

**TOWN OF MORNINGSIDE
MINUTES OF THE REGULAR MEETING
TUESDAY, FEBRUARY 20, 2024**

The regular meeting was called to order at 7:00pm by Mayor Bennard Cann.

The Pledge of Allegiance was led by Vice Mayor Wade.

ROLL CALL:

Mayor Cann – Present

Vice Mayor Wade – Present

Council Member Anthony - Present

Council Member Fowler – Present

Council Member Mullins – Present

Police Dept – Sgt Smith – Present

Town Admin – Karen Rooker – Present

Public Works Dept – Christopher Mateus

Code Enforcement – Regina Foster - Present

MVFD – Squad Staff – Absent

INTRODUCTION/ADOPTION OF RESOLUTIONS AND ORDINANCES

None

INTRODUCTIONS –

Swearing-In of 2024 Election Judges

- Mayor Cann swore in R David Chambers, M Tremblay, D Stevenson.
- D Jackson arrived later and was sworn in at that time.

Icivl PRESENTATION

- Ally Tomasini brought 4 copies of the plans for the Woodland Rd Project. The Council presented their questions.
- She will bring the renderings and provide electronic copies to the Council by the next meeting so they can make plans to present this to the homeowners affected by this project.
- She will also provide RFP info so bids can be requested for the project.

APPROVAL OF THE MINUTES

Motion was made by Council Member Mullins, seconded by Vice Mayor Wade to approve the minutes for the Regular Meeting of December 19, 2023 and the Work Session of January 13, 2024. No further discussion. All voted aye. Motion carried. (Note: There were no meetings in January due to inclement weather.)

MISCELLANEOUS/OPEN FORUM - None

REPORT OF OFFICERS/BOARDS/COMMITTEES

- **Public Works** – Chris Mateus gave an oral report.
- **Police Dept** – Sgt Smith gave an oral & written report.
- **Admin** – Clerk-Treasurer Rooker gave an oral & written report.
- **Code** – Regna Foster gave an oral & written report.
- **Council Member Fowler** – no report
- **Anthony** – gave an oral report on building issues/usage.
- **Council Member Mullins** – There will be a presentation by the Sherrif's Dept on March 19 regarding Domestic Violence.
- **Vice Mayor Wade** – no report
- **Mayor Cann** – Gave an oral report.

The mayor opened the floor to the public:

- Ms Spivey (Skyline President) asked about the Do Not Enter sign at the 7-11 and what can be done about out-of-state tags parked in the street.
- Mr Proctor asked about removing vendor signs from street signs, stop signs & telephone poles. What can be done about youth smoking weed before getting on the school bus?

UNFINISHED BUSINESS

RECREATION COMMITTEE

- Council Member Fowler requested a budget of \$425 for the Brunch with the Bunny Event on April 16 @ 11am here at the municipal center. Some of this money will be reimbursed as this event is \$7.00 per person to attend.

Motion by Vice Mayor Wade, second by Council Member Mullins to set a \$425 budget for the Rec Committee's Bruch with the Bunny Event. No further discussion. All voted aye. Motion carried.

- For the Project Charge Grant from MNCPPC all persons involved with youth in our events must have fingerprinting/background checks. The Town has decided to pay for this for all of the staff and volunteers that will be involved in any Rec Committee Events. Fingerprinting must be completed by Feb 25, 2024.

LED SIGNS UPDATE

- The meeting with HillTop & Pepco did not happen last week.
- Need to figure out which way the sign will face in Glaubitz Circle.
- Clerk-Treasurer will inform all when the new meeting date is.

COMMUNICATION CALENDAR_– FYI

UBS QUARTERLY STATEMENT - FYI

NEW BUSINESS

FIREWORKS

Motion by Vice Mayor Wade, second by Council Member Fowler to retain Fantastic Fireworks as our vendor for the July 4 celebration, at a cost of \$7500.00 deposit now and \$7500.00 final payment on July 4. No further discussion. All voted aye. Motion carried.

EZ PASSES

- After some dealings with personal vs work EZ PASSES, it was decided to look into getting work passes for staff.

Motion by Council Member Mullins, second by Council Member Fowler to get the non-revenue EZ PASSES for the following:

License Plate holders for all PD and orange non-revenue transponders for all Council and PW vehicles, the cost not to exceed \$200.00. No further discussion. All voted aye. Motion carried.

PAY BILLS

Since there was no meeting in January - Motion by Council Member Mullins, seconded by Council Member Fowler to pay the bills for December 13, 2023 through January 16, 2024 in the amount of \$179,458. No further discussion. All voted aye. Motion carried.

Motion by Vice Mayor Wade, seconded by Council Member Mullins to pay the bills from January 17, 2024 through February 20, 2024 in the amount of \$172,261.62. No further discussion. All voted aye. Motion carried.

OPEN FORUM – No one signed up to speak.

The Mayor reminded that the email conversion from RackSpace to NTI would occur on Monday, bring all devices that need the upgrade.

Meeting adjourned at 9:02 pm.

Respectfully submitted,

Karen Rooker
Clerk-Treasurer

Special emergency closed session called for March 4, 2024 @6:42 pm at the municipal center to discuss employees’ performance.

Motion to go into closed session by Council Member Fowler, second by Vice Mayor Wade. No further discussion. All voted aye. Motion Carried.

Persons attending the meeting: All Council Members and the Mayor.

Topics discussed: employees’ appointment; employment; and discipline.

Action taken: Will bring employees before the Council in another closed session to get the full story.

Session ended at 7:35pm.