



REGULAR MEETING
CITY COUNCIL

December 4, 2023

Ronnie Thompson, Mayor

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

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

Interpreters
Danette Steelman-Bridges
Ernest Williams, IV

- I. Call to Order in the Council Chamber at City Hall at 6:00 p.m.
- II. 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.*
- III. Comprehensive Annual Financial Report - Presented by Allen Thompson with Thompson, Price, Scott, Adams & Co., P.A.
- IV. Pledge of Allegiance to the Flag
- V. Invocation Given by Rev. Daniel Gutierrez – Iglesia de Dios Nueva/New Life Church of God
- VI. Organization of Council
 - A. Swearing-in of Council Members
 - B. Remarks by Council Members
 - C. Election of Mayor Pro Tem
 - D. Setting of Meeting Dates and Time
 - E. Appointment of Standing Committees by the Mayor
- VII. Introduction of Council

VIII. Public Advocacy Issues and Strategies

A. Announcement: 2040 IMAGINE Morganton, December 14, 2023, 5:30 p.m. to 7:00 p.m.. This will be a joint meeting of the Planning & Zoning Commission and the City Council. No action will be taken by Council at this meeting.

B. Upcoming events:

- **Downtown/City Hall**

Art in the Hall: TOSS – “Murals for Morganton” – Join TOSS for an illustrated tour through the community design and mural making process that brought Morganton three new murals in 2023. During the month of December 2023 and January 2024, experience the journey through the audio/visual documentation of the project and explore the outcome in downtown Morganton.

Holiday Farmers Market: Saturday, December 9, 2023, 10 a.m. to 2 p.m. at 111 North Green Street.

Christmas Parade 2023: “Sounds of the Holidays”
Tuesday, December 5, 6:00 p.m. in Downtown Morganton.

- **CoMMA Performing Arts Center**

Thursday, December 7, 2023 at 7:30 p.m.

American Pride – Remember the Music of the Legendary Statler Brothers

Sunday, December 17, 2023 at 2:00 and 6:00 p.m.

World Ballet Series: Nutcracker (Not included in Season Package)

IX. Consideration of Changing City Council Meeting Date for January 2024

A. City Hall will be closed Monday, January 1, 2024, in observance of the New Year’s Holiday.

RECOMMENDATION: Approve changing the City Council Meeting date from Monday, January 1, 2024 to Monday, January 8, 2024 at 6 p.m.

X. North Carolina Municipal Power Agency Number 1 Update

XI. 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 XII.

- A. Consideration of Approval of Minutes – For a Regular Meeting held on November 6, 2023.

RECOMMENDED ACTION: Approve minutes as submitted.

- B. Consideration of October 2023 Tax Releases in the Amount of \$68,955.90

RECOMMENDED ACTION: Approve October 2023 tax releases in the amount of \$68,955.90.

- C. Consideration of Approval of Change Order #1 to Highfill Engineering Task Order #1 for the Silver Creek Pump Station Upgrade Project

RECOMMENDED ACTION: Approve and authorize Change Order #1 to Highfill Engineering Task Order #1 for the Silver Creek Pump Station Project under the Master Services Agreement in the amount of \$67,000.

- D. Consideration of Award of Contract for Engineer Services for Delivery 5 Transformer Relay and Control Panel Replacement Project

RECOMMENDED ACTION: Award contract to Southeastern Engineering Services, Inc. for engineering services for Delivery 5 Transformer Relay and Control Panel Replacement Project, not to exceed \$30,000 and to authorize the Mayor and/or City Manager to execute such contract and any other necessary documents.

- E. Consideration of Budget Amendment to Recognize Receipt of Insurance Reimbursement for General Fund

RECOMMENDED ACTION: Approve budget amendment in the amount of \$8,709.22 to recognize receipt of insurance reimbursement for damage to a Public Safety vehicle and equipment, lightning damage at the fire station and damage to Recreation vehicles.

- F. Consideration of Approval of a Budget Amendment to Transfer Proceeds from Sale of Property on Meeting Street to the Capital Reserve Fund

RECOMMENDED ACTION: Approve a budget amendment in the amount of \$425,000 to accept a transfer from the General Fund for the sale of property on Meeting Street to the Capital Reserve Fund.

XII. Items Removed from Consent Agenda

XIII. New Business

A. Other Business

1. Consideration of Budget Amendment to Accept Additional Dogwood Trust Grant Funding for Wastewater
2. Consideration of Award of Contract to Baker Grading for Bethel Park Restoration Project and Approval of Budget Amendment
3. Consideration of Approval of a Memorandum of Understanding (MOU) to Accept Environmental Enhancement Grant (EEG) Funding for the Bethel Park Improvements Project and Approval of Budget Amendment
4. Consideration of Award of Contract to Wildlands Engineering, Inc. for Bethel Park Construction/Admin/Observation
5. Consideration of Budget Amendments to Appropriate Retained Earnings for the Water and Electric Funds for Easement Purchases
6. Appointments to Boards and Commissions
 - a. Recreation Advisory Commission
 - b. Foothills Regional Airport Authority
 - c. Burke County Tourism Development Authority
7. 30-Day Notice Boards and Commissions
 - a. Fireman's Relief Fund Board

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

XV. Reports

XVI. Adjournment