

**MINUTES OF THE REGULAR MEETING
OF THE MORRIS CITY COUNCIL
HELD ON MONDYAY, JUNE 3, 2024**

The regular meeting of the Morris City Council was called to order by Mayor Chris Brown, on Monday, June 3, 2024, at 6:00 P.M., in the City Council Chambers. Present were:

Alderman Jake Duvick	Alderman Herb Wyeth
Alderman Julian Houston	Alderman Jim Black
Alderman Sarah Mettille	Alderman Alex Clubb
Alderman Dean Tambling - ABSENT	Alderman Carrie Hall

APPROVE MINUTES It was moved by Alderman Houston and seconded by Alderman Clubb, the reading of minutes of the May 13, 2024, meeting be dispensed with, and approved as written. This motion was carried by a unanimous voice vote.

APPROVE LIST OF BILLS JUNE 3, 2024 It was moved by Alderman Black and seconded by Alderman Clubb, 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 Duvick, Mettille, Wyeth, Black, Hall, Houston and Clubb
Nays: None
Absent: Alderman Tambling

APPROVE LIST OF BILLS FOR TIF I ONLY JUNE 3, 2024 It was moved by Alderman Black and seconded by Alderman Wyeth, the list of TIF I 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 Duvick, Mettille, Wyeth, Black, Hall, Houston and Clubb
Nays: None
Absent: Alderman Tambling

ANNOUNCEMENTS Mayor Brown recognized Aniston Caputo, Class 3A State Champion for Discus and Malachi Congo, 8th grade State Champion for Shot Put, Three French Hens Market will be held June 8, from 8am until 2pm, Morris Cruise Night will be held June 8th as well from 6-8pm, Dulcimer Festival will be Saturday, June 8 and 9 in Goold Park from 10am-6pm, Concerts on the Courthouse Lawn continue on Thursday, June 13 with music by The Neverly Brothers from 6:30pm until 8pm., Rhythm & BBQ Festival will be Saturday, June 15 in Goold Park from 10am until 6pm, and lastly the State of the City will be held at Morris Country Club on Wednesday, June 19 from 5pm until 7pm. Tickets are available at the Grundy County Chamber of Commerce.

**FINANCE &
ADMINISTRATION
COMMITTEE**

It was moved by Alderman Duvick and seconded by Alderman Wyeth that committee recommendation that council approve the renewal of the City Health Insurance with Blue Cross/Blue Shield with a 3.93% increase at renewal on July 1, 2024. This motion was carried by the following vote:

Ayes: Aldermen Wyeth, Duvick, Houston, Hall, Clubb, Black, Mettille.

Nays: None.

Absent: Alderman Tambling

**ZONING BOARD OF
APPEALS
COMMITTEE**

It was moved by Alderman Houston and seconded by Alderman Black that committee recommendation that council adopt **Ordinance #4629** granting various requests by Douglas and Patricia Grunnet and Mike Kinzler for property identified as the Lot North of the Railroad Tracks Between Liberty and Wauponsee (902 Liberty Street) pin #05-04-427-004. This motion was carried by the following vote:

Ayes: Aldermen Wyeth, Duvick, Houston, Hall, Black, Mettille.

Nays: None

Abstain: Alderman Clubb

Absent: Alderman Tambling

Alderman Houston reported the next meeting will be Wednesday, June 26, 2024, at 4:30pm.

**PLANNING
COMMISSION**

It was moved by Alderman Duvick and seconded by Alderman Houston, that committee recommendation that Council adopt **Ordinance #4630** granting the Conditional Permitted Use Request by Cara Wiechen and Jennifer Zdanwic to allow for the Operation of Microblading at the business located at 1360 N. Division Street. This motion was carried by the following vote:

Ayes: Aldermen Wyeth, Duvick, Houston, Hall, Black, Mettille, and Clubb.

Nays: None

Absent: Alderman Tambling

There will be a meeting Wednesday, June 26, 2024, at 5:30pm.

**BUSINESS
DEVELOPMENT
COMMITTEE**

Alderman Wyeth reported the next meeting for the Business Development Committee will be Tuesday, June 25, 2024, at 10am.

AUDIENCE

Arthur Hornsby, 815 E. Chapin Street resident living near Goodwill Park, addressed the Council. Arthur touched on three concerns, first the swale that runs through the park, beginning at the Northeast Corner, he is of the opinion this creates a hazard for the children playing in the park, second the benches are too small for adults to use and believes a study should be made to determine if they are suitable, and lastly his opinion of the playground equipment is that it

needs to be looked at. He went on to mention that he would like input from the Alderman, when sworn in to office the first thing, top priority of an alderperson is the health and safety of the people you serve, and he would not have opened that park up the way it currently is. He also indicated that the park did not have a flag, and the use of the park space is important, the grills should have been on the other side of the pavilion, so there are good intentions, but everyone should trust, but verify. Hindsight is wonderful, but he really thinks the swale could be very, very bad, and when things are bad you usually get a phone call, from an attorney.

Alderman Mettillie addressed the concerns that Mr. Hornsby presented, she is confident that the City brought in the right experts to advise, plan, build and execute this project, and that change is hard to accept and how it is realized that Goodwill Park had a lot of Nostalgia that will be missed. This is an adorable park that needed an overhaul, and it was a very intentional design and process to get to this point. Alderman Mettillie followed up with, while these are points made by Mr. Hornsby and with him being a park expert living next to Goodwill for 63 years, this is the exact reason why the City took survey's from the residents, and invited the public to meetings for discussions on what were important aspects of what the community would like to see in their parks, wishing that Mr. Hornsby would have been a part of those early conversations.


Alderman Clubb addressed the council with him having quite a few calls on the park to Mr. Hornsby's point. The swale, lack of swings and equipment being cut to half of what we had, and when there are 6-8 kids using the playground equipment it will be jammed packed. Alderman Clubb finished with, where it's at now it needs a lot of work.

Mayor Brown recognized Alderman Houston as he was awarded "Person of the Year" from the Lion's Club.

ADJOURNMENT

It was moved by Alderman Duvick and seconded by Alderman Houston the meeting be adjourned at 6:32 p.m. This motion was carried by a unanimous voice vote.

Next scheduled City Council Meeting, Monday, June 17, 2024, at 6:00 p.m.

ATTEST: 
CITY CLERK