

STREET ASSESSMENT ORDINANCE (Cont'd):

THEREFORE, BE IT ORDAINED by the Town Council of Morganton that the following and attached assessment rolls for street improvements to the above designated and named streets be and the same are hereby confirmed and adopted, and said assessments as set forth in said assessment rolls be and the same are liens on the real property of the designated owners for the respective amounts as set forth in said assessment rolls, and the unpaid balance of said assessments shall bear interest at the rate of 6 per cent per annum from the 1st day of October, 1961.

BE IT FURTHER ORDAINED that said assessment rolls be recorded in the Town minutes of Morganton and in the office of registry of Burke County.

Upon a motion made by Alderman Clemmer and seconded by Alderman Rader, the foregoing Ordinance was unanimously passed.

After which the meeting adjourned.

Riddle, H. L. et. al. Minutes: *Regular Meeting of the Board of Aldermen of the Town of Morganton*, 11 Sept. 1961. Book 9, pp. 100-102.

REGULAR MEETING OF  
THE BOARD OF ALDERMEN OF  
THE TOWN OF MORGANTON

September 11, 1961

Present: H. L. Riddle, Mayor

Robert Carr, Town Manager  
John McMurray, Town Attorney

Carl T. Ramsey )  
David W. Rader ) Aldermen  
J. T. Clemmer )

Mayor Riddle called the meeting to order at 7:30 P.M.

PETITIONS:

(1) A group of civic leaders were present, among whom were Dr. E. W. Phifer and Mr. Frank Patton. Dr. James Collett, Mr. James Hunt, and Mrs. Genie Bohler were present representing the Chamber of Commerce. Also present were the following persons representing the various civic clubs in Morganton: Dr. Hugh Hemmings, Chamber Committee Chairman; D. Holman Sigmon, Rotary Club Representative; H. L. McAulay, Kiwanis Club President; Sam Ervin, III, Chairman Democratic Executive Committee; Mrs. S. D. Dysart, Pilot Club President; Mrs. Alice Carey, Woman's Club Vice-President; George K. Snow, Jaycee President; Lester McFadden, Optimist Club President; Mrs. Bernice LaFevers, Business and Professional Women's Club President; Miss Laura Avery, Credit Women's Breakfast Club Representative; Dr. M. M. Riggs, Chairman Recreation Commission; Hight Redmond, Toastmasters Club President; Mrs. Art Darwin, Jr. Woman's Club President; Mrs. W. H. Patton, Jr., Medical Auxiliary President; O. F. Sanders, Kiwanis Club; Saul Cheslock, Kiwanis Club; Edward McGimsey, Merchants' Association President.

Dr. Phifer was spokesman for this group and stated that they were present to urge the Town to air condition the Morganton Community Building. He read the following prepared statement for presentation to the Board requesting this installation:

"Mr. Mayor and Members of the Town Board:

It is our understanding that the Morganton Community House is essentially a multi-purpose building owned by the Town of Morganton and operated through an administrative agency which has no funds of its own except those netted from current operations.

For about thirty years this facility has continuously served as the cultural, social and civic center for the Town and the surrounding communities. No other similar structure is available for use in the immediate vicinity that can fill the needs of our people in large numbers, on short notice, at a reasonable price. No other local utility has been so universally commended for the efficient and economical manner in which it has been operated. As is obvious from a glance at the accompanying list of users, it is hardly possible to imagine any gathering - whether large or small, child or adult, male or female - that does not use this municipal center at some time, for some purpose. Again, it may be easily noted, that a considerable number of civic organizations meet there at frequent and regular intervals. Cognizance should be taken of the fact, however, that these service clubs are by no means the only users and - perhaps - are not even the major users. Be that as it may, few people would seriously hold that these clubs are not worthy civic institutions.

It is our contention that the essential function of this building has been sharply curtailed during the summer months, late spring and early fall because of inadequate temperature regulations, lack of humidity control and poor ventilation just as its function would likewise be sharply curtailed during the winter months if it were not properly heated. We sincerely believe that if this building can be made pleasant and usable on an all-year-round basis that our Town will eventually reap the benefits in ways both tangible and intangible.

