The Morrison City Council met in Regular Session on November 24, 2014 at 7:00 p.m. in the Whiteside County Board Room, 400 North Cherry Street, Morrison, IL. Mayor Everett Pannier called the meeting to order. City Clerk Melanie Schroeder recorded the minutes.

Aldermen present on roll call were: Dale Eizenga, Michael Blean, Harvey Zuidema, Leo Sullivan, Curt Bender, Marti Wood and Scott Connelly. Alderman Dave Helms was excused.

Other City Officials present included: City Administrator Barry Dykhuizen, Chief of Police Brian Melton, Director of Public Services Gary Tresenriter and City Treasurer Evan Haag.

There was no public comment.

Administrator Dykhuizen stated that the process of transferring ownership of 703/705 West Morris Street is progressing, as well as a preliminary contract for demolition.

Mayor Pannier stated he and staff have recently visited with Fehr-Graham and Baxter & Woodman to review potential cost savings with the construction of the waste water treatment plant. Mayor also stated he will be sitting in on a news conference, held by the Mayor from Clinton, IA, regarding the future of the Target store in Clinton, IA.

Alderman Wood requested the topic of the Appointment to the Parks & Recreation Advisory Board be removed from the Consent Agenda to further discuss.

Alderman Eizenga moved to approve the Consent Agenda, which consisted of the following: November 10, 2014 Regular Session Minutes; Bills Payable; Cancellation of December 22, 2014 Council Meeting; setting the 2015 Regularly Scheduled Meetings and 2015 Holidays, seconded by Alderman Zuidema. On a roll call vote of 7 ayes (Blean, Zuidema, Sullivan, Bender, Wood, Connelly, Eizenga) and 0 nays, the motion carried.

Item removed from Consent Agenda:
1) Council discussed the appointment of Barb Benson to the Parks & Recreation Advisory Board. Some thought this was a conflict, as she is currently a member of the Friends of the Parks. Following discussion of both sides of the concern, Alderman Connelly moved to appoint Barb Benson to the Parks & Recreation Advisory Board, seconded by Alderman Bender. On a roll call vote of 4 ayes (Bender, Connelly, Eizenga, Blean) and 3 nays (Zuidema, Sullivan, Wood), the motion carried.

City Attorney Tim Zollinger arrived at 7:06 p.m.

Action Agenda Items:
1) Administrator Dykhuizen stated he would like to review the two risk management proposals with two aldermen and bring a recommendation to the 12/8/14 council meeting. Aldermen Wood and Sullivan volunteered.
2) Alderman Eizenga moved to approve Resolution #14-15 – Waiving Repayment of Monies Loaned from the Water/Sewer Fund to the General Fund and Declaring the Prior Transfer as Having Been for General Corporate Purposes, seconded by Alderman Blean. On a roll call vote of 7 ayes (Sullivan, Bender, Wood, Connelly, Eizenga, Blean, Zuidema) and 0 nays, the motion carried.

3) Alderman Wood moved to adopt Ordinance #14-24 – Authorizing Imposition of a Voter Approved Non-Home Rule Municipal Retailer’s Occupation tax and Non-Home Rule Service Occupation Tax at the Rate of 1%, seconded by Alderman Bender. On a roll call of 7 ayes (Bender, Wood, Connelly, Eizenga, Blean, Zuidema, Sullivan) and 0 nays, the motion carried.

4) Alderman Sullivan moved to table the discussion/decision regarding the requested Moring Disposal rate increase. Council wants more discussion with Moring… specifically what is the driving reason they are requesting the increase. The topic will be on the 12/8/14 agenda.

Other Items for Consideration and Possible Action:
1) Administrator Dykhuizen stated he, Director Tresnriter and Attorney Zollinger have had much contact over the last year with the owners of 111, 113/115 West Main Street regarding the condition of the Market Street brick exterior of these buildings. The brick is deteriorating, causing a safety issue. Following discussion, Council directed Attorney Zollinger to contact the owners, give a date to stabilize the structures over the winter and correct the deterioration once weather permits. Should a non-compliance issue arise, the letter will state the structures will be shut down and occupants will have to move out.

2) Historic Preservation Commission member, Bob Vaughn, was present to speak regarding the Commission’s request to obtain more veteran’s tablets at the Veterans Park and Memorial. Bob was asked to get more accurate costs for the new tablets, discuss fundraising with the HPC and veteran’s organizations and return information to the Administrator.

3) Attorney Zollinger stated that a nearly-final fire protection agreement has been drafted. The Morrison Fire Department will be the first to approve the agreement, with the agreement coming to the Council thereafter.

Executive Session:
1) Pursuant to 5 ILCS 120/2(c)(21), Alderman Sullivan moved to enter Executive Session to consider the release of executive session minutes, seconded by Alderman Blean. On a roll call vote of 7 ayes (Connelly, Eizenga, Blean, Zuidema, Sullivan, Bender, Wood and 0 nays, the motion carried. Executive Session began at 8:23 p.m.

2) Regular session resumed at 8:31 p.m.

Alderman Wood moved approve Resolution #14-14 – Release of Executive Session Minutes, seconded by Alderman Bender. On a roll call vote of 7 ayes (Blean, Zuidema, Sullivan, Bender, Wood, Connelly, Eizenga) and 0 nays, the motion carried.

Being no further business, Alderman Eizenga moved to adjourn the meeting, seconded by Alderman Zuidema. On a voice vote, the motion carried.

Mayor Pannier adjourned the meeting at 8:33 p.m.
Approved:

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Everett Pannier
Mayor

Melanie T. Schroeder
City Clerk