal, Gene Lawler, Dana Myers, Chad Leal, and Steve Weed.

PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE

H. Petersen stated that, because the meetings have become unruly, the following guidelines will be expected.

- The public will only speak during the Public times in the agenda.
- When recognized, the person will step to the podium, state their name, and then proceed to give their comments.
- In the past the Council has been accused of breaking a law. If you feel that way, please provide a copy of the law that you feel is being broken and provide it before the meeting so Council members can review it and discuss it with some knowledge.

PUBLIC MATTERS AND COMMENTS:

- Ashlee Feliciano stated she still has concerns about her well water and the cow pasture nearby. She provided a copy of the Village ordinance and State zoning laws. She is concerned about the waste getting into her water. She was asked whether she had had her water tested and she replied no. H. Petersen said he has had his water tested and it has come back okay. Feliciano asked for a copy of the test and H. Petersen replied he will look it up and provide it.
- Eric Simon stated that according to the Michigan Open Meeting Act minutes need to be posted. Stilson replied that the minutes are posted in the Village kiosk and on the Village website. She added that if he sent her an email requesting them, she would provide them to him via email as well.

New Village Council Member – H. Petersen stated that we have a Village resident, Steven Weed, interested in becoming a Councilman. **Korpall motioned to appoint Steven Weed on the Council and Leal supported the motion. The motion passed unanimously.**

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

Stilson swore in Steve Weed as Council member.

CONSENT AGENDA: Stilson stated that the Treasurer’s report is not contained in this month’s Consent Agenda but two months will be provided next month. **S. Petersen motioned to accept the consent agenda as presented, and Block supported the motion. Motion passed unanimously.**

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

COMMITTEE REPORTS:

Administration & Finance:

- **Approve 2024-25 Budget Resolution** – Korpall motioned to approve the 2024-25 Budget Resolution as presented. Block supported the motion. Motion passed unanimously.

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

- **Resolution for Payments** – Stilson stated that a vendor company for our fuel payments has been changed so this original 2011 resolution should be amended again. **S. Petersen motioned to accept the Amended Resolution for Payments with Block’s support. Motion passed unanimously.**

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

- **Hired Employee Raise** – Stilson provided the Council with a copy of the Consumer Price Index for 2023. **Block motioned to adjust employee wages by 3.4% beginning April 1. Leal supported the motion. Motion passed unanimously.**

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

- **Household Hazardous Waste Collection** – will be held on August 1, 2024 from 2:00 to 6:00 PM at Chippewa Hills. **S. Petersen motioned to provide the HHW with \$150 and Block supported the motion. Motion passed unanimously.**

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

- **Purchasing Policy** – Stilson stated that Village Council policies will be reviewed next month and whether or not a Purchasing Policy should be added. Korpala stated he would like to see any expenditure over \$10,000 approved by the Council. More discussion will be given at next month's meeting.
- **Insurance** – MML has provided a breakdown of insurance costs for the upcoming year. **Kopala motioned to keep MML as the Village insurance carrier with S. Petersen's support. Motion passed unanimously.**

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

- S. Petersen stated she would like to look for other options every three to five years.

Police, Fire & Rescue:

- **Ordinance Officer & Police Positions** – It was decided that none of the applicants for the Police position was qualified. Interviews for Ordinance Officer will be held in the near future.
- **Fire Department** – Gene Lawler reported that in February the Morley Fire Department conducted seven rescue runs for a total of 13 hours and six fire runs which totaled more than 80 hours.
 - S. Petersen stated that there needs to be training for all Fire Departments using the Village pump system. Lawler replied that that will be done this spring. They will contact the maintenance worker with the date and time.
 - H. Petersen stated that there are three fire hydrants that need addressing.

Streets & Sidewalks:

- **Sidewalks** – Korpala stated there are sidewalks that need to be addressed. He and H. Petersen will get together and discuss.

Events & Festivals: None.

Millpond & Dam:

- **Operation & Maintenance Procedures (for dam) and Dam Emergency Plan** – Stilson stated that she only updated the phone numbers in the Operation Procedures and updated the phone numbers and a couple entries in the Emergency Plan. **Korpala motioned to accept the Operation & Maintenance Procedures and Emergency Action Plan as amended. Block supported the motion. Motion passed unanimously.**

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

Parks & Recreation:

- **Park Plan Survey Review** – Stilson provided the Survey compilation with 48 respondents. The next step is to make it available for public review which can be done on the Village website, Facebook page, and a notice in the April newsletter. Hard copies can also be made available.

Building, Grounds, Equipment & Employees: None.

Health & Safety: None.

Celebration on the Pond:

- A response from the Village insurance carrier had been distributed to the COP earlier stating that an additional Liquor Liability license would be required. Myers stated that they will probably run off Moe-Z's or the Legion's liquor license and who would supply their own bartenders. They will just be selling beer. She stated that the COP will just try it out at one event first and a request to the County Sheriff's Office has been made for more patrol cars.
 - S. Petersen stated that the State Police could be contacted and will provide their contacts.

- Myers added that the food truck rally that was planned will probably not happen. She wondered about one at Kinney Park during the COP and will have more discussion on this topic. Stilson will send her the vendor license application used in 2019. A Test & Tune will be held in June and Monster Trucks in July. She will send Stilson the information about the event that will have a beer tent when it is known.

UNFINISHED BUSINESS:

- **Marihuana Ordinance – Korpall motioned to accept the Marihuana Ordinance and the forms created for that purpose. S. Petersen supported the motion. Motion passed with five yes and one abstention.**

Roll call vote: Yes – H. Petersen, Leal, Korpall, Block, S. Petersen. Abstain – Weed.

NEW BUSINESS: None.

PUBLIC QUESTIONS AND COMMENTS:

- Michelle Lewis asked that it be added in the April newsletter that hard copies of the Park Plan can be picked up at the office. She also asked what category the insurance was paid from. Stilson responded that it was paid for in the Administration Fund (General Fund).
- Ashlee Feliciano asked whether taxes would be charged for businesses selling marihuana. Korpall replied no. Stilson replied that probably the business would be charged more property tax than is now being charged.
 - Feliciano also asked about sidewalks in the business area. She had a client trip on the sidewalk in front of her building. H. Petersen stated the sidewalks on Cass Street are MDOT's responsibility.
 - Feliciano also stated she is concerned about her water and the County ordinance states that only three animals can be at each residence. S. Petersen stated that the Council will review the matter.
- Dana Myers asked about more handicap accessible areas along the business area. H. Petersen stated that the State has constructed the required number of areas already. S. Petersen stated if a business wanted more then they would need to construct them themselves.
 - Korpall said he has had a complaint about the visibility (from Third Street) concerning Moe-Z's parking lot. H. Petersen replied that nothing can be done without losing a large part of their parking lot.

ADJOURNMENT: H. Petersen adjourned the meeting at 8:20 PM.

Respectfully submitted,
Terry Stilson,
Village of Morley Clerk