

TOWN OF MORRISON, TENNESSEE
BOARD OF MAYOR AND ALDERMEN MONTHLY MEETING

JANUARY 3, 2023

The regular monthly meeting of the Board of Mayor and Aldermen of the Town of Morrison, Tennessee, met on Tuesday, January 3, 2023, at approximately 7:00 p.m. at Morrison Town Hall. The meeting date was moved to Tuesday since Monday was the observance of the New Year's Day holiday. Adequate public notice of the meeting was given by notices published in the Southern Standard and on the Town's website.

Present were the following voting members Mayor Sue Anderson; Vice Mayor Keith Youngblood; Aldermen William Dillard, Sr., Sue Jones, Donald Miller, and Jeannine Miller. Non-voting members present: Rhonda Sparkman, Recorder; Kara Youngblood, Town Attorney; and Junior Pennington, Constable; Absent: None.

Others present: Joey Jones, Pam Laxson, Luanne Laxson, LaJuana Baker, Elizabeth Baker, Stan Phillips, Stacy Lee, Bethany Porter, Donna Solomon, Mary Davis, Sherry Davis, Daron Whitehead, Clark Ware, Nancy Ware, Patrick Robinson, Leah Robinson, Carlene Brown, Jenny Nafrada, Bill Hall, Sue Hall, Jim Burke, Jean Ann Knudson, Margaret Dyer, Zach Wilson, Claudia Iliff, Victoria England, Jared England, M Rhodes, K Alexander, Dwayne Doud, Bernadette Doud, James Davis, John Davis, James Wilkes, Donald Prater, Teresa Prater, Casey Hopkins, Johnny Holt, Josh Warren, Andrea Warren, Dara Holt, Lacey Taylor, Hanna Bess, Henry Liles, representatives from McNeilus Steel, Inc., and several others. (Some of these people left after the Public Hearings.)

The meeting was presided over by the Honorable Mayor Sue Anderson, with Rhonda Sparkman, Recorder, recording the action taken at the meeting.

CONSIDERATION OF MINUTES

Mayor Anderson stated that written copies of the minutes of the regular monthly meeting of December 5, 2022, were presented to each member of the Board of Mayor and Aldermen. She asked if any member of the Board wished to make any corrections, additions, or modifications to the minutes.

Alderman Donald Miller asked that the names of McNeilus Steel, Inc. representatives, Glen Sylvester and Aaron Tarasenko, be added to the minutes of December 5, 2022. Mayor Anderson asked Recorder Sparkman if she would make the change, to which Recorder Sparkman stated she would. Motion was made by Alderman Donald Miller to dispense with the reading of the minutes of the regular monthly meeting of December 5, 2022, and approve them as written with his requested change. Alderman Jones seconded the motion. Motion carried unanimously.

RECOGNITION OF VISITORS

Mayor Anderson recognized the visitors who wished to address the Board. She reminded them to keep comments to three minutes.

Luanne Laxson expressed her concern of how and when meetings were held. She also spoke on behalf of Mrs. Williams who is requesting a traffic light be installed at S. Mill Street and Highway 55. Mayor Anderson stated she had spoken with TDOT officials regarding this location as well as installing a light at Sunny Acres Road, and is awaiting their decision.

Jennifer Burks asked to speak about the traffic lights. Her statements then prompted several others to speak out again about the Town, the Board and the proposed steel company coming to Morrison. These comments continued for a few minutes.

Stacy Lee expressed her thoughts on the jurisdictional boundaries of government.

Mayor Anderson thanked everyone for their comments.

OLD BUSINESS

Mayor Anderson asked for a motion to adopt the 2018 International Property Maintenance Code manual for the Town to follow. She stated other cities are following this manual, and the Town of Morrison needs to be up-to-date. Members agreed.

Vice Mayor Youngblood made a motion to adopt the 2018 International Property Maintenance Code manual. The motion was seconded by Alderman Donald Miller and carried unanimously.

NEW BUSINESS

Codes Officer Stan Phillips addressed the Board for the need to have a policy on travel trailers. He stated in the last few months there have been several incidents with people using travel trailers as residences in the town limits. He said currently there is no code identifying travel trailers, and he needs to know how the Board wants him to enforce it.

Alderman Jeannine Miller asked if he could get more information to which Stan said he had given the information to the Recorder. The Recorder stated the information was in tonight's agenda packet.

Mayor Anderson suggested to table the item until next month. Alderman Donald Miller made a motion to table this item until next month. The motion was seconded by Vice Mayor Youngblood and carried.

ORDINANCES

Public Hearings on Ordinance No. 22-05 and Ordinance No. 22-06 were held tonight beginning at 6:45 p.m. prior to the Regular Board Meeting.

(Ordinance No. 22-05, an Ordinance of the Town of Morrison, Tennessee, to change the Zoning Classification of property located on West Maple Street, further described as Map 101 Parcel 022.00, from A-1 (Agricultural) to I-1 (Industrial) (PLAN LLC Request); and to express the time for the ordinance to become effective was postponed for second and final reading until the Special Called Session on January 26, 2023.)

(Ordinance No. 22-06, an Ordinance of the Town of Morrison, Tennessee, to change the Zoning Classification of property located on Diemer Drive, further described as Map 101 Parcel 011.22, from A-1 (Agricultural) to R-2 (High Density Residential) (CRDC Request); and to express the time for the ordinance to become effective was introduced for second and final reading.

A motion was made by Alderman Donald Miller to pass Ordinance No. 22-06 on second and final reading. The motion was seconded by Alderman Jones, and the motion carried unanimously.)

ANNOUNCEMENTS

Alderman Donald Miller asked if the Town could go back to having a Town newsletter. It was suggested that people go to the Town's website to which members of the audience stated they don't look at the website, and they would rather have a newsletter.

Mayor Anderson said a newsletter could be done, but it would take some time to produce and current items would be old news by the time the newsletter was sent out. Alderman Jeannine Miller said she understood that some people didn't take the newspaper or look at the website. She encouraged people to contribute ideas for improving the website.

An unidentified person brought up the Planning Commission voting on the proposed steel company which started another discussion by audience members on the topic. Members of the Board tried to explain why meetings are held the way they are. People are invited to attend these meetings.

Mayor Anderson clarified the order of the votes for the steel plant. Town Attorney Kara Youngblood reiterated that the Town had followed the proper procedures. She encouraged if anyone had further questions on how local government works to email the Town. She said for now we need to continue this meeting tonight, but we would be happy to address any other comments/questions by email.

ADJOURNMENT

Mayor Anderson asked if there was a motion to adjourn. Alderman Donald Miller said before adjourning he liked having the departmental reports, but would like to see reports from the fire department and the planning commission, if possible. Mayor Anderson stated he could ask the fire department, and she would ask the planning commission. Alderman Jeannine Miller asked if each employee could sign their own report.

With no further business to discuss, Vice Mayor Youngblood made a motion to adjourn the meeting which was seconded by Alderman Jones. The motion carried unanimously, and the meeting adjourned.

APPROVED;

MAYOR SUE ANDERSON

DATE _____

RHONDA SPARKMAN, RECORDER