

**MORGANTOWN TOWN COUNCIL MEETING MINUTES
HELD OCTOBER 9, 2023**

Attendance

The meeting was called to order by Council President, Courtney Allen at 6:00 p.m. The pledge was led by Council member, Jeremy Baker. The Clerk Treasurer noted Council members present were: Walter Abbott, Penny Anderson, Jeremy Baker, Joe Blevins and Council President, Courtney Allen. Also, in attendance were; Town Marshal, Ryan Swank, DPW, Kyle Rook, and Clerk Treasurer, Sharon McIntosh. Absent was; Town Attorney, Lee Robbins.

Adoption of 2024 Budget

The 2024 Budget was presented to the Council for adoption by the Clerk Treasurer. Council member, Joe Blevins made a motion to approve the 2024 Budget. Council member, Jeremy Baker seconded the motion. Courtney Allen, Walter Abbott, Jeremy Baker, Joe Blevins voted aye and Penny Anderson voted nay. The vote was 4 to 1 and the motion passed.

Survey of Sycamore Street Property

Council member, Joe Blevins reported to the Council that Halloway will be doing the survey at the Sycamore Street property but they have not given him a date when they will be able to start the work.

Town Hall

There was discussion about opening up the space, re-doing the stairs, opening up the Police Department by using the old restroom space, moving the furnace and air-conditioning upstairs. The Town has close to \$300,000.00 in the Economic Development Fund. The Town could make the current Town Hall super nice and would not be in debt. The Council has looked at the building on Washington Street which would cost about \$800,000.00 to complete the construction process. It was decided to have Council member, Joe Blevins make a drawing of the space. Joe will also make a list of the work to be done to the current Town Hall to present at the next Council meeting.

Utility Report

The Clerk Treasurer gave a short report on the Utilities. There were a number of customers who were being estimated. The Town does not estimate utility bills. This could cause the customer to owe a large amount or possible the Town would be required to refund an overpayment. The Council received a copy of an adjustment entry report that included an adjustment for Darlene Adams who had been estimated and the meter over read. The other adjustment was for Daniel

Pessin' who had an adjustment of \$8,896.86 due to missing dials and divider in his customer account. The Clerk Treasurer had adjusted these accounts because the water tax owed by the Town would have been greatly inflated.

Customer James Teel requested a wastewater credit as his water softener had caused his water bill to be high. The Council felt his water bill was caused by faulty equipment and the Council did not feel the Town was responsible. Council member, Joe Blevins mad a motion to deny the request by James Teel. The motion was seconded by Council member, Jeremy Baker. All members voted in favor of the motion.

Financials

Council member, Joe Blevins made a motion to approve the September 11th and September 19th minutes with one exception to the September 11th minutes. Halloway will charge \$4,500.00 not \$4,000.00. Council member, Jeremy Baker seconded the motion. All members voted to approve the motion.

A motion was made by Council member, Joe Blevins to approve the Claims dated September 11, 2023 for a total of \$238,381.93. The motion was seconded by Council member, Walter Abbott. All members voted to approve the motion.

Council member, Jeremy Baker made a motion to approve the September 2023 payroll. The motion was seconded by Council member, Joe Blevins. All members voted in favor of the motion.

Council member, Joe Blevins made a motion to approve the August Bank Rec. Council member, Jeremy Baker seconded the motion. Courtney Allen, Walter Abbot, Jeremy Baker, Joe Blevins vote aye. Penny Anderson voted nay and said she must talk to the Town Attorney before she can sign the Bank Rec. The motion passed 4 to 1.

Police Department

The marshal, Ryan Swank said the Halloween, Trick or Treat hours would be October 31, 2023 between 5:30 and 8:00 p.m. The police department will be handing out candy in front of their office door.

DPW

DPW, Kyle Rooks said that his department was going to be handing out Halloween candy on Tuesday, October 31st as well.

Public Comments

There was a question about the amount of a minimum water bill which would be \$97.65 for 2500 gallons.

Paula Smith asked if the Deputy Clerk will be added to the Salary Ordinance. The Clerk Treasurer responded that should would be added.

The meeting was adjourned by the President.

OCTOBER 9, 2023 MINUTES APPROVED & SIGNED ON NOVEMBER 13, 2023

Sharon McIntosh

DATE 11/13/2023

ATTEST: CLERK TREASURER

SHARON MCINTOSH

Courtney Allen

TOWN COUNCIL PRESIDENT, COURTNEY ALLEN

Walter Abbott

WALTER ABBOTT

Penny Anderson

PENNY ANDERSON

Jeremy Baker

JEREMY BAKER

Joe Blevins

JOE BLEVINS