

**MORGANTOWN TOWN COUNCIL MEETING
HELD APRIL 10, 2024**

CALL TO ORDER

Council President, Joe Blevins called to order the meeting for the Town of Morgantown at 6:00 pm. on April 10, 2024 at the Morgantown Fire Station.

ATTENDANCE

Council members present were; Courtney Allen, Penny Anderson, Jeremy Baker and Council President, Joe Blevins. Absent was; Council member, David Johnson. Also present were Town Marshal, Ryan Swank, DPW, Kyle Rooks, Town Attorney, Lee Robbins and Clerk Treasurer, Sharon McIntosh. Guests were; Jill Curry with Curry & Associates and Neil Brook with Kleinpeter Consulting.

PUBLIC HEARING

A public hearing was opened at 6:05. Neil Brook, Grant Administrator with Kleinpeter Consulting explained this project would be jointly applying to the Indiana Office of Community and Rural Affairs (OCRA) as well as the State Revolving Fund Loan Program (SRF) and the public hearing is a requirement for the funding agencies. He explained the OCRA application process and overall project details and costs.

Jill Curry explained the Preliminary Engineering Report (PER) has been available at the Town Hall for public review. Jill Curry reviewed the PER previously discussed at Council meetings explaining it was submitted to the SRF to be considered for their upcoming year of funding. The project costs were explained including alternates for regionalizing water supply with Brown County Water Utility, decommissioning the existing water plant and wells, as well as making distribution system improvement. There are two locations near the Town where Brown County Water has existing water mains where the Town could purchase water instead of having their own water supply and treatment. Jill Curry explained that other water main improvements around town are necessary to reduce high water loss as well as address frequent leaks/breaks and boil orders the town experiences. Hydrants would be replaced as well as values added.

The rate study from the Financial Advisor was explained and the rate impact on the community. The Town does not want to construct a new water plant and wells which would raise rates. The town qualifies for a disadvantaged community per the SRF Fund program. If circumstances arise that the Town wants to discontinue the application process they can stop the process. A site

visit will be scheduled in May and another public hearing will be held in June. The Public Hearing was closed.

Council member, Jeremy Baker made a motion to approve, Resolution 2024-5, Signatory Authorization Resolution. The motion was seconded by Council member, Penny Anderson. Voting yes were; Joe Blevins, David Johnson, Penny Anderson and Jeremy Baker. Council member, Courtney Allen voted no. The motion passed 4-1.

Council member, Jeremy Baker made a motion to approve, Resolution 2024-6, PER Acceptance Resolution. Council member, Penny Anderson seconded the motion. Voting yes were; Penny Anderson, Jeremy Baker, Joe Blevins and David Johnson. Council member, Courtney Allen voted no. The motion passed 4-1.

BROWN COUNTY WATER

President, Joe Blevins said he has not heard back from Justin Hawley at Brown County Water Utility concerning the wholesale rates.

INDOT

President, Joe Blevins said he is meeting with Nick Batta tomorrow to discuss upcoming INDOT project.

SIDEWALK

Resident, Sheryl Graham wants her sidewalk changed so she can drive her camper over the sidewalk. The Council decided they would not pay the cost for changing the sidewalk so they could get their camper up over the sidewalk.

COMCAST

Council member, Penny Anderson made a motion to approve changing from AT&T to Comcast. Council member, Courtney Allen seconded the motion. All members voted in favor of the motion. The motion passed 5-0.

PAY APPLICATION #1

Council member, Courtney Allen made a motion to approve Pay Application #1 to Howard Asphalt for \$52,772.50. Council member, Jeremy Baker seconded the motion. All members voted in favor of the motion. The motion passed 5-0.

TREEDOM INVOICE

Council member, Courtney Allen made a motion to approve payment of Treedom invoice for \$3,750.00. Council member, Penny Anerson seconded the motion. All members voted in favor of the motion. The motion passed 5-0.

ARCHAEOLOGICAL INVOICE

Council member, Penny Anderson made a motion to approve payment of \$2,625.00 to Archaeological Consultants of Ossian. Council member, Jeremy Baker seconded the motion. All members voted in favor of the motion. The motion passed 5-0.

COMMUNITY BUILDING

Council President, Joe Blevins received a call from Chief Realty expressing the owners of the Morgantown Community Center wishes to sell their building for \$190,000.00. This building is much larger than the State Farm building. Town Attorney, Lee Robbins will set up a Resolution naming two appraisers to be passed at a special meeting.

FINANCIALS

Council member, Jeremy Baker made a motion to approve the March 11th meeting minutes. Council member, Courtney Allen seconded the motion. All members voted in favor of the motion. The motion passed 5-0.

Council member, Penny Anderson made a motion to approve the March 20th meeting minutes. The motion was seconded by Council member, Courtney Allen. All members voted in favor of the motion 5-0.

Council member, Jeremy Baker made a motion to approve the Claims dated May 10, 2024 totaling 201,815.37. Council member, Courtney Allen seconded the motion. All members voted in favor of the motion. The motion passed 5-0.

