



REGULAR MEETING
CITY COUNCIL

October 2, 2023

Ronnie Thompson, Mayor

Sally W. Sandy, City Manager
Louis E. Vinay, Jr., City Attorney

Wendy Cato)
Christopher Hawkins) Councilmembers
Chris Jernigan)
Butch McSwain)

Interpreters
Danette Steelman-Bridges
Ernest Williams, IV

- I. Call to Order in Council Chambers at City Hall at 5:15 p.m.
- II. Closed Session to Discuss Economic Development Matter as per General Statutes sec. 143-318.11(a)(4)

MOTION to go into closed session in accordance with General Statutes section 143-318.11(a)(4) to discuss economic development matters and to move the closed session to Conference Room 4.

- III. Call to Order Open Session in the Council Chambers at City Hall at 6:00 p.m.
- IV. Public Comment – *Anyone wishing to speak during this time must sign in with the Clerk before the meeting begins, and upon being called will have 3 minutes to address the Council.*
- V. Pledge of Allegiance to the Flag
- VI. Invocation Given by the Chaplin Jasper Hemphill – Morganton Public Safety
- VII. Introduction of Council
- VIII. Public Advocacy Issues and Strategies

- a. Proclamation: Public Power Week

Accepted by: Brooks Kirby, Electric Services Director

- b. Proclamation: Fire Prevention Week
Accepted by: Chief Israel Gibson, MDPS Fire Services
- c. Proclamation: Morganton Civil Rights Day
Accepted by: Laurie Johnston, NC Room Curator – Burke County Public Library
- d. Announcement: IMAGINE Morganton 2040 Community Workshop will be held on Tuesday, October 24, 2023, 5:30 p.m. to 7:30 p.m. and Wednesday, October 25, 2023, 12:00 p.m. to 2:00 p.m. at City Hall in the Council Chambers. Both meetings are drop-in and citizens are encouraged to choose and attend one of the scheduled meetings.
- e. Announcement: In 2022, City Council proclaimed that October 22nd would be celebrated annually as “Daniel Morgan Day”. October 22, 1784 is the day the NC Legislature established the City of Morganton naming it for Revolutionary War Hero General Daniel Morgan. This year various organizations will celebrate the City’s 238th birthday.
- f. Announcement: City of Morganton Public Works began running leaf collection routes this month, and will continue collecting leaves for citizens free of charge as needed through January. To help us help you, there are some general guidelines:
 - 1 - Public Works collects leaves during leaf season from October through January at no charge to residents.
 - 2 - After January, residents must pay a \$25.00 fee to have loose leaves collected.
 - 3 - Residents should pile leaves as close to the road as possible without blocking the road or sidewalks keeping the leaves away from storm drains and out of the street to help prevent flooding.
 - 4 - If your vehicle is parked on the side of the street blocking the leaf pile or making it difficult to pick up without damaging your vehicle, your leaves will not be collected.
 - 5 - Please keep your leaf piles free of sticks, debris, branches and other miscellaneous items. If your leaf pile contains sticks, debris, branches or other items, your leaves will not be collected, as collecting these items with a leaf truck can damage the truck and take it out of service.

g. Upcoming events:

- **Downtown/City Hall**

Farmers' Markets Continue Until Saturday, October 28th
Saturdays from 8:00 a.m. – Noon at 300 Beach Street and
Wednesdays from 11:00 a.m. – 2:00 p.m. mini-market at 111 North Green Street

Art in the Hall: Tea Yang – Hmong Storytellers – Ms. Yang is the Values and Culture Director for The Industrial Commons. The Hmong Storytellers showcase traditional textiles and artifacts from Southeast Asia, and art from contemporary Hmong-American artists, which will be displayed at City Hall during the months of October and November.

MADE (Morganton Arts Design and Engineering) Competition, Friday, October 20th, 8 a.m. – 5 p.m. at CoMMA. The event will feature 13 teams from across Burke County middle and high schools competing in an exciting onsite design build challenge.

Halloween Spooktacular – Tuesday, October 31, 3 p.m. – 6 p.m., Downtown Morganton.

