

MORGANTOWN COUNCIL MEETING MINUTES
HLED JUNE 10, 2024
6:00 P.M. MORGANTOWN FIRE STATION

Council President, Joe Blevins called the meeting to order at 6:00 p.m. at the Morgantown Fire Station. The pledge was led by Council member, Jeremy Baker.

Council members present were; Penny Anderson Jeremy Baker, David Johnson and Council President, Joe Blevins, absent was Council member, Courtney Allen. Also present were; Town Marshal, Ryan Swank, DPW, Kyle Rooks, Town Attorney, Lee Robbins and Clerk Treasurer, Sharon McIntosh. Special guests were; Jill Curry with Curry & Associates, and Mike Kleinpeter who serves as the Grant Administrator for the proposed water project.

Mike Kleinpeter opened the 2nd public hearing for the proposed water project. Mike explained the Town was applying for a \$700,000 OCRA Grant. The application for the Grant is due June 28th. The Town will also be applying for a 2,503,463.00 SRF loan to make the total cost of the project \$3,203.463.00.

Jill Curry spoke to the Council about the 2 locations requiring easements, Bill Meredith's house and the Jeanne Weaver property, for a hook up to Brown County Water. The other location for hook up would be the location north of town heading out on Church Street. It's a pretty long distance and the connection is too expensive. The other two easements the Town would like to get but are not required are for a secondary feed to the tank. It would cross the East Hill Cemetery Corp. property where they have their building and then across the Terry Johnson property. The Town should know more in July about the rates for wholesale water from Brown County. Brown County Water is trying to get their cost-of-service study done soon. If the town received the wholesale rate the increase would be \$25.00 for a wholesale rate of \$5 per 1,000 gallons. If the Town did not get the wholesale rate the cost would be higher more like \$32.09. Right now, all of this is just estimates.

Mike Kleinpeter asked the Council to consider a Resolution, 2024-14 authorizing the submittal of the WDW application to the Indian Office of Community and Rural Affairs and addressing related matters. A motion was made by Council member, Jeremy Baker and seconded by Council member, Penny Anderson. All members voted in favor of the motion. The Public Hearing was closed. There were no comments from the public. Mike also reported the Town will receive 25 additional bonus points for scoring on the Town's application to OCRA.

The Job Description for the DPW Manager was approved. Council member, Jeremy Baker made a motion to approve the job description. Council member, David Johnson seconded the motion. All members voted in favor of the motion.

Pay Application #4 to Howard Paving was not approved as Howard still has several items they need to address before the final payment.

Council President, Joe Blevins asked the Town Attorney, Lee Robbins to write letters to two customers in Town that the DPW does not have access to their meter. The Clerk Treasurer will supply the names and address of the two customers to the Town Attorney.

The Animal Ordinance was brought before the Council for 2nd reading. Council member, Penny Anderson made a motion to adopt the Animal Ordinance #2024-2. Council member, David Johnson seconded the motion. All members voted in favor of the motion.

Town Attorney, Lee Robbins presented Ordinance 2024-3 for 1st reading. The Ordinance was setting procedures for Public Comments at Council meetings. The Council is going to review the Ordinance before the next meeting. The Ordinance will be presented on 2nd reading at the July 8th Council meeting for adoption.

A Resolution #2024-12 was presented to establish Park Rules and Regulations. The Resolution was not correct. Jewel Blevins will get with Town Attorney, Lee Robbins to make corrections.

In order to accommodate the planned INDOT pavement rehabilitation project for SR 135 through Morgantown, INDOT would like to purchase an easement of 0.012 at the 135-lift station for \$1,000.00 and a temporary right of way at 120 West Washington Street. Council member, David Johnson made a motion to adopt Resolution 2024-12 to approve the sale of the property to INDOT, and to have President, Joe Blevins signs all documents. The motion was seconded by Council member, Jeremy Baker. All members voted in favor of the motion.

Council President, Joe Blevins explained to the Council, INDOT's project for Main Street rehab and the included water rehab project will be a 100% reimbursement back to the Town. The Town will have to pay for the Street Lights up front but will be reimbursed. The Town will also be adding additional stamped concrete which will be paid out of pocket along with extra street lights.

There was discussion about updating the Town Code of Ordinances with American Legal Publishing. The Ordinances have not been up dated since 2017. No decision was made by the Council to move forward on the project. This topic will be reviewed later in the year.

Resident, Joe Clephane had received a water bill for a vacant property he owns next to his primary residence on Washington Street. Joe felt he should not have to pay the bill on a vacant property. Attorney, Lee Robbins presented several documents showing that the Town can charge for Waste Water, Storm and Hydrant even if his meter is removed at the vacant house.

Council member, David Johnson made a motion to drop Joe Clephane's bill to 11.46 for May. Council member, Penny Anderson seconded the motion. All members voted in favor of the motion.

Council member, Jeremy Baker made a motion to approve the minutes dated May 13th. Council member, David Johnson seconded the motion. All members voted to approve the motion.

Council member, Jeremy Baker made a motion to approve the Minutes dated May 20th and Council member, Penny Anderson seconded the motion. All the members voted in favor of the motion.

Council member, David Johnson made a motion to approve the Claims Docket dated June 10th and totaling \$248,799.53. Council member, Jeremy Baker seconded the motion. All members voted in favor of the motion.

Council member, Jeremy Baker made a motion to approve the May 2024 payroll for Town employees. Council member, David Johnson seconded the motion. All members voted in favor of the motion.

Council member, Jeremy Baker made a motion to approve the March Bank Rec. Council member, David Johnson seconded the motion. All members voted in favor of the motion.

Council member, David Johnson made a motion to approve the April Bank Rec. Council member, Jeremy Baker seconded the motion. All members voted in favor of the motion.

The Clerk Treasurer reported that the Town received \$45,891.00 in Supplemental Funds from the County. LIT Public Safety received \$8,902.00. LIT Certified Shares received \$26,857.00, LIT Econ Development received \$10,132.00.

Two Utility Adjustments for Singh and Carpenter were approved by the Council.

There was a discussion about work at the Town Park. The ground needs to be worked to plant grass seed.

Council member, Penny Anderson felt that Dinks Recovery was a mess and needed cleaned up. She was wondering if Paul Dinkens could put up a fence as everyone sees the property as they come into Town. She asked if anyone else on the Council felt the same. Council member, Joe Blevins said that this probably would be better to bring up at the Planning and Zoning meeting.

There was a discussion about changing the Duke Energy Street lights in Town to LEDs. Council President, Joe Blevins wondered if we could get some better-looking street lights starting from

crossing the railroad track down to the Methodist Church on both side of the street. David Johnson said he would look into this.

The Police Department had nothing to report except the Town Marshal wanted to know if the Council had a problem with an event held by the Methodist church closing Washington and Mulberry Street. No one had an issue with this.

Jewel Blevins stated the Park would be applying for a \$6,000.00 matching Grant from the Morgan County Community Foundation. Council member, David Johnson made a motion for the Town to Match the Grant for \$6,000.00. Council member, Jeremy Baker seconded the motion. All members voted in favor of the motion.

The meeting was adjourned by the Council President.

JUNE 10, 2024 MEETING MINUTES APPROVED & SIGNED JULY 8, 2024

sharon mcintosh? DATE 7/8/24

ATTEST: CLERK TREASURER

SHARON MCINTOSH

TOWN COUNCIL PRESIDENT, JOE BLEVINS

Courtney Allen

COURTNEY ALLEN

Penny Anderson

PENNY ANDERSON

JEREMY BAKER

David Johnson

DAVID JOHNSON