

**MINUTES OF THE REGULAR MEETING
OF THE MORRIS CITY COUNCIL
HELD ON MONDAY, NOVEMBER 21, 2022**

The regular meeting of the Morris City Council was called to order by Mayor Chris Brown, on Monday, November 21, 2022 at 7:00 P.M. in the City Council Chambers. Present were:

Alderman Sarah Mettille	Alderman Derrick Wren
Alderman Jake Duvick	Alderman Alex Clubb
Alderman Julian Houston	Alderman Duane Wolfe
Alderman Dean Tambling	Absent: Herb Wyeth

APPROVE MINUTES It was moved by Alderman Houston and seconded by Alderman Duvick, the reading of minutes of the previous meeting be dispensed with and approved as written. This motion carried by a unanimous voice vote.

APPROVE BILLS It was moved by Alderman Duvick and seconded by Alderman Wren, the list of bills be approved and ordered paid, when funds are available and signed by the proper committees. This motion carried by the following vote:

Ayes: Aldermen Mettille, Duvick, Houston, Tambling, Wren, Clubb, Wolfe.
Nays: None

ACCEPT REPORT OF FINES It was moved by Alderman Duvick and seconded by Alderman Houston, the report of fines for the month of October be accepted and placed in the proper accounts. This motion carried by the following vote:

Ayes: Aldermen Mettille, Duvick, Houston, Tambling, Wren, Clubb, Wolfe.
Nays: None

ACCEPT MONTHLY TREASURER'S REPORT It was moved by Alderman Houston and seconded by Alderman Duvick, that the Treasurer's Report for the month of October be accepted and placed on file. This motion carried by the following vote:

Ayes: Aldermen Mettille, Duvick, Houston, Tambling, Wren, Clubb, Wolfe.
Nays: None.

PUBLIC HEARING REGARDING THE NPDES Mayor Brown opened the public hearing at 7:06 pm for public comment regarding our Annual National Pollutant Discharge Elimination System. Without any further discussion it was moved by Alderman Duvick and seconded by Alderman Wren to close the public hearing 7:06pm. This motion was carried by the following vote:

Ayes: Aldermen Mettille, Duvick, Houston, Tambling, Wren, Clubb, Wolfe.
Nays: None.

PUBLIC HEARING TO CONSIDER RESOLUTION FOR REHABILITATION BLOCK GRANT

Mayor Brown opened the public hearing at 7:07 pm to consider the Resolution for the Community Development Housing Rehabilitation Block Grant. Mayor Brown called on Connie Buchanan with NCICG to give a narration of the grant program, that is attached to these minutes. There were no further comments from the public. It was moved by Alderman Houston and seconded by Alderman Tambling to close the public hearing at 7:12pm. This motion was carried by the following vote:

Ayes: Aldermen Mettille, Duvick, Houston, Tambling, Wren, Clubb, Wolfe.

Nays: None.

CITY AUDIT FY ENDING APRIL 30, 2022 MACK & ASSOC. PRESENTATION

Lauri Pope, from Mack and Associates presented the Fiscal Year End Audit for 2021-2022. Highlights include an Unmodified Opinion, which is a clean opinion of the City's financial statement. The City's net position at close of business on April 30, 2022 was \$71,677,000, this is an increase of 5.7 Million from previous year which is a good place to be, which is comprised of a 2 Million dollar increase in intergovernmental and state revenues, expenses were consistent with the previous years expenses and in line with budget spending. Long term debt decreased by half a million from paydowns, and 7.3 Million unassigned balances available for spending. Overall increases in all governmental funds across the budget.

ANNOUNCEMENTS

Mayor Brown introduced Three term State Representative Tony McCombie, serving seven counties in the 71st district that has been selected to be the next leader for the Illinois House Republicans. Representative McCombie addressed the council with a "first" standing ovation thanking Mayor Brown for the honor to be invited to speak as the first woman leader in the House of Republicans. The City of Morris will host Home for the Holidays, November 25-27. Come out for the lighted parade, lighting of Chapin Park, the house walk, the Festival of Trees and many, many more activities. The City will be closed Thursday, November 24 and Friday, November 25 for the Thanksgiving Holiday. Morris Retail Association will hold Midnight in Morris on Friday, December 2. The Illinois Department of Transportation is inviting the public to provide feedback on the proposed improvements for U.S. 6 (Bedford Road) from Ashton Road to Illinois Route 47 in the City of Morris. Initial public involvement will be conducted on the project website. Comments will be accepted through November 30, 2022. A big thank you to our Treasurer Terri Kief for the beautiful decorated christmas tree.

FINANCE & ADMINISTRATION COMMITTEE

It was moved by Alderman Houston and seconded by Alderman Duvick that committee recommendation that Council adopt the Fiscal Year 2021-2022 Audit. This motion was carried by the following vote:

Ayes: Aldermen Mettille, Duvick, Houston, Tambling, Wren, Clubb, Wolfe.

Nays: None.

It was moved by Alderman Houston and seconded by Alderman Duvick that committee recommendation that Council pass **Resolution #R-22-14** of Support and Commitment of Local Funds for the Illinois Community Development Block Grant. This motion was carried by the following vote:

Ayes: Aldermen Mettille, Duvick, Houston, Tambling, Wren, Clubb, Wolfe.

Nays: None.

It was moved by Alderman Houston and seconded by Alderman Wren that committee recommendation that Council pass **Resolution R-22-15** approving the “2023-2025” Local Administrative Policy and Procedures Manual: Housing Rehabilitation Plan”. This motion carried by the following vote:

Ayes: Aldermen Mettille, Duvick, Houston, Tambling, Wren, Clubb, Wolfe.

Nays: None.

**JUDICIARY &
LICENSE
COMMITTEE**

Committee Chairman Duvick reported on the new business license as follows, Jessica Edwards, DBA Rustic Events Company, 650 W. Washington Street to operate an events venue and events planning business, Julie Chatton, DBA Julie’s Cheesecake Café, 511 Liberty Street, to operate a restaurant business.

It was moved by Alderman Duvick and seconded by Houston that committee recommendation that Council adopt **Ordinance #4549** amending the City of Morris Building Code adopting Fire Prevention Regulations. This motion carried by the following vote:

Ayes: Aldermen Mettille, Duvick, Houston, Tambling, Wren, Clubb, Wolfe.

Nays: None.

**PLANNING
COMMISSION**

Alderman Wren announced the next planning commission meeting will be held on Wednesday, November 30, 2022 at 5:30pm.

ZBA

It was moved by board member Alderman Houston and seconded by Alderman Duvick that board recommendation that Council adopt an **Ordinance #4550** granting a Variance request from Section 17.57 fo the Morris Municipal Code by 5R Enterprise, LLC., for the property commonly known as 1281 Leah Road in the City of Morris, Grundy County, Illinois. This motion was carried by the following vote:

Ayes: Aldermen Mettille, Duvick, Houston, Tambling, Wren, Clubb, Wolfe.

Nays: None.

There will be no meeting for Zoning Board of Appeals Wednesday, November 30, 2022.

**BUSINESS
DEVELOPMENT
COMMITTEE**

Alderman Wolfe reported the committee discussed the planters for the downtown area on November 15, 2022 and will be working with Teska to finalize the decisions.

AUDIENCE

Mayor Brown announced that it could be possible that the January 3, 2023 City Council Meeting will be canceled.

ADJOURNMENT

It was moved by Alderman Houston and seconded by Alderman Clubb; the meeting be adjourned at 7:28pm. This motion carried by unanimous voice vote.

Meeting adjourned until December 5, 2022, 7:00pm

ATTEST: 
CITY CLERK