- **CoMMA Performing Arts Center**

Thursday, October 5, 2023 at 7:30 p.m. – Damn Tall Buildings

Tuesday, October 17, 2023 at 7:30 p.m. - Letters Aloud: Thanks but No Thanks – The Greatest Rejection Letters of All Time

Friday, October 27, 2023 at 7:30 p.m. – Ofrenda: A Dia de los Muertos Celebration

- **Parks and Recreation**

Splash Pads closed for the season.

Friday/Saturday, October 6 and 7, 9 a.m. to 6 p.m. – The Valley Hills Antique Power Club Tractor Show at Catawba Meadows Park. This is a free event with antique tractors, kids activities, food, music and lots of fun. On Friday, October 6th the Jacktown Ramblers and Butterbeans will be performing and on Saturday, October 7th Buffalo Cove, JAM Program Kids, Darren Nicholson and Appalachian Roadshow will be performing.

Friday/Saturday, October 20-21, 7 p.m. to 10 p.m. – Spooky Meadows at Catawba Meadows Park.

IX. North Carolina Municipal Power Agency Number 1 Update

X. Consent Agenda – All items below are considered to be routine and will be enacted by one motion. There will be no separate discussion of these items unless a Council member, staff member or citizen so requests. In the event a request is made, the item will be removed from the consent agenda and considered under Item X.

A. Consideration of Approval of Minutes – For a Regular Meeting held on September 11, 2023.

RECOMMENDED ACTION: Approve minutes as submitted.

B. Consideration of Tax Releases in the Amount of \$331.62

RECOMMENDED ACTION: Approve tax releases in the amount of \$331.62.

C. Consideration of Award of Contract for Managed Video Services

RECOMMENDED ACTION: Motion to award contract to Jackson Energy for managed video services to the City of Morganton Headend from Jackson Energy Authority not to exceed \$2.50 per month per subscriber with a 1,000 subscriber minimum for the next 3 years and to authorize the Mayor and/or City Manager to execute such contract and any other necessary documents.

D. Consideration of Approval of a Budget Amendment for Insurance Reimbursements for General Fund

RECOMMENDED ACTION: Motion to approve a budget amendment in the amount of \$61,246.55 to recognize receipt of insurance reimbursements for damage to a Public Safety vehicle and damage to a Public Works truck.

E. Consideration of Approval of a Budget Amendment for Insurance Reimbursement for Water Fund

RECOMMENDED ACTION: Motion to approve a budget amendment in the amount of \$84,816.83 to recognize receipt of insurance reimbursement for lightning damage to the water treatment plant.

F. Consideration Award of Contract for Delivery 5 Equipment

RECOMMENDED ACTION: Motion to award a contract to Electrical Power Products of Des Moines, IA for the amount of \$94,803 to replace Delivery 5 Transformer Relay and Control Panel and to authorize the Mayor and/or City Manager to execute such contract and any other necessary documents.

G. Consideration of a Resolution Designation of Applicant's Agent for North Carolina Division of Emergency Management to Authorize Primary and Secondary Agents to Execute and File Applications for Federal and/or State Assistance on Behalf of the City of Morganton

RECOMMENDED ACTION: Motion to appoint Sonja G. Marston, Assistant City Manager, and Lieutenant Tayler Alexander, Morganton Public Safety, to execute and apply for federal and/or state assistance on behalf of the City, which are administered through the North Carolina Division of Emergency Management and the Federal Emergency Management Agency.

XI. Items Removed from Consent Agenda

XII. New Business

A. Public Hearings

1. Public Hearing and Consideration of a Request to Rezone the Property Listed as 500 East Union Street, 501, 0, 503, and 505½ East Meeting Street from High Intensity (HID) to Central Business District (CBD)
2. Public Hearing and Consideration of a Request to Rezone the Property Listed as 770 Kirksey Drive from Exclusive Intensity District Corridor Overlay (EID CO) to High Intensity District Corridor Overlay (HID CO)

B. Other Business

1. Consideration of Award of Contract to McGill Associates for Engineering Services for Stormwater Planning
2. Consideration of a Resolution in Support of Funding to Re-Establish Passenger Rail Service for Western North Carolina
3. Appointments to Boards and Commissions
 - a. Morganton Housing Authority

XIII. Other Items from City Manager and City Council Not on Agenda

XIV. Reports

XV. Adjournment