

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

MAY 1, 2023

The regular monthly meeting of the Board of Mayor and Aldermen of the Town of Morrison, Tennessee, met on Monday, May 1, 2023, at approximately 7:00 p.m. at Morrison Town Hall. Adequate public notice of the meeting was given by notices published in the Southern Standard and posted on the Town's website and the window at Town Hall.

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, Town Recorder; Darrell Julian, Town Attorney; and Junior Pennington, Constable; Absent: None.

Others present: Joey Jones, LaJuana Baker, Elizabeth Baker, Ellen Pilcher, Carl McDaniel, Adam Bouldin, Samantha Bouldin, Luanne Laxson, Pamela Laxson, Stacy Lee and Zach Wilson.

The meeting was presided over by the Honorable Mayor Sue Anderson, with Rhonda Sparkman, Town 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 April 3, 2023, 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.

Motion was made by Alderman Jeannine Miller to dispense with the reading of the minutes of the regular monthly meeting of April 3, 2023, and approve them as written. Vice Mayor Youngblood seconded the motion. Motion carried unanimously.

RECOGNITION OF VISITORS

Mayor Anderson welcomed everyone to the meeting, and recognized the people who had signed up to address the Board: Stacy Lee spoke about God's protection for Morrison; Luanne Laxson spoke about McNeilus Steel and how things were handled; Assistant Fire Chief Jason Blalock, Morrison Fire and Rescue Department, deferred his comments until later in the meeting.

OLD BUSINESS

After a very short discussion, Mayor Anderson stated the vote on the welcome signs will be postponed until a later date in order to gather more information.

Alderman Donald Miller spoke about the three quotes included in the agenda packet from local storage building companies. A short discussion ensued regarding where the building should be located. It was decided to postpone a decision on where to place the building. As far as the purchase of the building, members agreed that it needed to be advertised for bids. Vice Mayor Youngblood made a motion to advertise for bids. Alderman Donald Miller seconded the motion, and the motion carried unanimously.

The Board then discussed the task lists that the employees submit to the Board each month. Members asked if it was necessary to keep doing these lists since it was basically the same list each month.

Alderman Donald Miller made the motion to discontinue having employees submit these lists. The motion was seconded by Vice Mayor Youngblood and the motion carried unanimously.

Mayor Anderson asked Town Recorder Sparkman to share her findings on the Town offering customers the ability to pay taxes and fees by credit/debit card. Town Recorder Sparkman told the Board that a card reader would be provided by the Town's bank, with no cost to the Town. Customers can pay in-person or by phone. A convenience fee of 3-1/2% would be paid by the customer at the time of the transaction. That fee will go to the financial institution. Board members agreed that it would be a good option for people when paying their taxes and fees to the Town.

Vice Mayor Youngblood made a motion to proceed with getting the card reader installed at Town Hall. The motion was seconded by Alderman Jeannine Miller and the motion carried unanimously.

NEW BUSINESS

Mayor Anderson asked board members to consider the mower bids included in their packets. The Town's mower is about twelve years old, and is beginning to need numerous repairs. She stated three businesses had provided bids. Members discussed the type mower the Town needed.

Vice Mayor Youngblood made a motion to purchase the first bid from McMinnville Lawn & Garden. No one seconded the motion. Motion failed.

It was asked if the mower was advertised for bid in the local paper. It had not been advertised.

Alderman Jeannine Miller made a motion to postpone a decision on the mower until the next meeting. The motion was seconded by Alderman Jones and the motion carried unanimously.

The Board then discussed the Fourth of July fireworks show. Vice Mayor Youngblood made a motion to approve the requested \$4,500 contribution toward the Fourth of July fireworks and entertainment as noted on tonight's agenda. There was no second motion. Motion failed.

Alderman Donald Miller then made a motion to contribute \$3,500 instead, which was last year's contribution amount. There was no second motion. Motion failed.

It was asked where these fireworks were purchased and who goes to get them? Alderman Jeannine Miller suggested another supplier might be able to provide a better deal. Had anyone spoken with Chris Cope? Mayor Anderson stated she can talk with him.

ANNOUNCEMENTS

Alderman Donald Miller mentioned the County's site on Sunny Acres Road, and that plans are still in place to proceed with developing it into a convenience center.

Alderman Jeannine Miller gave Board members a handout from the Tennessee Department of Treasury on their Length of Service Award Program. This program could be used as an incentive for the Morrison Volunteer Fire Department firefighters. A discussion will be had at the next Board meeting.

Mayor Anderson recognized Morrison Fire and Rescue Department Assistant Fire Chief Jason Blalock. Assistant Chief Blalock gave a quarterly report. He stated he did not think a monthly report was needed to which Mayor Anderson agreed.

Assistant Chief Blalock stated the department was in need of two more sets of turnout gear, three lockwood hooks, and six radios and pagers. He explained the necessity of having adequate and safe equipment for the firefighters. The approximate total of all the items requested is \$16,400.

Members expressed they were for purchasing any/all the requested items provided funds were available to do so. Mayor Anderson assured them that funds were available.

Vice Mayor Youngblood made a motion to purchase all items requested with an approximate cost of \$16,400. The motion was seconded by Alderman Donald Miller and carried unanimously.

Mayor Anderson and Board members thanked Assistant Chief Blalock for his time and the great job the Morrison Fire Department does.

Town Attorney Darrell Julian requested to hold an Executive Session of the Board of Mayor and Aldermen following the Regular Session. Mayor Anderson acknowledged the request, and asked visitors to vacate the Board Room upon adjournment of the Regular Session.

ADJOURNMENT

Vice Mayor Youngblood made a motion to adjourn the meeting which was seconded by Alderman Donald Miller. The motion carried unanimously, and the meeting adjourned.

EXECUTIVE SESSION FOLLOWED

APPROVED;

MAYOR SUE ANDERSON

DATE _____

RHONDA SPARKMAN, TOWN RECORDER