

STATE OF ILLINOIS
COUNTY OF WHITESIDE
CITY OF MORRISON
OFFICIAL PROCEEDINGS

June 1, 2022

The Morrison City Council met in Special Session on June 1, 2022, at 6:00 p.m. in the Morrison Community Room, 307 S Madison St., Morrison, IL. Mayor Scott Vandermyde called the meeting to order. City Clerk Michael Hemmer recorded the minutes.

Aldermen present on roll call were Greg Kruse, Sidonna Mahaffey, Harvey Zuidema, Mick Welding, Vernon Tervelt, and Kevin Bruckner, Jr. Absent: Josh West, and Arlyn Deets.

Other City officials present were City Administrator Barry Dykhuizen, Public Services Director Lori Matlack, and Police Chief Brian Melton.

Public Comment.

Jill DeRyche reviewed several positives and negatives regarding the sports complex, including maintenance, school partnership, usage fees, organizing non-sports activities at the park and utilizing volunteers better.

Joy Tegeler spoke on the better use of funds. Since baseball season was practically over, the city should form a committee (2 council members, 2 city employees, 1 representative each from local sports organizations which use the fields and nine to ten community members) as the Morrison Activities Council that would look at utilizing the field outside of just athletics: Arts, Social, and Leisure activities which would serve different community interests.

Don Tegeler felt that the complex was used a lot more in the past. There wasn't enough involvement by the parents to help bring travel tournaments to the city. There are different levels of tournaments that could be using the fields (A through Majors). Learn from other cities. Fulton, for example, are utilizing their parks by offering music events, food trucks aimed at attracting families: Family Time.

Sports Complex Usage: Council Discussion.

Mayor Vandermyde said that any priorities set this evening would become action items on the next/future Council agenda.

Alderman Kruse said Council should decide on how much to spend first.

Alderman Zuidema said the city needed a cost-sharing commitment from the Morrison School District before Council spent anything more on improving the Complex drainage problems. He warned that the school was already looking at building their own fields.

Alderwoman Mahaffey said the drainage problem should be Council's focus to fix. She added the hiring of a full-time Activities Director ran a close second place, in the ability to improve the functionality of the Complex.

Alderman Tervelt challenged the suggestion of capping spending on the Baseball drainage repairs and noted extensive examples of what was not happening at the Complex. The city also needed a plan for the Sports Complex.

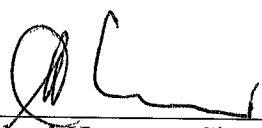
Alderman Bruckner pointed out that the Big Field wouldn't be useful without the school's commitment. Also, the city should budget for resurfacing the other fields as well.

Continuing remarks encircled the suggestions of a full-time Director, using the Complex for year-round activities (including non-sports); consideration of forming a Park and Recreation District; collaborating closer with the School District.

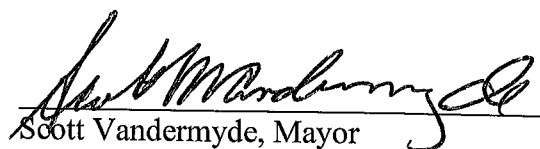
In closing, Mayor Vandermyde summarized the evening's remarks and summarized the Councils' inputs into three areas: (1) improve the usability of the larger Baseball diamond, (2) look into hiring a full-time Activities Director, and (3) establish a defined collaboration with Morrison Community Unit School District #6, on future long-term usage and maintenance of the Complex.

With no additional business to discuss, Alderman Kruse motioned for adjournment; Zuidema seconded. Without objection, the meeting was adjourned at 7:15 p.m.

Approved:



Michael Hemmer, City Clerk



Scott Vandermyde, Mayor