

**MORGANTOWN TOWN COUNCIL MEETING
HELD FEBRUARY 13,2023**

ATTENDANCE

The meeting was called to order by Council President, Courtney Allen and the Pledge was led by Council member, Walter Abbott. The Clerk Treasurer noted Council members; Walter Abbott, Penny Anderson, Jeremy Baker, Joe Blevins and Courtney Allen were present. Also present were; Town Marshal, Ryan Swank, DPW, Kyle Rooks, Town Attorney, Lee Robbins and Clerk Treasurer, Sharon McIntosh. Special guests were; Lori young with Curry & Associates, Kent Anderson and Beth Johnson with Kenna Consulting.

TRAINING FOR UTILITY CLERK

The Council wanted to provide the Utility Clerk with more training. The Clerk Treasurer, Sharon McIntosh explained that the software company, Keystone has yearly user meetings and they also have videos that can be watched for training. The Clerk Treasurer will call Keystone to set a in house training for the Utility Clerk. The cost is \$175.00 an hour and \$60.00 an hour driving time. Council member, Penny Anderson made a motion to approve additional at site training for the Utility Clerk. Council member, Jeremy Baker seconded the motion. All members voted in favor of the motion.

OCRA GRANT

Kent Anderson and his assistant, Beth Johnson spoke to the Council about the completion date of the Wastewater Improvement Project. The Project completion date is February 20th and the expiration date is February 28, 2023. Right now, the Town is on the overdue list and cannot ask for another Grant until this one is completed and closed out.

SUBSTANTIAL COMPLETION DATE

Lori Young asked the Council to authorize President, Courtney Allen to sign the Certificate of Substantial Completion form. From the date of substantial completion of 12/31/2022 the 1year warranty would begin. It also allows the contractor to ask for a partial release of the retainage. Right now, there is approximately \$279,000.00 held in retainage at the Bank of New York for this project. Council member, Joe Blevins made a motion to approve the substantial completion date of 12/31/2022 and authorize President, Courtney Allen to sign the certificate. Council member, Penny Anderson seconded the motion. All members voted in favor of the motion. Pay Application #20 for \$131,768.25 was presented to the Council for approval. Council member, Joe Blevins made a motion to approve Pay Application #20. The motion was seconded by Walter Abbott. All members voted in favor of the motion.

PARK BOARD

The Town needs 4 members for the Park Board which is a requirement of the Grant the Eppley Institute is working on for the Town. Council President, Courtney Allen said she had a couple of names for the Park Board, Clay Kelo and Paige Cure. Courtney also asked Jewel Blevins if she would consider being on the Park Board. Council member, Penny Anderson will be working on finding additional people to be on the Park Board as she is going to be meeting with the Eppley Institute now instead of Courtney Allen.

PLAYGROUND EQUIPMENT CONTRACT

Town Attorney, Lee Robbins is reviewing the Park Equipment Contract. Someone from the Play Ground Equipment company is coming to review the site work done before the installation or if they cannot make it they will review from pictures. The company also wants the utilities marked before installation.

PREMIUM OVER TIME PAY

There was discussion about Premium over time pay for the DPW. Council member, Joe Blevins wondered if another employee would help with the overtime. Council member, Penny Anderson felt the DPW should have gotten paid for the Holidays they worked besides the time and a half they were paid. DPW Kyle Rooks believes another person would help but he also said it is hard to know when the overtime is going to happen. Penny Anderson said she would like to see on the call outs an amount set besides the hourly pay for the DPW. Council member, Courtney Allen felt the Police Department should be paid extra for working a Holiday. Council member, Walter Abbott said he felt like it should remain as it is now. No action was taken by the Council.

FINANCIALS

Council member, Penny Anderson made a motion to approve the minutes dated January 9, and January 24, 2023. Council member, Joe Blevins seconded the motion. All members voted in favor of the motion.

Council member, Penny Anderson made a motion to approve the Claims dated February 13, 2023 for \$439,442.73. including an invoice from Baer Excavating for \$5,700.00 Curry & Associates for \$29,300.00 and Kenna Consulting for \$1,000.00. Council member, Joe Blevins seconded the motion. All members voted in favor of the motion.

Council member, Joe Blevins made a motion to approve the January 2023 payroll. Council member, Penny Anderson seconded the motion. All members voted in favor of the motion.

CANCELLATION OF WARRANTS

The Clerk Treasurer presented to the Council the Cancellation of Warrants list for their review. These checks are over 2 years old and have been voided in the Bank Rec and receipted back into the Fund the check was written from.

ASSETS

The Clerk Treasurer explained to the Council she would like to contract with Larry Tippin a former SBOA auditor to consult with him on the the Town's Assets. Several cities and Towns have used him when setting up their Town's assets. The Town has not been audited since the SBOA requirements of having an accurate Asset Ledger. Lee Robbins explained to the Council that the SBOA thinks of different ways to increase the Clerk Treasurer work load. Lee stated he felt it was a fair request. Mr. Tippin charges \$75.00 an hour. Council member, Joe Blevins made a motion for the Clerk Treasurer to contract with Larry Tippin. The motion was seconded by Council member, Jeremy Baker. All members voted in favor of the motion.

