

Morley Village Regular Council Meeting

MINUTES

189 S Cass St (Village Hall)

September 13, 2021

APPROVED MINUTES

CALL TO ORDER: at 7:00 PM by President Petersen

Present: Henry Petersen, President; Paul Block, Trustee; Sandra Leal, Trustee; Serine Petersen, Trustee; Nicholas Drost, Trustee; Linda Kizer, Trustee; and Robert Jusino, Trustee; Terry Stilson, Clerk/Deputy Treasurer and Julie Berry, Treasurer/Deputy Clerk.

Absent: None.

Guests: None.

PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE

PUBLIC MATTERS AND COMMENTS: None.

ADDITIONS TO AGENDA: Stilson added: Playground Equipment Bids under Parks.

CONSENT AGENDA: S. Petersen motioned to accept the consent agenda, as presented, and Drost supported the motion. Motion passed unanimously.

Roll call vote: Yes – H. Petersen, Block, Leal, S. Petersen, Kizer, Jusino, Drost.

COMMITTEE REPORTS:

Administration & Finance:

- **Amish Copies & Labels** – Stilson stated that she has been asked by the Amish whether she could type and print address labels. Kizer suggested they handwrite them but didn't think Village time should be spent on typing. Block stated that Stilson may want to type them at home and charge them. Stilson also said the Amish like cardstock for their printing and usually bring their own cardstock but sometimes use the Village's. **Consensus of the Council is to charge \$.15 a copy if using the Village cardstock and \$.50 a sheet for labels if using Village labels.**

Police, Fire & Rescue:

- **Police update** – H. Petersen reported he has talked about the Police vacancy with Joe Marshall and he may be interested. Stilson has contacted the Montcalm County, Mecosta County and City of Big Rapids Police departments and they said they would see if any policeman would be interested.

Streets & Sidewalk:

- **Blight on 7th Street** – H. Petersen reported discussing this matter with the attorney and read a letter recently sent to a resident about the cars, equipment and trash in the road and road right-of-way by his house. He has 30 days to remove the blight or the Village will start towing and cleaning up the road and right-of-way at the resident's expense.
- **Burned house** – H. Petersen reported sending letters to the owners of the house that burned last year. Stilson has talked with the attorney and he told her to contact the Mecosta County Building Department, which she did. The Building Department will look at the situation and send the resident a letter, copying the Village.
- **7th Street Right-of-Way** – S. Petersen stated a resident has fenced in the roadway off 7th Street and she has concerns about whether emergency vehicles could get through. She would like a letter sent to them stating that if an emergency vehicle is needed to enter the road, then they will drive over the fence or cut it.

Events & Festivals:

- **Fall Festival** – Kizer reported that she is hesitant to plan something this fall because of the Covid restrictions tightening, so she is canceling the Fall Festival this year.
- **Visit with Santa** – Kizer reported she has contacted Santa and the Village can have the Santa event on Friday, December 10. The Credit Union has said they will participate again this year.

Millpond & Dam:

- **PLM** – Stilson reported talking with PLM and was told, because of the warm spring, they treated the pond twice in the time they usually treat it once. PLM wondered if we wanted an additional treatment but said the Village would need to pay for it.
 - H. Petersen added that he told Stilson that we wouldn't do an extra treatment this year.
 - Kizer stated that she thought the pond looked better this year and maybe having two treatments in the spring would work better. She added that maybe something could be done at the old swimming area to make it better for people who have been swimming there.
 - S. Petersen replied that one thing we could do is to clean the beach of weeds.
 - H. Petersen stated that we will work on it next spring.

Parks & Recreation:

- **Gazebo bids** – **S. Petersen motioned to approve the B-n-R Construction bid to remove the Gazebo shakes and replace them with a metal roof at \$7000.00; the color of the metal to be burgundy. Jusino supported the motion. Motion passed unanimously.**

Roll call vote: Yes – H. Petersen, Block, Leal, S. Petersen, Kizer, Jusino, Drost.

- **S. Petersen motioned to accept the \$3200.00 bid from Gotch Ya Covered for powerwashing the Gazebo and staining it, with Block's support. Motion passed unanimously.**

Roll call vote: Yes – H. Petersen, Block, Leal, S. Petersen, Kizer, Jusino, Drost.

