

STATE OF ILLINOIS
COUNTY OF WHITESIDE
CITY OF MORRISON
OFFICIAL PROCEEDINGS

February 10, 2025

CALL TO ORDER

The Morrison City Council met in Regular Session on February 10, 2025, at 6:30 p.m. in the Morrison Community Room, 307 South Madison Street, Morrison, Illinois. The meeting was called to order at 6:30 pm by Mayor Scott Vandermyde. City Clerk Michael Hemmer recorded the minutes. Meeting was offered to the public via Zoom and video recording to be available at <https://www.youtube.com/@CityofMorrisonIL>

ROLL CALL

Alderspersons present on roll call were Greg Kruse, Sidonna Mahaffey, Todd Schlegel, Vernon Tervelt, Matt Tichler, Josh West, and Harvey Zuidema. Absent: Kevin Bruckner. Other city officials present were City Administrator Brian Melton, Police Chief Kevin Soenksen, Treasurer Margaret Jones, and Recreation Services Director Nathan Jacobs.

PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE - Cited.

PUBLIC COMMENT - None.

PRESENTATION

Kim Ewoldsen & Ken Burn, Sauk Valley Community College, Impact Program. Kim Ewoldsen explained that the program allows students to earn college tuition while serving the local community via their volunteer efforts in high school. Ken Burn discussed the practical technical aspects of the program. Currently over 60% of eligible Morrison High School students are participating and the hope is to grow this number in the future. The Mustang Challenge represents a fundraising goal for Morrison to raise \$450,000 for the program: \$160,000 of this goal has already been met. Council members were asked to share the message, use their connections to help meet this goal, and that the city council should consider contributing to the goal. Members were encouraged to reach out to Kim or Ken if they have any questions about the Mustang endowment challenge.

REPORT OF CITY OFFICERS, DEPARTMENT HEADS AND/OR COMMITTEES

Chief Soenksen reported that the missing juvenile last week was found within a few hours. He discussed Project Lifesaver, a GPS tracker system for special needs individuals, including those with intellectual disabilities young or old. He is looking at the city participating in the program. SRO Simmons conducted a video night and is running a Valentine's Day Dance at the school. Also, officers are continuing to fulfill their state qualifications.

Recreational Services Director Jacobs reported to Council that youth wrestling is almost over, youth basketball is starting and that last Thursday's Bingo had 41 participants.

CONSENT AGENDA

Ald Schlegel moved to approve City Council, Meeting Minutes, January 27, 2025, Bills Payable - \$72,476.25, and Historic Preservation Commission, Meeting Minutes, February 4, 2025; seconded by Ald Tichler. Ayes: Kruse, Mahaffey, Schlegel, Tervelt, Tichler, West, and Zuidema. Nays: None. Absent: Bruckner. Motion passed.

ITEMS FOR CONSIDERATION AND POSSIBLE ACTION

Ald Mahaffey moved to approve Reimbursement Request, Building Improvement Program, Peter Hembrough (Ameriprise Financial), Exterior Painting & Tuck Pointing [refer to HPC minutes]; seconded by Ald Tervelt. CA Melton reviewed the Ordinance details, including strengths and weaknesses. Council discussed ways to strengthen the ordinance in the next fiscal year, clarify funding and grant limits, and ways to promote the program to residents and owners. Ald Mahaffey amended her approval to limit reimbursement to a maximum of \$5,000; seconded by Ald Tichler. Voting on the amendment, Ayes: Kruse, Mahaffey, Schlegel, Tichler, West, and Zuidema. Nays: Tervelt. Absent: Bruckner. Motion passed. Voting on the reimbursement, Ayes: Kruse, Mahaffey, Schlegel, Tichler, and West. Nays: Tervelt and Zuidema. Absent: Bruckner. Motion passed.

Ald Schlegel moved to approve the City's Road Use Construction Agreement - Morrison Community Hospital Expansion Project; seconded by Ald Tichler. By voice vote: all ayes. Absent: Bruckner. Motion passed.

ITEMS FOR DISCUSSION & INFORMATION

Council reviewed draft Ordinance 25-02 Implementing a Non-Home Rule Municipal Retailers' Occupation Tax, also known as the "Grocery Tax" with the pending cancellation of the States' 1% sales (grocery) tax. CA Melton informed Council that the ordinance would be placed on the February 28 agenda for action.

CA Melton discussed the necessary Sanitary Line Extension, East Knox Street - Morrison Community Hospital Expansion Project. Council discussed.

CA Melton discussed with Council non-agenda change orders for repairs recently found in the public works renovation project correcting structural weaknesses in the existing structure. Built more than 50 years ago, the interior walls of the "ballon frame" are not sufficient or safe and certainly is not code compliant. Consensus by the Council was to move forward with the necessary changes and that it would be approved as an agenda item in the next meeting.

EXECUTIVE SESSION

Ald Zuidema moved to enter Executive Session pursuant to 5 ILCS 120/2(c)(1) Appointment, employment, compensation of specific employees ..., 2(c)(2) Collective negotiating matters ..., and 2(c)(21) Discussion of minutes of meetings lawfully closed under this Act ...; seconded by Ald Tervelt. All ayes by voice without objection, Ald Bruckner absent. Executive Session began at approximately 7:40 pm. The session was audio recorded.

Ald Kruse moved to exit Executive Session, seconded by Ald Schlegel. All ayes by voice without objection, Ald Bruckner absent. Motion passed and Regular Session resumed at 8:00 p.m.

ACTION FOLLOWING EXECUTIVE SESSION

Ald Tervelt moved to approve and offer MOU with Teamsters – Health Insurance Cost Share; seconded by Ald Schlegel. Ayes: Kruse, Mahaffey, Schlegel, Tervelt, Tichler, West, and Zuidema. Nays: None. Absent: Bruckner. Motion passed.

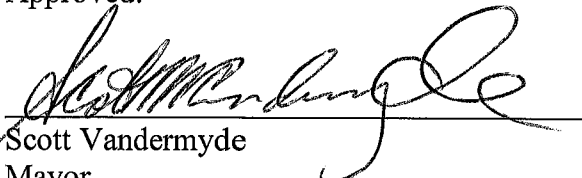
Ald Schlegel moved to discontinue and terminate the Health Insurance Deductible Reimbursement Program, effective May 1, 2025 (FY2026); seconded by Ald Zuidema. Ayes: Kruse, Mahaffey, Schlegel, Tervelt, Tichler, West, and Zuidema. Nays: None. Absent: Bruckner. Motion passed.

Ald Schlegel moved to approve Executive Session Minutes as presented, remain sealed; seconded by Ald Zuidema. By voice vote: all ayes. Absent: Bruckner. Motion passed.

ADJOURNMENT

Ald Tichler moved to adjourn the meeting; seconded by Ald Zuidema. The meeting adjourned at approximately 8:02 pm with no objection.

Approved:



Scott Vandermyde
Mayor



Michael Hemmer
City Clerk