

**VILLAGE BOARD OF TRUSTEES  
REGULAR MEETING  
7:00 P.M., March 7, 2022**

After calling the meeting to order, President Kaufman led the Pledge of Allegiance. Clerk Evans called the roll, with the following members present: Blunier, Hilliard, Leitch, Menold, Newman, Parrott – 6.

**PUBLIC HEARING** – None.

**PRESENTATIONS** – Ryan McQuigg of Cypress Renewables discussed the 2018 plan that was revisited and revised. The Board of Trustees asked questions regarding these plans.

**PUBLIC COMMENT** – Joel Dickerson spoke on behalf of the Morton Park District regarding the 4<sup>th</sup> of July event and cost increases that will be faced. He also announced that Disc Golf Championships will be held in Morton.

John Crawford, a resident of 25691 Harding Road, spoke against the proposed 39 foot town homes and apartments.

Steve Lehman gave an overview of the proposed 39 foot town homes and apartments that Ethos is requesting a Special Use Permit for.

Chad Bell, owner of Blue Jays Learning Center, spoke in support of the proposed 39 foot town homes and apartments.

**CONSENT AGENDA**

- A. Approval of Minutes.
  - 1. Regular Meeting – February 21, 2022
- 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: Blunier, Hilliard, Leitch, Menold, Newman, Parrott – 6.  
No: None – 0.  
Absent: None – 0.

**VILLAGE PRESIDENT** – Congratulated the Morton High School Girls Varsity Basketball Team on a 3<sup>rd</sup> place finish in the State Tournament.

**VILLAGE CLERK** – Thanked Lincoln Elementary School for hosting the Mayor and Clerk in their 5<sup>th</sup> grade Social Studies classes. Local government was explained and questions were answered.

**VILLAGE ADMINISTRATOR** – None.

**CHIEF OF POLICE** – A Resolution approving intergovernmental agreement between the County of Tazewell and the Village of Morton was proposed. Chief Miller explained that this resolution was to contract Tazewell County Animal Control services full time. The contract would

keep officers safe and ensure the humane treatment of animals encountered. Trustee Blunier motioned to approve this Resolution and Trustee Parrott seconded. The Resolution was adopted by the following roll call vote:

Yes: Blunier, Hilliard, Leitch, Menold, Newman, Parrott – 6.  
No: None – 0.  
Absent: None – 0.

**CORPORATION COUNSEL** – A Resolution approving intergovernmental agreement between the Morton Park District and the Village of Morton was proposed. Counsel McGrath explained that this Resolution was for the transfer of the old Ameren lot. Trustee Newman motioned to approve the Resolution and Trustee Parrott seconded. The Resolution was adopted by the following roll call vote:

Yes: Blunier, Hilliard, Leitch, Menold, Newman, Parrott – 6.  
No: None – 0.  
Absent: None – 0.

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

**DIRECTOR OF PUBLIC WORKS** – DPW Loudermilk announced the Spring 2022 Yardwaste Disposal Program and explained details.

DPW Loudermilk then requested permission to obtain bids for the Main Street Lighting Improvement Project. Trustee Hilliard motioned to approve and Trustee Leitch seconded. Permission was granted by the following roll call vote:

Yes: Blunier, Hilliard, Leitch, Menold, Newman, Parrott – 6.  
No: None – 0.  
Absent: None – 0.

DPW Loudermilk then requested permission to obtain bids for the Annual Mill & Overlay Project, Annual Sealcoating Project, and Annual Miscellaneous Concrete Project. President Kaufman asked the Board of Trustees if there was any objection and there was none. With no vote needed, permission was granted.

DPW Loudermilk then proposed a Resolution approving third amendment to waste collection agreement and explained that this was an increase to the yearly fee and due to the sale of PDC. Trustee Parrott motioned to accept the Resolution and Trustee Newman seconded. The Resolution was adopted by the following roll call vote:

Yes: Blunier, Hilliard, Leitch, Menold, Newman, Parrott – 6.  
No: None – 0.  
Absent: None – 0.

**ZONING AND CODE ENFORCEMENT OFFICER** – ZCO Marks presented Petition No. 22-01 Zoning Amendment and explained that there were 23 parcels used as residential and 3 as a business in this area and most are currently non-conforming. This Zoning Amendment would make most of these properties conforming if approved. The Plan Commission favorably recommended

this with the exception of 313 N. First Ave. moving from B2 to B1 instead of the proposed B2 to R1. Counsel McGrath gave a clarification of procedure regarding the item currently on the floor. There was some discussion and the consensus was to leave the Zoning Amendment as written. Trustee Hilliard motioned to approve the petition and Trustee Leitch seconded. The petition was approved by the following roll call vote:

Yes: Blunier, Hilliard, Leitch, Menold, Newman, Parrott – 6.  
No: None – 0.  
Absent: None – 0.

