

**VILLAGE BOARD OF TRUSTEES  
REGULAR MEETING  
7:00 P.M., MAY 3, 2021**

After calling the meeting to order, President Kaufman led the Pledge of Allegiance. The Clerk called the roll, with the following members present: Leitch, Leman, Menold, Newman, Parrott – 5.

**PRESENTATIONS** – None

**PUBLIC COMMENT** – Joel Dickerson, Executive Director of the Morton Park District, thanked the Village Board and Staff for their work and cooperation with events over the last few years. He also announced that the 4<sup>th</sup> of July firework show will be moved to McClellan Park beginning this year. Parking has been coordinated with local churches and new events such as a bigger firework show, live music, a beer tent, inflatables, and laser tag will also be available and sponsored by many local businesses and organizations. Trustee Menold provided positive comment to the new changes.

Maria Leman of 63 Shiloh St. spoke in support of yield signs in the Fieldstone neighborhood and an updated railing on East Jefferson over Bull Creek. Safety of young families and children was her main concern.

Josh Melholte of 321 Pocono spoke in support of yield signs in the Fieldstone neighborhood and also requested a few stop signs. He has been a resident in this neighborhood for 4 years and personally had a few near miss situations with side swipes. Safety of citizens was his main concern.

**CONSENT AGENDA**

- A. Approval of Minutes.
  - 1. Closed Session – April 5, 2021
  - 2. Regular Meeting – April 19, 2021
  - 3. Closed Session – April 19, 2021
  - 4. Special Meeting – April 21, 2021
- B. Approval of Bills

Trustee Menold moved to approve the Consent Agenda. Motion was seconded by Trustee Leitch and approved with the following roll call vote:

Yes: Leitch, Leman, Menold, Newman, Parrott – 5.  
No: None.  
Absent: Blunier-1.

**VILLAGE PRESIDENT**

President Kaufman presented Ordinance 22-01 - An Ordinance Amending Section 3-8-6 of the Morton Municipal Code Regarding the Number of Available Class E Liquor Licenses. Attorney McGrath explained that this is updating the maximum number of licenses to mirror the outstanding number of licenses, which is the way we have maintained licensing in the past. Trustee Newman moved to approve. Motion was seconded by Trustee Parrott and approved with the following roll call vote:

Yes: Leitch, Leman, Menold, Newman, Parrott – 5.

No: None.  
Absent: Blunier-1.

#### **VILLAGE CLERK**

Clerk Ritthaler thanked the Village Staff and Board for all their help throughout his term and praised them for their hard work and dedication to the Village.

#### **VILLAGE ADMINISTRATOR**

Administrator Smick requested approval of the Spring 2021 tourism grants, totaling \$130,700.00. Trustee Newman motioned to approve. Motion was seconded by Trustee Parrott and approved with the following roll call vote:

Yes: Leitch, Leman, Menold, Newman, Parrott – 5.  
No: None.  
Absent: Blunier-1.

**CHIEF OF POLICE - None.**

**CORPORATION COUNSEL - None.**

**DIRECTOR OF FIRE AND EMERGENCY SERVICES - None.**

#### **DIRECTOR OF PUBLIC WORKS**

DPW Loudermilk presented Resolution 01-22 - IDOT Resolution for Improvement Under the Illinois Highway Code. Supplemental MFT resolution to authorize additional expenditures for salt purchase. \$200,000.00 was budgeted for the calendar year and \$215,000.00 was spent due to higher cost of salt and stocking a full barn, so no new salt purchases will be needed until next calendar year. Trustee Leman motioned to approve. Motion was seconded by Trustee Parrott and approved with the following roll call vote:

Yes: Leitch, Leman, Menold, Newman, Parrott – 5.  
No: None.  
Absent: Blunier-1.

#### **ZONING AND CODE ENFORCEMENT OFFICER**

ZCO Marks presented Ordinance 22-02 - An Ordinance Making Amendments to the Definition of Business Signs to Title 10 of the Morton Municipal Code. This new definition of Business Signs would allow a business to affix their sign to an adjacent business' free standing sign. Trustee Parrott motioned to approve. Motion was seconded by Trustee Newman. Significant conversation was had regarding this Ordinance and potential loopholes or missing verbiage as written. Following discussion, Trustee Leitch moved to table the motion until the next scheduled meeting. The motion to table was seconded by Trustee Menold and carried by the following roll call vote:

Yes: Leitch, Menold, Newman, Parrott – 4.  
No: Leman-1.  
Absent: Blunier-1.

ZCO Marks then presented Ordinance 22-03 - An Ordinance Making Amendments Regarding Off Street Parking of Trailers to Title 9 and Title 10 of the Morton Municipal Code. Trustee Newman motioned to approve. Motion was seconded by Trustee Menold. This Ordinance would

allow trailers to be parked on a driveway only (Title 10) and require trailers parked on the street for more than 48 hours to have 18 inch cones with reflective material to be placed around it for safety. Concerns were expressed regarding the relatively recent change to the Ordinance which required residents to make concessions to follow. This new change would impose hardships on these residents and, because of this, Trustee Parrott moved to table this Ordinance until the next scheduled meeting. Trustee Newman seconded the motion to table and the motion carried by the following roll call vote:

Yes: Leitch, Leman, Menold, Newman, Parrott – 5.  
No: None.  
Absent: Blunier-1.

