

MORGANTOWN TOWN COUNCIL MEETING  
HELD SEPTEMBER 11, 2023

**ATTENDANCE**

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

**2024 BUDGET PUBLIC HEARING**

A Public Hearing for the 2024 Budget was opened for the public to ask questions. There were a couple of questions by Suzanne Moyer concerning the names of appropriations. Council member, Penny Anderson asked several questions and stated she did not understand the budget. Town Attorney, Lee Robbins tried to explain to her again why invoices are broken up between funds. If something is touched by all three Funds they are split between those Funds. The General Fund only receives about the same amount each year in revenue with possible a 2 to 4 percent increase each year. The Utilities Funds are able to take in more revenue based on the Utility rates. The Public Hearing was then closed.

**ARP ADDITIONAL APPROPRIATION**

A Public Hearing was held for the Town to request an Additional Appropriation of \$39,087.00 to be spent from the ARP Fund. Council member, Joe Blevins made a motion to approve an additional appropriation for the ARP Fund for \$39,087.00. Council member, Walter Abbott seconded the motion. All members voted in favor of the motion. The Public Hearing was then closed.

**CURRY PARK DRAINAGE IMPROVEMENT**

Council member, Joe Blevins made a motion to approve hiring Curry & Associates to complete engineering services, phase #1 and phase #2 option #2 for a park project for a total of \$22,900.00. The motion was seconded by Council member, Penny Anderson. All members voted in favor of the motion. Option #2 is drainage work plus park improvements with State or Federal Funds. The Park Board can move forward to apply for a 1DNR Grant for improvements such as a pavilion/shelter house, walking track or tee ball field.

**CURRY INVOICES**

A motion was made by Council member, Joe Blevins to approve the Curry Invoice #10 for \$30,527.50 for final remaining contract of engineering services pertaining to the wastewater

project. The motion was seconded by Council member, Walter Abbott. All members voted in favor of the motion.

Council member, Joe Blevins made a motion to approve the Curry Amendment Exhibit K which revised "Additional Engineering Services" scope of work to re-allocate \$18,228.89 not used from original contract, to be used for Additional Engineering- Land Application Permit Assistance for Land of sludge from wastewater treatment of lagoons. Additionally, Curry & Associates shall provide Asset Management Plan Assistance for the Town of Morgantown Wastewater Utility. Work shall be performed for the lump sum amount of \$13,000.00. Council member, Penny Anderson seconded the motion. All members voted in favor of the motion.

Council member, Joe Blevins made a motion to approve payment of prior work performed by Curry & Associates for the 2022 Asset Management Plan concerning the Community Crossings Grant for \$1,500.00 each, for a total of \$3,000.00. Council member, Walter Abbott seconded the motion. All members voted in favor of the motion.

Council member, Joe Blevins made a motion to approve Curry & Associates to prepare the 2023 Asset Management Updates that are due to INDOT/TAP by December 1, 2023. Council member, Penny Anderson seconded the motion. All members voted in favor of the motion.

Council member, Joe Blevins made a motion to approve the invoice to Curry & Associates for prior work performed concerning the proposed gas station for \$2,035.00. Council member, Penny Anderson seconded the motion. All members voted in favor of the motion.

Council member, Joe Blevins made a motion to approve the invoice to Curry & Associates related for services to the Water Main Extension on South Morgantown Road for \$2,167.50. Council member, Penny Anderson seconded the motion. All members voted in favor of the motion. This expense will be paid with ARP Funds.

Council member, Joe Blevins made a motion to approve the Curry & Associates invoice for \$2,035.00 related to the Water Main Replacement-Alley from Church to Cross Street. This motion was seconded by Council member Penny Anderson. All members voted in favor of the motion. This expense will be paid with ARF Funds.

#### **SSI FINAL INVOICE**

Council member, Penny Anderson made a motion to approve the Final #2 invoice to SSI for their work performed at South Morgantown Road for \$5,035.00. Council member, Joe Blevins

seconded the motion. All members voted in favor of the motion. This expense will be paid out of the ARP Funds.