- **Park Ordinance Review** – S. Petersen stated she would like the current sign removed containing the open time for the park and change it to the ordinance timeframe of ½ hour before sunrise and ½ hour after sunset. She also added that she would like to charge \$50 for the reservation of the pavilion and gazebo with \$25 of it being a returnable deposit if things are clean when they leave. **S. Petersen motioned to accept the proposed changes to the Park Ordinance with Kizer's support. Motion passed unanimously.**

Roll call vote: Yes – H. Petersen, Block, Leal, S. Petersen, Kizer, Jusino, Drost.

- Changes include:

- Section 3.1 first line – change 25 persons to 10 persons and Applications will be submitted to the Village Clerk at a rate of \$50 which includes a refundable \$25 if the pavilion or gazebo is left in the state it was when rented.
- Section 4.1 add: No staples, screws, tape, or thumb tacks will be used on tables or other pavilion surfaces. Nailed or tacked signs on trees are not permitted.
- Section 4.3: **LOUD NOISES:** Loud music is prohibited. Parties and other assemblies should restrict their noise to a reasonable level.
- Section 4.4: **PROHIBITED MATERIALS:** Silly string and/or sidewalk chalk is NOT allowed in the pavilion area. Cigarette butts should be disposed of properly and not left on the ground or cement.
- Section 4.5 **LOITERING:** No loitering is allowed in any area of the parks.
- Add Section 8. **ANIMALS**
 - 8.1 All dogs should be on leash and controlled by an adult. Dog waste must be removed properly.
 - 8.2 Horses need to be tied to the hitching post and never to any tree or other object. Horse waste must be removed properly, and any holes or other damage made by horses should be repaired.
- Existing sections 8, 9, 10, and 11 be changed to 9, 10, 11 and 12 respectively.

- **Playground Equipment** – **S. Petersen motioned to purchase a swing set and 17' Superdome with MCCF grant monies and monies from the Village of Morley. Jusino supported the motion. Motion passed unanimously.**

Roll call vote: Yes – H. Petersen, Block, Leal, S. Petersen, Kizer, Jusino, Drost.

- S. Petersen stated, in the spring when applying for another grant, she will ask Deerfield Township if they would like to help.

Building, Grounds, Equipment & Employees:

- **Maintenance Worker** – H. Petersen reported that he has called several applicants and they do not want to work for \$14 an hour. He would like to temporarily hire Steven Troost at \$14 an hour until the Village hires a permanent employee. He would also like to pay Steven for the back wages he has worked during the summer.

- Stilson stated that when Steven filled out employment forms in June she had sent the new hire form to the State of Michigan. She recently received a form asking how much he worked and how much we paid him for hours through the week of August 14. She had stated none because he was supposed to be volunteering his time. Now she will have to refile the form.
- Berry replied that it doesn't matter when an employee works; it only matters when he gets paid. Nothing should have to be reported.
- **Drost motioned to temporarily hire Steven Troost (at \$14 an hour) and pay him past hours since Walt Dosch left. Block supported the motion. Motion passed unanimously.**

Roll call vote: Yes – H. Petersen, Block, Leal, S. Petersen, Kizer, Jusino, Drost.

- S. Petersen stated we need to have interviews done by October.
- H. Petersen stated that the Village is saving money by hiring the mowing contractor. He is also obtaining bids for snow plowing.
- A workshop will be held on Monday, September 20 at 7:00 PM to discuss who to interview and when the interviews are scheduled.

- **Police Department Roof** – H. Petersen stated he has talked with the insurance adjustor about the Police Department roof that has lost shingles during the summer windstorms. The Village has a \$250 deductible. He has received a bid from B-n-R Construction to repair the roof for \$3700. **S. Petersen motioned to accept the B-n-R bid (\$3700) for the police department roof with Drost's support. Motion passed unanimously.**

Roll call vote: Yes – H. Petersen, Block, Leal, S. Petersen, Kizer, Jusino, Drost.

Health & Safety: None

UNFINISHED BUSINESS:

- **Survey of Municipal Grounds** – H. Petersen is still waiting for the surveyor to finish.
- **COP contract** – Stilson reported that she has asked Dana Myers for a copy of the new contract but has not received one yet.

NEW BUSINESS: None

PUBLIC QUESTIONS AND COMMENTS:

ADJOURNMENT: H. Petersen adjourned the meeting at 8:19 PM.

Respectfully submitted,
Terry Stilson, Village of Morley Clerk