Council member, Courtney Allen, made a motion to approve the March payroll. Council member, Jeremy Baker seconded the motion. The motion passed 5-0.

Council member, Jeremy Baker made a motion to approve the Bank Statement for January 2024. The motion was seconded by Council member, Penny Anderson. The motion passed 5-0.

Council member, Courtney Allen made a motion to approve the Bank Statement for February 2024. The motion was seconded by Council Jeremy Baker. The motion passed 5-0.

There were no adjustments for this meeting.

PARK BOARD REPORT

Jewel Blevins presented a report to the Town Council members concerning plans for the park. The Park Board would like to put in an RC Track at the Sycamore Street Park, and then at Grant Street Park add signs with Park rules, trash cans, bollards and have the scoreboard installed. Jewel requested a total of \$2000.00.

ESTABLISH PARK FUND

Jewel Blevins with the Morgantown Park Board asked the Council if they would give the Park Board \$2,000.00. The items they wish to purchase are a sign stating park rules, RC Track, 2 signs to list the park rules, bollards, heavy duty trash cans and have the scoreboard installed. There was discussion about the RC Track. A Council member, did not agree that a RC Track should be installed at the Sycamore Street property. Council member, Jeremy Baker made a motion to approve giving the Park Board \$2,000.00 to make these purchases for the park. The motion was not seconded so the subject could be discussed at another time. A contract for the Little League was discussed as well but no action was taken.

Council member, Penny Anderson made a motion to re-establish a Park Fund for the 2025 Budget with two appropriations, Capital outlays, and other services and charges. Council member, Courtney Allen seconded the motion. All members voted in favor of the motion. The motion passed 5-0.

Jewel explained the Park Board is working on grants for the park.

Police Department Report

Town Marshal, Ryan Swank asked the Council to approve the repair of Dustin White's vehicle for \$1,582.51. Council member, Jeremy Baker made a motion to approve the repair. Council member, Courtney Allen seconded the motion. The motion passed 5-0.

Town Marshal, Ryan Swank proposed several changes to the current personnel policy. Personal Day will stay at 1 full day, all other benefit time will be by the hour. The anniversary date was changed to the beginning of each year in January for vacation only. Also, it was suggested that the Council add 4 weeks' vacation time to the Personnel Policy. Council member, Courtney Allen made a motion to accept all the changes to the policy. Council member, Penny Anderson seconded the motion. All members voted in favor of the motion. The motion passed 5-0.

Ryan also brought up that his deputies work 10-hour shift and when a holiday is in a week his guys must use 2 hours comp time to make a 40-hour work week. Ryan felt holidays should be by department shift time or the number of hours a day an employee is required to work. There was a discussion about making this change. Town Attorney, Lee Robbins felt that the police

department was getting 2 hours more of benefit time than those who work only 8 hours and are paid for a holiday. Council member, Courtney Allen made a motion to allow the police department to count holidays as a 10-hour day. Penny Anderson seconded the motion. All members voted in favor of the motion. The motion pass 5-0.

Ryan spoke about the Operation Pull Over which is 4 times a year. These hours are extended patrols which would require overtime pay. The Town would be reimbursed for the overtime paid by the Town. Council member, Courtney Allen, made a motion to approve this request. Council member, Penny Anderson seconded the motion. The motion passed 5-0.

Ryan informed the Council that he would like to schedule Clean Up Day on Saturday, May 11th from 8:00 a.m. to 12:00 p.m. Council member, Jeremy Baker made a motion to approve the Clean Up Day. Council member, Courtney Allen seconded the motion. The motion carried 5-0.

DPW Report

Kyle Rooks would like to purchase a new mower from Tom Wood Outdoor. The mower is a Toro with a 72-inch cut. Total price for the mower is \$12,300.00 but Tom Wood will sell the mower to the Town for \$11,800.43. The 2024 Budget has money to purchase the mower. Council member, Penny Anderson made a motion to purchase the Toro mower from Tom Wood Outdoor. Council member, Courtney Allen, seconded the motion. The motion passed 5-0.

The DPW will advertise for bids on the old Dixie Chopper mower.

Kyle said he would like to change to liquid bleach from tablets at the wastewater plant. This would be less expensive. The Town will have to apply for an IDEM construction permit.

There was an issue with cell #1 being plugged up.

Council member, Courtney Allen made a motion to adopt Resolution 2024-8, a Resolution Supplementing the Town's Employment Policy Manual. Council member, Jeremy Baker seconded the motion. The motion passed 5-0.

Public Comments

There were no public comments.

The meeting was adjourned by the Council President.

APRIL 10, 2024 MEETING MINUTES APPROVED & SIGNED MAY 13, 2024

Sharon McIntosh DATE 5/13/24

ATTEST: CLERK TREASURER

SHARON MCINTOSH

Joe Blevins

TOWN COUNCIL PRESIDENT, JOE BLEVINS

Courtney Allen

COURTNEY ALLEN

Penny Anderson

PENNY ANDERSON

Jeremy Baker

JEREMY BAKER

David Johnson

DAVID JOHNSON