#### **FLOOD PLAIN ADMINISTER**

Kyle Rooks was appointed the new Flood Plain Administer by Council President, Courtney Allen replacing former employee, Jeff Downey.

#### **EPPLEY**

Town Attorney, Lee Robbins spoke with Layne Elliott with the Eppley Institute for Parks and Public Lands through Indiana University and reported back to the Council. The Park Master Plan is all the Town applied for. Rural Enhancement does have grant options if the Town is interested.

#### **ROGER HICKEY PROPERTY**

Council member, Penny Anderson explained that Roger Hickey is on vacation so she could not talk to him about his property in Town that a Town Hall could be built. Council member, Joe Blevins felt if the Town did make an offer to the Hall's for the building on Washington Street it should be a low-ball amount. Joe said the second appraisal company used buildings that were not even close to Morgantown. Joe felt the area used was not comparable to the Morgantown area.

#### **SYCAMORE STREET SURVEY**

Council member, Penny Anderson made a motion to hire Hallaway Engineering to perform a survey of the Sycamore Street property for \$4,000.00. Council member, Joe Blevins seconded the motion. All members voted in favor of the motion.

#### **FINANCIALS**

Council member, Joe Blevins made a motion to approve the minutes dated August 14, 2023. Council member, Penny Anderson seconded the motion. All members voted in favor of the motion.

Council member, Joe Blevins made a motion to approve the Claims dated September 11, 2023 for \$153,828.98. Council President, Courtney Allen seconded the motion. All members voted in favor of the motion.

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

The Council has reviewed the August 2023 Bank Rec for the Town. Council member, Joe Blevins made a motion to approve the August 2023 Bank Rec. Council member, Walter Abbott seconded the motion. All members voted in favor of the motion.

#### **POLICE DEPARTMENT**

Town Marshal, Ryan Swank asked the Council for approval to change the way he hires Reserves. Ryan would like to hire without Council approval. The Council was fine with that change. Ryan would like to cancel the Police fax number which will be a \$29.95 a month savings. Council member, Joe Blevins made a motion to approve cancelling the Police fax number. Council member, Penny Anderson seconded the motion. All members voted in favor of the motion. Ryan reported that deputy Jared Smith hit a T post that caused damage to his police vehicle. To repair all 3 led lights would be a total of \$1082.00. Council member, Joe Blevins made a motion to approve the repair. Council member, Walter Abbott seconded the motion. All members voted in favor of the motion. Ryan asked if there is a problem with a resident and the Sycamore Street Survey, he would like that problem to be transferred either to Morgan County Sheriff or the State Police. Council President, Courtney Allen said it will be transferred to the State Police. Ryan explained he is having an issue with a business in Town who's is having a false alarm and this has happened several times. Lee sent a letter to the owner with no response.

#### **DPW**

DPW, Kyle Rooks asked approval for tires to be installed at Honey Creek Service in Bargersville for \$960.44. Council member, Joe Blevins made a motion to approve the installation of the tires at Honey Creek Service in Bargersville. Council member, Penny Anderson seconded the motion. All members voted in favor of the motion. Kyle explained the department had two I-Pads and they used 1 for reading meters and wanted to change the other to an emergency phone for on call. Kyle asked for \$1,000.00 to replace the signage in Town. Council member, Penny Anderson made a motion to approve spending up to \$1,000. on new signs in Town. Council member, Joe Blevins seconded the motion. All members voted in favor of the motion.

No Public Comment

An Executive Session and Special meeting will be held at 5:30 p.m. on Tuesday, September 19, 2023.

The meeting was adjourned by the President.

SEPTEMBER 11, 2023, MINUTES APPROVED & SIGNED ON OCTOBER 9, 2023

Sharon McIntosh

DATE 10/9/2023

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