## **VILLAGE TRUSTEES**

Trustee Blunier – None.

Trustee Leitch – None.

Trustee Leman motioned to move Ordinance 22-04 - An Ordinance Making Amendments Regarding Yield Right-Of-Way Intersections and Stop Signs in Fieldstone Subdivision to Chapter 10 of Title 9 of the Morton Municipal Code. Trustee Newman seconded the motion. Trustee Leman explained the need for this Ordinance and videos were shown of the areas in question. Trustee Leitch questioned if there were previous accident reports in these areas, and none existed. DPW Loudermilk, Trustee Newman, and Chief Miller all agreed that the traffic patterns and future developments in these areas should be reviewed and surveyed, ensuring that a consistent pattern is followed throughout all neighborhoods within the Village and adjusting things if the data shows a need. Following significant discussion, Trustee Leman moved to table the vote to the next scheduled meeting, allowing additional time for review. Trustee Newman seconded the motion to table. Comments were made by Trustee Leitch that encouraged this Ordinance to be rejected instead of tabling because he felt that it needed more work to provide consistency across the Village. Clarification on the difference between tabling the motion and rejecting it to bring a newly constructed Ordinance in the near future was provided by Attorney McGrath. Trustee Menold called for the question. The motion to table failed by the following roll call vote:

Yes: Leman-1.  
No: Leitch, Menold, Newman, Parrott – 4.  
Absent: Blunier-1.

Following the failed motion to table, the original motion to adopt the Ordinance as written also failed by the same votes. President Kaufman instructed the staff to work on a new Ordinance regarding this issue and come back with safety and consistency as a priority, with Chief Miller assisting.

Trustee Leman then presented Resolution 02-22 - A Resolution Authorizing Procurement of Professional Services for Design and Authorize Solicitation of Bids for Railing Upgrades at Bull Run Creek Crossing on E. Jefferson Street and moved for acceptance. The motion was seconded by Trustee Newman and Trustee Leman explained the need for this Resolution while showing videos of the area in question. Discussion followed regarding potential costs of this project and logistics surrounding it. Vehicles are also a factor in this type of structure and would need to be considered. Trustee urged the Board to pass this resolution as written due to safety concerns with children and attempting to stop an accident before it happens. Trustee Menold moved to table this item. The motion to table did not receive a second and failed. President Kaufman voiced his

approval of starting the process with engineers because the railings are not up to par with what Morton would currently want. Trustee Newman suggested that the Board begins moving forward even though it was not budgeted for. Trustee Parrott moved to amend the motion by striking paragraph two of the Resolution and it was seconded by Trustee Newman. The amendment to the Resolution carried by the following roll call vote:

Yes: Leitch, Leman, Menold, Newman, Parrott – 5.  
No: None.  
Absent: Blunier-1.

In the absence of further discussion, the amended Resolution passed by the same votes.

**CLOSED SESSIONS** - None.

**CONSIDERATION OF MATTERS ARISING FROM CLOSED SESSIONS** - None.

### **AWARDS**

President Kaufman presented awards to Clerk Ritthaler and Trustee Leman for their years of service to the Village. Trustee Leman read a speech thanking everyone for their assistance over the last four years and explaining why he chose not to run for the position again.

### **ADJOURNMENT SINE DIE**

Trustee Newman moved to adjourn sine die and the motion was seconded by Trustee Leitch. The motion carried with the following roll call vote:

Yes: Leitch, Leman, Menold, Newman, Parrott – 5.  
No: None.  
Absent: Blunier-1.

### **SWEARING IN OF NEWLY ELECTED OFFICIALS**

Clerk Ritthaler administered the oath of office to Trustees Parrott and Newman, incoming Trustee Hilliard, President Kaufman, and incoming Clerk Evans

Following the oaths of office, Clerk Evans determined the following members present: Kaufman, Hilliard, Leitch, Menold, Newman, Parrott – 6.

### **VILLAGE PRESIDENT**

President Kaufman requested reappointments of Joe Wirth to the Police Pension Board, Term through 4/30/24, and Ken Helmuth to the Police & Fire Commission, Term through 4/30/24; and appointments of Michael Yordy to the Plan Commission, Term through 4/30/26; Bill Aupperle to the Plan Commission, Term through 4/30/24; and Scott Kelso to the Zoning Board of Appeals, Term through 4/30/24. Motioned by Trustee Parrott and seconded by Trustee Newman. The motion carried with the following roll call vote:

Yes: Hilliard, Leitch, Menold, Newman, Parrott – 5.  
No: None.  
Absent: Blunier-1.

### **ADJOURNMENT**

With no further business to come before the Board, Trustee Newman moved to adjourn. Motion was seconded by Trustee Menold and followed by a unanimous voice vote.

ATTEST:

  
VILLAGE CLERK

  
PRESIDENT