ZCO Marks then presented Petition No. 22-02 Special Use and explained that it would allow buildings in the proposed area to be 39 feet tall whereas the current restriction is 35 feet tall. Trustee Newman motioned to bring this petition to the floor and Trustee Hilliard seconded. Trustee Newman, Trustee Hilliard, and Trustee Parrott all spoke against the petition and cited various reasons for such. Trustee Menold spoke favorably of the petition. The petition was denied by the following roll call vote:

Yes: Menold – 1.  
No: Blunier, Hilliard, Leitch Newman, Parrott – 5.  
Absent: None – 0.

ZCO Marks then presented Petition No. 22-03 Special Use and explained that it was for a private school hosting kindergarten through 6<sup>th</sup> grade students. Positive comments were made by Trustee Newman, Trustee Hilliard, and Trustee Blunier regarding the use of the property and parents taking more ownership in educating their children with the current environment. Trustee Parrott motioned to approve the petition and it was seconded by Trustee Leitch. The petition was approved by the following roll call vote:

Yes: Blunier, Hilliard, Leitch, Menold, Newman, Parrott – 6.  
No: None – 0.  
Absent: None – 0.

ZCO Marks then presented an Ordinance making amendments to Section 10-15-12 of the Morton Municipal Code regarding the mixed use overlay district map. He explained that this would accurately reflect the area now that Petition 22-01 ZA has been approved. Trustee Newman motioned to approve this Ordinance and it was seconded by Trustee Leitch. The Ordinance was adopted with the following roll call vote:

Yes: Blunier, Hilliard, Leitch, Menold, Newman, Parrott – 6.  
No: None – 0.  
Absent: None – 0.

ZCO Marks finished by notifying everyone that the maps on the Village website had been updated with regard to zoning.

## **VILLAGE TRUSTEES**

Trustee Blunier – None.

Trustee Hilliard recognized the Morton Lady Potters (Varsity Basketball Team) on making it to the State Tournament 7 out of the last 10 years, with one of those years being a COVID year

without a tournament. He also recognized all Lady Potters of the past as 50 years of Title IX is celebrated.

Trustee Leitch motioned to accept a quote for programming to email utility bills to customers. He explained that the actual emailing of utility bills was not initially in the quote from the previous meeting and that this motion was to approve this additional charge. Trustee Newman seconded the motion for discussion. Counsel McGrath gave clarification regarding making changes to the initial vote with the purpose being the new information presented. There was a lengthy discussion regarding the situation before the following roll call vote approving the motion.

Yes: Blunier, Leitch, Menold, Newman, Parrott – 5.  
No: Hilliard – 1.  
Absent: None – 0.

Trustee Leitch then motioned to reconsider approval of quote for business reporting and tax software from the February 21, 2022 meeting. Trustee Newman seconded this motion and it was approved by the following roll call vote:

Yes: Blunier, Hilliard, Leitch, Newman, Parrott – 5.  
No: Menold – 1.  
Absent: None – 0.

The Board of Trustees then denied the software purchase that was previously approved at the February 21, 2022 meeting:

Yes: Leitch – 1.  
No: Blunier, Hilliard, Menold, Newman, Parrott – 5.  
Absent: None – 0.

Trustee Menold – None.  
Trustee Newman – None.  
Trustee Parrott – None.

**CLOSED SESSION** was had for the Purpose of Discussing Collective Negotiating Matters Between the Village and its Employees or Their Representatives, per 5 ILCS 120/2(c)(2). A motion to enter into this closed session was made by Trustee Leitch and seconded by Trustee Hilliard with approval given by the following roll call vote:

Yes: Blunier, Hilliard, Leitch, Menold, Newman, Parrott – 6.  
No: None – 0.  
Absent: None – 0.

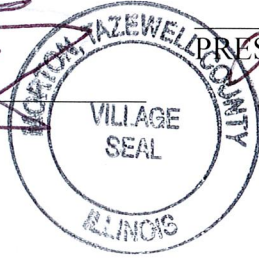
**CONSIDERATION OF MATTERS ARISING FROM CLOSED SESSIONS** – None.

#### **ADJOURNMENT**

With no further business to come before the Board, Trustee Newman moved to adjourn. The motion was seconded by Trustee Leitch and followed by a unanimous voice vote of all present board members.

ATTEST:

  
VILLAGE CLERK



  
PRESIDENT