Many out-of-town guests and strangers have occasion to visit our Community House. They praise it in glowing terms and look upon it with envy, but they seldom come during the heat waves and if they do, they leave at the earliest opportunity by the nearest exit.

Mr. Mayor, in behalf of our group, I would like to present this statement to your Secretary as a formal written request that the Community House be air conditioned.

Signed - Dr. E. W. Phifer"

Mr. Frank Patton and Dr. James Collett also made statements concerning this request, after which Mayor Riddle gave each representative an opportunity to express themselves. Mr. Patton further stated that the organizations who use this building would be willing to pay an amount sufficient to take care of the cost of maintenance and power used, but that they were only requesting that the Town make the initial investment by having the air conditioning system installed. After a rather lengthy discussion of this matter, Alderman Clemmer made a motion that the Town Manager make preparation for securing bids on air conditioning the Community Building. This motion was seconded by Alderman Rader and passed unanimously.

(2) Mr. Max Ward and Mr. A. W. Bracey were present in the interest of additional parking lots in town. It was their suggestion that the Town take over the lot beside the new Artcraft Press building. Mr. Bracey stated that as a member of the Merchants Association he would like to see as many parking lots as possible around. It was his feeling that this would help the Town to grow. These men were advised that some action would be taken on this matter in this meeting.

PETITIONS (Cont'd):

(3) The Town Manager read a petition from residents of Pearson Drive petitioning the Town not to open Pearson Drive into Sanford Drive. The Manager stated that Mr. W. C. Hudson has submitted his subdivision plat for approval in this meeting. Mrs. Charles Carey and Mrs. L. B. Snow were present regarding this petition. Mayor Riddle stated that the Town would have to do what we think is best for the Town as a whole in this matter. The Mayor requested members of the Council to go with the Town Manager and make some survey of the end of Pearson Drive before action is taken on this matter.

(4) W. T. Alexander was present representing the residents of the Carbon City section and relative to a petition which this group filed with regard to electrical rates. Mr. Alexander stated that the residents of this section feel that the Town's electrical rates are higher than they should be and that they do not feel that they get the kind of service from the Town which they should get. He requested that something be done about this in that they feel they are paying too much for the service they are receiving. Mr. Alexander was requested to discuss this matter with our Electrical Superintendent.

(5) Mr. Wheeler Dale stated that he was present regarding a request to run another water line in the Carbon City area. He requested that he be given permission to construct approximately 1600 feet of 2" water line on the east side of Whitley Road. The Town Manager stated that our objection to this is a 6" circulating line is what is required to be installed in town and he felt that others outside the city should be required to install the same type of system. He also stated that the Water Superintendent and Engineering Department had been making a study of this section and the proposed line and that it should be ready in a few days. Mr. Dale was advised that this estimate would be presented to the Board at a later meeting.

(6) A group of eight colored women from the West Concord Street section were present. Their spokesman stated that they were trying to get some help on transportation for their children to school. They stated that they appeared before the School Board at their last meeting but that they were advised that the School Board could give them no help. They live  $1\frac{1}{4}$  miles away from the school and the requirement is that they live  $1\frac{1}{2}$  miles away before the school bus will pick them up. Mayor Riddle advised them that the Town Board would meet with a Committee from the School Board and if there was any way that something could be worked out, we would be glad to do it. It was decided to have such a meeting on September 18. The petitioners were told that they could come to the meeting at 8:30 P.M. on September 18.

(7) Henry Branch, representing Mimosa Cabs, was present and requested that a water fountain be installed at the corner of Union and King Streets. The Town Manager was requested to get the cost on a fountain and report back.

(8) Mr. Ehrenberg and Mr. Bagby from the Remington Rand Company were present. They stated that they had talked with the Town Manager and Purchasing Agent about automation in the Town's bookkeeping system with reference to light and water billing, taxes, voting procedures, police records, suspect files, traffic violations, etc. They presented a proposal for installing such a system which Mr. Ehrenberg explained in detail. Mayor Riddle advised them that the Town Manager would be requested to go over this proposal and make some recommendation to the Council on it.