TOWN HALL BUILDING

The Clerk Treasurer asked the Council to hold a special meeting for a discussion about the Town Hall building. The date for the special meeting was set for February 23, 2023 at 6:00 p.m.

DPW

DPW asked the Council to approve the purchase of a trailer 20 ft. by 5 ft. for \$9,000.00 from David Patton. The trailer the Town uses now is small and not in good shape. Council member, Jeremy Blevins made a motion to approve the purchase for \$9,000.00. The motion was seconded by Council member, Joe Blevins. All members voted in favor of the motion.

POLICE DEPARTMENT

Town Marshal, Ryan Swank explained he had a meeting with the Lions Club who sponsor the Clean Up Day on Saturday, May 6th from 8 to 12 noon. Lions Club is interested in the community and they would like to take over the point. Clean it up with more flowers and new mulch. The Town would give the Lions Club \$1,000.00 to use toward the beautician of the point. The M at the point needs fixed as well. Jeremy Langley said he would be willing to help on the updated repair to the M. The Town Marshal heard on the radio where Martinsville has a notification system. Martinsville notification system has a phone number that a resident could use to sign

up for the notification system. The Council is interested in looking into a new alternative. The Town Marshal explained the issue he is having with large trucks turning on to Elm Street to Grant Street causing damage to people's yard. Ryan asked if the DPW could put no truck or trailer signs at that location to stop the trucks from entering those streets. The Town has an Ordinance but never put-up signs. Council member, Joe Blevins made a motion to put up the signs and also put up a stop sign at Mulberry that meets the legal requirement for signs. Council member, Penny Anderson seconded the motion. All members voted in favor of the motion. Ryan showed the Council the design of the graphics he would like to put on all the police vehicles. The work would be done at GD Graphics in Martinsville for the 4 vehicles at \$850.00 for each vehicle. Council member, Joe Blevins made a motion to approve the installation of the new graphics for the 4 polices vehicles for \$850.00 each. Council member, Walter Abbott seconded the motion. All members voted in favor of the motion except Council member, Penny Anderson voted no.

ZONING ORDINANCE AMMENDMENTS

Town Attorney, Lee Robbins presented the Council with the Zoning Ordinance amendments for the Council to review.

RESOLUTION 2023-1

The Resolution 2023-1 which is re-establishing the CCD Funds so the Town wil receive the maximum legal rate was also introduced to the Council. The Public Hearing will be held on March 13, 2023 and then the Ordinance can be adopted that night.

GOLF CART PERMITS

Council member, Penny Anderson asked about raising the Golf Card permit in Morgantown. Right now, the permit cost is \$30.00. There was no response from the other Council members to increase the cost of the permit.

PUBLIC COMMENT

Jeremy Langley spoke to the Council concerning the amendments to the Zoning Ordinance. He felt the Ordinance was an improvement but there is more that needs to be done. He asked the Council to take the time to read and review the Ordinance before it is passed. Jeremy came to Town Hall and ask to have a copy of the proposed amended Zoning Ordinance. He was told he could not have it. There was discussion about what happened at Town Hall. Sarah told him he could read it but he could not take him with him. The document was not marked as a draft and it has not been approved by Council. Sarah also let him know he needed to fill out a request for records form. The request form has to be presented to the Town Attorney for approval.

David Huff spoke up that it was bull ----- that the request form had to go through the Town Attorney.

Lee Robbins explained it is his job to protect the Town and that is the reason he reviews the request and approves the release of documents. Some in attendance felt the Town should not have to go through the Town Attorney.

Carlita Beezley spoke to the Council about having to spend money on plumbers because her yard had 3 laterals and Lykins only hooked up the one. No one knew that the resident had 3 laterals in the yard and the new owner was not aware either. She asked the Town to consider reimbursing her for the cost. Council member, Joe Blevins made a motion to reimburse Caritla Beezley, at 160 Morton Street, for the 3 plumber she hired to fix the issue. Council member, Jeremy Baker seconded the motion. All members voted in favor of the motion.

Sherrie Woods spoke about the town not following the Ordinances concerning junk cars in yards, bags of trash outside and unsightly properties. Sherrie said she was embarrassed to tell people where she lived because of the unsightly properties. Sherrie also said that Lykins has not fixed her sons fence they took down.

Council member, Joe Blevins said the Dollar Store had asked the Town if they would consider writing a letter approving the need for more produce in the store. Lee Robbins will write the letter.

The meeting was adjourned by the President.

NEXT TOWN COUNCIL MEETING IS APRIL 10TH AT 6:00 P.M.