

Moville City Council –Wednesday, May 1, 2024

Roll Call: Paul Malm, via zoom, Calvin Mellies, John Parks, and Bret Hayworth is present at 6:30pm. Rapp joins the meeting at 7:20pm. Malm motions to approve agenda, seconded by Mellies. Ayes, motion carries. Parks motions to approve the Minutes from the last meeting, seconded by Malm. Ayes, motion carries. Parks motions to approve utility billing trial balance, seconded by Hayworth. Ayes, motion carries. Hayworth motions to approve Urban Revitalization Tax abatement request, seconded by Parks. Ayes motion carries. Guests present include Kent Carper, Chad Thompson, Jerry Sailer, Mike Weaver, Dave Christensen, Cynthia Alavez, Steffani Kotz, Joel Robinson, Judy Ericsson, Gene Groetken, Cinda Krause, Daron Fredrickson, Kenneth Fredrickson, and Amanda Goodenow.

Kent Carper introduced himself during open forum. Kent Carper is running for Woodbury County District 1 Supervisor.

Gene Groetken spoke at open forum regarding trees on city right-of-way by his property pushing up through the concrete also with broken branches dangling down and wanting to know who is responsible to cut these down for safety reasons.

Chief Jerry Sailer gave a Fire Department update for the month of April. He noted there were 5 calls, one involving wires down from wind storm, fire alarm, 2 field fires assist, and ambulance assist. Monthly truck checks and had issue with a gas power fan where the bar was cracked so it needed welding but it is back in service now. In training, they had residential search technology, collecting data and also drag techniques. Stockton Towing is supplying a wrecked vehicle for training in the next week.

Police Officer Cynthia Alavez gave a brief update on our Police Department as Chief Joe Barnes was unable to attend the meeting. No April stats were given at this time. The PD did have a felony pursuit and assisted Woodbury County Sheriff's office. Our PD attended Active Shooter Incident Management Training and worked with different departments like the Woodbury County SWAT team. The PD was happy to do community policing and enjoyed sharing popsicles at the park with some of our local children!

Judy Ericsson provides the City Council with MYRA's financials and also stats demonstrating the significant impact that MYRA games has for our community. They also provided DOT records that show nearly 2,550 cars that pass the baseball fields each day. Joel Robinson also explains Parks motions to approve giving MYRA \$5,000 towards their LED lights contract with REC for the North Baseball fields, seconded by Hayworth. Ayes, motion carries.

Amanda Goodenow from ISG Engineering explained to the council that additional testing was done on existing water wells for Iron Bacteria. Mayor Linden addressed the Council and further explained there is a need for moving forward on the water project due to residents needing quality water and more pressure. Do we want to risk the possibility of not having water in our future? Deron Fredrickson asked to ensure other property locations were considered for wells closer to town. The council has considered different locations around town but those were rejected from property owners. Superintendent Mike Weaver explains that the water in the valley was not recommended due to high levels of manganese and radium. Councilman Parks believes the location of the new tower and wells could be beneficial if our town decides to progress south of Highway 20 in the Sunnybrook area.

Mellies approved moving forward with the design of the Water System Improvement project, seconded by Parks, Malm abstained from voting, Ayes, motion carried. The City Council has approved moving forward (5/1/2024) with the project beginning with the Design proposal on the wells, water tower and plant. The Design Proposal may be given to the Council as early as next meeting on May 15, 2024. It will take 9-12 months on the design alone and up to 3 years to complete the project. The Plan design is priced on a high level at approximately \$9.8 million. This cost could be less due to planning and bidding in the future. Also, have to seek DNR permits. Moville may apply for a SRF Planning and Design loan by July 1, 2024 or look into USDA funding. It may take up to 2 years before bidding on the project begins. This gives the Council time to set plans in motion as to when and how the city's water rates may be affected.

Update on Frontage Road infrastructure modernizing project is still underway. Letters were sent to the state for approval. Gernhart Engineering Design locates are done. Mike Weaver will meet with Engineer Gernhart next week to approve plans and specifications. The City would like to then set up a meeting with the Frontage Road business owners and residents to discuss the plans and possible timeline of project completion. Bidding may begin as early as July 2024 and are hopeful on a completion date as early as the end of November 2024.

Update on 136.06 Sidewalk Construction Ordered for residents at The Ridge. The existing residents of The Ridge were sent an official notice by Building Inspector Dave Christensen to begin construction of their front sidewalks by the date of June 15, 2024. If those residents do not comply, our City may take further action according to City Ordinances to carry out the necessary means at the expense of that property owner.

Parks motions to approve Snow, Ice Accumulation Removal Ordinance 2024-3, seconded by Hayworth. Ayes, motion carries. Hayworth motions to waive the 2nd and 3rd reading of the updated Snow Removal Ordinance, seconded by Parks. Ayes, motion carries. Hayworth motioned to adopt 2024-3 Snow, Ice Accumulation Removal Ordinance, seconded by Mellies. Ayes, motion carries. This gives the Resident 48 hours to remove the snow and ice from their sidewalks before the City comes in and removes it and charges a fee of \$75 per hour which may be assessed through property taxes or charged to the property owner.

Hayworth motions to approve the updated version of the International Property Maintenance Code, seconded by Parks. Ayes, Motion carries. This includes definitions of alternative materials, methods and equipment, an abandoned vehicle, junk vehicle, junk, rubbish, motor vehicles, pet feces, protective treatment of exterior surfaces, roofs and drainage, mechanical and electrical requirements, etc.

Parks motions to approve the adoption of Chapter 157 updates under Building Codes, such as the adoption of International Building Code, Residential Code, and Uniform Plumbing Code, seconded by Hayworth. Ayes, motion carried.

Discuss and inform residents of Merville on the All-Terrain, UTV, LUV, Utility Vehicle, Side by Side, ATV ordinances on the City Streets and Alleys of the City of Merville. (This does not include Golf Carts) We comply and agree with State laws. Operation of such vehicles must be 16 or older and possess a valid driver's license, not to exceed the number of passengers permitted due to the number of seats intended, proof of insurance, no person shall operate such vehicle under the influence, they are not permitted on City sidewalks, shall display a lighted headlight and taillight, adequate brakes, and an adequate exhaust system. A slow moving sign or a flag is **not** required on these types of vehicles. It is however, required on a Golf Cart.

Parks motions to appoint Joel Robinson as the Northwest Iowa Regional Housing Authority Representative, seconded by Mellies. Ayes, motion carries.

Mayor and Council concerns were discussed. Next council meeting is set for Wednesday, May 15, at 6:30pm. With no further business Hayworth motions to adjourn at 7:33pm, seconded by Rapp. Ayes, motion carries-meeting closed.

Michaela Peterson
City Clerk

Scott Linden
Mayor