

MORGANTOWN TOWN COUNCIL SPECIAL MEETING

HELD SEPTEMBER 19, 2023

ATTENDANCE

The Town Council held a special meeting at the conclusion of its executive session at 6:15 p.m. Those present were Council members; Walter Abbott, Penny Anderson, Jeremy Baker, Joe Blevins and Council President, Courtney Allen. Also, present were DPW, Kyle Rooks, Town Attorney, Lee Robbins and Clerk Treasurer, Sharon McIntosh. Special guest was Jill Curry with Curry and Associates.

JANET ALEXANDER

President Courtney Allen made a motion to approve Janet Alexander to serve as the Utility Clerk and to train the new Deputy Clerk. Council member, Penny Anderson seconded the motion. All members voted in favor of the motion.

BUILDING INSPECTOR & UNSAFE BUILDING ENFORCER

Council member, Joe Blevins made a motion to hire Chris Schiewer with ESI: Energy & Safety Investigation, Inc. with a monthly stipend in the amount of \$400.00 as well as a Residential Inspection for \$45.00 and a Commercial Inspection for \$65.00. Council member, Walter Abbott seconded the motion. All members voted in favor of the motion. Chris would be taking over the duties which Tim Guyer previously held.

DEPUTY CLERK

Kristen Rudolph was introduced to the Council as the new Deputy Clerk for the Town to work along side the Clerk Treasurer. Kristen has been in banking for over 20 years and recently worked for Peoples Bank.

Council member, Penny Anderson made a motion to authorize the necessary funds to pay the Deputy Clerk Salary and time off benefits. Council member, Jeremy Baker seconded the motion. All members voted in favor of the motions.

DELAY BY KENNA

Jill Curry with Curry and Associates spoke to the Council about the delay in the close out of the Wastewater project. Kenna did not review the Fair Labor Standards which includes reviewing the salaries of the workers during the project but it is doing this now which will take some time to complete.

PROCEED WITH WATER PROJECT

Jill Curry explained that because of this delay the Town cannot apply for an OCRA Planning Grant as planned. Jill proposed moving forward with Curry preparing the Preliminary Engineering Report (PER). The Town would have to pay out of pocket for Curry to prepare the PER instead of waiting to use OCRA Planning Grant Funds. The cost of the PER would be \$25,000.00 and would probably be paid out of the General Fund. The Water Fund would have to pay those Funds back to the General Fund. Hopefully after the Rate Study is completed by Steve Brock, a decision is made for the rate increases to the Utilities the Town will be in better shape to pay back the General Fund. Council member, Penny Anderson made a motion to approve Curry & Associates to prepare a Preliminary Engineering Report for \$25,000.00 for a water improvement project. Council member, Joe Blevins seconded the motion. All members voted in favor of the motion.

DPW

DPW, Kyle Rooks asked the Council's permission to hire a vac truck to work on big water leaks this coming winter without calling a Council member first. Kyle Rooks explained that the Tower does loose water when there is a leak which is a concern. Kyle mentioned well #4 as having an odor that is worrisome. The on-call phone for the DPW would be \$29.95 a month.

PHONE STIPEND

Council member, Courtney Allen said she did not want to receive the phone stipend each month.

There was no Public Comment.

The meeting was adjourned by the President.

Council Special Meeting Minutes for September 19^h, signed October 9, 2023

ATTEST:

Sharon Mcintosh

10/9/2023

CLERK TREASURER, SHARON MCINTOSH

Dated

Courtney Allen

TOWN COUNCIL PRESIDENT, COURTNEY ALLEN