

City of Brownsdale

Garden Spot of Mower County

Mayor – Jeff Foster Council Members – Gene Crabtree, Jan Ball, Becky Wollenburg, Carol Larick

City Clerk/Treasurer – Adria Vargas

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City Council Regular Meeting August 1st, 2017

(These minutes are unofficial until approved by the City Council at the next meeting)

Mayor Jeff Foster called the meeting to order at 7 P.M.; everyone stood for the Pledge of Allegiance.

Present: Mayor Jeff Foster; Council Members: Gene Crabtree, Carol Larick, Becky Wollenburg

Council Members absent: Jan Ball

City Employees: City Librarian: Deb Smith (absent), City Clerk: Adria Vargas,
and Police Chief: Carley Grunewald (absent), City Maintenance: Wayne Baldner

Public in attendance: Gene Tindal, Beverly Atzl, Dan Morem, Gregg Slaathaug, Greg Peterson, Patrick Towey, Justin Holtan.

July 5th, 2017, Minutes stood approved as written

Floor Opened for Public Comment: The Public was asked for comment. With no comments being brought forward, the Council moved on.

City Engineer's Report: None

City Public Works Report: Wayne discussed with the Council the updates with the control panel at the lift station. The project is moving forward, the panel is being built and will be installed the later part of August.

Wayne thanked Carol Larick for the generous donation of a live trap to the City.

Wayne thanked Gene Crabtree (Crabtree Lawn and Snow) for donating time and services to reseed the lot at 105 Cedar St. where the City demolished a hazardous property.

Wayne updated the Council that there are many trees at the City Brush Dump and that a gentleman will be coming over the next two weeks to salvage the trees from the dump site.

Wayne also approached the Council with two estimates to replace the roof at the lift station. After reviewing the estimates. Mayor Foster concluded that if the City would purchase the shingles, that the Mayor and his son would furnish the labor free of charge.

Wayne and the Council discussed the Noxious weeds out at the sewage treatment ponds. The Council decided that Sunshine Enterprises should do a third spraying, possibly with a different spray due to regrowth. The Council also suggested that the small trees and brush along the fence line should also be removed.

City Police Officer's Report:

Available at the City Clerk's office upon request.

Hazardous Building report: A letter from the City Attorney was discussed and the Council decided that a walk through should be completed at Vista Village Court and photos should be taken. This matter has been tabled until next month.

New Business

The address discrepancy for the former school property was discussed and corrected by resolution 2017-17. **Council Member Crabtree made a motion to adopt resolution 2017-17 designating the proper City address to the former Brownsdale Elementary School property. The new address designated to the property is 105 Latham St. N.E. Council Member Wollenburg seconded the motion. 4 Yeas 0 Nays.**

Dan Morem discussed with the Council the danger of several large rotting trees in town, especially the park.

The Council had a short discussion that ended with the trees that need immediate attention will be addressed first. Due to the large number of trees and stumps that need to be tended to, the Council's opinion was to possibly budget funds yearly to trim City trees in town, section by section and to start a maintenance schedule yearly thereafter. Dan Morem also addressed that the Ash trees in on City boulevard should be removed and not trimmed due to the Emerald Ash Borer that is in neighboring counties, that he feels is heading our direction. Council Member Crabtree, Wayne and Dan Morem will be putting together a plan of action to start this project.

The Emergency Operation Plan Meeting is scheduled to be held at the Brownsdale Community Center on September 26th at 5:30pm.

The Bank Certificate of Deposit matures on August 18th, 2017. After a brief discussion the Council agreed to roll the CD over. **Council Member Larick made a motion to roll CD Number 100425, Council Member Wollenburg seconded the motion. 4 Yeas, 0 Nays. Carried.**

After reviewing a request from the Library Board the Council agreed to pay the cost of \$209.00 to allow Deb Smith, City Librarian to attend the Minnesota Library Association conference in Rochester on Oct 5th and 6th, 2017. **Council Member Wollenburg made a motion to send Deb Smith City Librarian to the Minnesota Library Association Conference in Rochester, MN. Oct. 5th and 6th, 2017, at a cost of \$209.00 plus Deb's mileage reimbursement. Council Member Larick seconded the motion. 4 Yeas, 0 Nays. Carried.**

Council Member Crabtree made a motion to adopt Resolution 2017-16 accepting two donations for the City Library. Council Member Larick second the motion. 4 Yeas, 0 Nays. Carried.

The Council discussed the end of the six-month probation period for Wayne Baldner the Public Works employee. The Council praised Wayne for his good work, and awarded him a .50 cent an hour raise. **Council Member Crabtree made a motion to award Wayne Baldner a .50 cent raise per hour raise starting the 13th of August, 2017 for passing the six month probationary period. Council Member Wollenburg seconded the motion. 4 yeas, 0 nays. Carried.**

The Hayfield Community School Superintendent and School Board members gave a brief discussion on information that will be presented to the Public at the August 22, 2017 community informational meeting at the Brownsdale Community Center at 7:00pm.

The Council discussed some personnel issues. With no determination taken the item was dropped.

The Council discussed the need to do some research on landlord and rental properties. This has been tabled until the next meeting. The Council instructed the City Clerk to do some research.

Old Business

No old business was discussed at this time.

Council Member Larick made a motion to adjourn the meeting at 8:38 pm, Council Member Crabtree seconded the motion, 4 Yeas, 0 Nays. Carried. Meeting stood adjourned at 8:38 pm.

Adria Vargas
City Clerk/Treasurer