

**MORGANTOWN TOWN COUNCIL MEETING  
HELD MARCH 14, 2022**

**Attendance**

The meeting was called to order by the President, Penny Anderson. Council member, Terry Poindexter led the Pledge of Allegiance. Present were Council President, Penny Anderson, Council member, Walter Abbott, Council member, Courtney Allen, and Council member Terry Poindexter. Absent was Council member, Vern Snyder.

Also present were; Town Marshal, Ryan Swank, DPW, Kyle Rooks, and Clerk Treasurer, Sharon McIntosh. Absent was the Town Attorney, Lee Robbins.

**Appointment to the Morgantown Planning & Zoning Board**

The Council President made appointments to the Planning and Zoning Board as follows; Jason Allen replaces Steve Rose, Dylan Miller replaces, Steve Hickman, Jeff Connors and Walter Abbott will serve another 4 years, Terry Poindexter will serve through 2022, and Chanda Gatton will serve through the end of this year, 2022.

**Uses for the ARP Funds**

The Council did discuss the ARP Funds even though the Town Attorney was not present. The Clerk Treasurer's understanding was the money was strictly for Water and Waste Water projects or Broadband. Council member, Courtney Allen was hoping to use some of the ARP funds for the Playground equipment.

DPW, Kyle Rooks he too was interested in using some of the ARP Fund for various projects. He explained that nothing has been maintain for years so now the Town is having to spend a great deal of money on the pumps and the Wells. Kyle also said he is interested in purchasing a used VAC truck for the department. There was a discussion about the pros and cons of the Town purchasing a VAC truck.

Council member, Courtney Allen explained that Daniel Elliott is interested in coming to the Council and discussing Broadband. Town Marshall, Ryan Swank reported that Daniel Elliott is on a Morgan County committee called "Rural Development" and one of things their committee is looking at it is the Internet /Broadband.

Kyle said the Town had a Hot Patch machine but it was very old and he was also interested in looking at a Leaf Vac where residents could rake their leaves to the end of their yard and the Town would pick them up. Storm drains get covered with leaves and stop the flow of water to

AT&T does have a monopoly on this issue. The Town Hall internet is slow and every kid has homework using a computer. Ryan suggested that possible slowness with the internet speed could be because AT&T does not maintain their equipment. The internet speed at the Town Hall does not match the speed the legislation view of broadband.

Ryan introduced two new Reserve Officers, Shannon Scott and Cody Lindsey.

Clean up day is April 30<sup>th</sup>. The Lion's Club is going to provide trash bags and gloves.

Second Deputy John Bise's last date is March 21<sup>st</sup>. The Town Marshall went over the hiring process with the council. Ryan will advertise and take applications till April 10<sup>th</sup>.

### **DPW Report**

DPW Kyle Rooks asked for approval to have Well #2 cleaned, replace the pump and a pipe for \$13,721.00. Council member, Council member Walter Abbott made a motion and Council member, Terry Poindexter seconded the motion. All members voted in favor of the motion.

There was a discussion about where the reserve vehicle is parked, who owns the property and if gravel could be put down.

### **PUBLIC COMMENTS**

John Gatton said he is running for Council this year. There was an issue with Daniel Elliott the Republican chairman with John running as a Republican so he is running as an Independent.

There was a discussion about the Buffer Zone and if the Town still handles the permits in that area. There are no benefits for handling the permits in the 2-mile buffer zone. The Town does not receive property tax income from the Buffer Zone or are those residents in the buffer zone considered part of the Town.

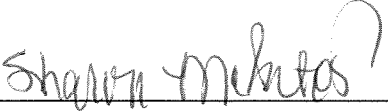
John Joe Blevins said the Town should be able to exercise the tax authority over them because the state says if you have authority in your jurisdiction, you have the authority over that jurisdiction.

There was a lengthy discussion about the cost to get broadband to Morgantown and the present internet speeds are terrible.

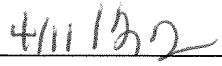
The meeting was adjourned by the President.

Council Meeting Minutes for March 14, 2022, signed, April 11, 2022

ATTEST:

  
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CLERK TREASURER, SHARON MCINTOSH

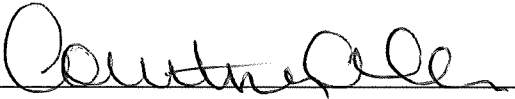
  
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Dated

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Town Council President, Penny Anderson

  
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Council Member, Walter Abbott

  
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Council Member, Courtney Allen

  
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Council Member, Vern Snyder

  
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Council Member, Terry Poindexter