

# 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 Dec. 6<sup>th</sup>, 2017

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, Jan Ball

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

Public in attendance: Gene Tindal, Don Peterson, Lynda Yates, Mary Mortiz, Loren Swanson, Richard Borcharding

November 6th, 2017, minutes stood approved as written.

**Floor Opened for Public Comment:** The Public was asked for comment.

Mary Mortiz asked the Council about the Plans for the Park pavilion. The Council stated that the subject was on the agenda and would be discussed later in the meeting.

Don Peterson asked about the City website if and how that was running. The Clerk mentioned to Don that the website is up and running and the address is brownsdalemn.com

Richard Borcharding approached the Council asking for a renewal of the onsite and offsite gambling license on behalf of the Brownsdale Fire Department and the relief association.

Don Peterson also complimented the Council on how much he appreciates the Council keeping down costs and being financially responsible. The Council thanked Don for his complement.

After hearing no other comments, the Mayor moved on to City Public Works report.

**City Engineer's Report:** None

**City Public Works Report:**

Wayne discussed the updates with the Council. He stated that instead of incurring another service call for the heater at the wellhouse that he went ahead and switched out the thermostat and the high limit sensor.

Wayne also brought to attention that there is wild parsnip growing at the brush dump and surrounding area and asked that the council allow this to be sprayed in the Spring with the other noxious weeds. The Council stated that this weed is noxious and should be dealt with due to the severity of it. Wayne was granted approval to have this taken care of in the Spring of 2018.

Wayne also mentioned that the cars that Police Chief Grunewald has been working on have been removed from indoor storage. Wayne stated that after the City acquires the car titles that one vehicles possibly would have some value and that the other two could be picked up by Watson Recycling and that they have been contact. There is a possibility that the City would get anywhere from \$100.00 or \$200.00 for other two vehicles. Wayne also mentioned that the old City Pick up was taken to Hamilton Auction in Dexter and will be auctioned off by online action Dec. 20, 2017.

Wayne also asked for the Council's approval to build a snow hill at the park for the kids to slide off of. The Council stated that many years ago that was done and when it melted that park was flooded. The Council denied this request.

**Council Member Crabtree made a motion to close the regular meeting at 7:59pm and to hold the Public Hearing to Certify the Tax Levy collected in 2018. Council Member Wollenburg seconded the motion. 5yeas 0 nays carried.**

After hearing no community response to the hearing. The matter was discussed and reviewed by the Council.

**The City Council member Crabtree made a motion to accept resolution 2017-29 approving the 2018 tax levy collected in 2018 as \$243,530.00. Council Member Wollenburg seconded the motion 5yeas 0 nays. Carried**

**A motion was made by Council Member Crabtree to adjourn the Public Hearing at 8:07pm and reopen the regular meeting at 8:07pm. The motion was seconded by Council Member Wollenburg. 5yeas 0 nays. Carried.**

#### **City Police Officer's Report:**

Available at the City Clerk's office upon request.

Chief Grunewald stated that while out at the brush dump she must have ran over something that punched a hole in one of the squad tire. The Squad has been taken to CAS for repairs.

Chief Grunewald also stated that she would be doing the final inventory of the cars in storage and would soon be sending paper work to the State for release of the titles.

Chief Grunewald also commented to the Council that she has been cleared to come back to work after receiving a blow to the head and face outside of work.

**Hazardous Building report:** Improvements and clean-up have come to a stand-still at Vista Village. This matter is tabled until next month. The Clerk researched with Minnesota Department of Health on the Licensure of Vista Village, Vista Village is licensed until 12/31/17. The Council decided to wait and see if the licensure is renewed before moving forward. This matter is tabled until next month's meeting.

## Old Business

The Council discussed the park pavilion. The reviewed the plans that we submitted by Mayor Foster. Council decided that the pavilion would be steel construction. Mary Mortiz asked if the City would set up a separate bank account where donations could be made for the pavilion. Mary also stated that the Brownsdale Study Club would like to make a donation. After a short discussion it was decided that the Brownsdale Businessmen's association would be approached to accept donations on behalf of the City for the project. Deb stated on behalf of the Businessmen's association wants to help and be involved.

The Council commented that other trees deemed dangerous were removed on the previous bid for tree trimming and removal. Hence the bill would be higher than the bid. The Council commented that due to public safety that was a necessary action and was approved unanimously.

## New Business

The Council after hearing Richard Borcharding's request for the renewal of the annual gambling license made a motion to adopt resolution 2017-28. **Council Member Crabtree made a motion to adopt resolution 2017-28 granting the annual onsite and offsite gambling license for The Brownsdale Fire Department and the Relief Association. Council Member Wollenburg seconded the Motion. 5 Yeas, 0 Nays carried.**

Deb reported that the library sponsored a Small Business Expo in the community room last weekend and that the turn out was good. Deb also said that next Saturday the Library will be holding an open house, The Business mans association will be hosting Juice with Santa in the morning on Sat. Dec. 9<sup>th</sup> from 8-10am in the Community Center. Deb mentioned that she will be doing a snow ball activity for Family Fun Night and that the Fiber arts group is doing a mitten tree based on The Mitten Tree book.

The Utility Services Partners will be attending that January 3<sup>rd</sup>, 2018 meeting to discuss water and sewer line insurance plans that can be offered to the community members.

**Council Member Wollenburg made a motion adopting Resolution 2017-24, Council Member Ball seconded the motion, designating Polling Places for Brownsdale City residents and RedRock Township residents at 103 East Main St. at the Community Hall. 5 Yeas, 0 Nays. Carried.**

**Council Member Crabtree made a motion adopting Resolution 2017-25 accepting a monetary library donation in the amount of \$250.00 from IBI DATA. Council Member Wollenburg seconded the Motion. 5 Yeas, 0 Nays. Carried.**

**Council Member Larick made a motion adopting Resolution 2017-26 accepting a monetary library donation in the amount of \$468.00 from the United Way of Mower County., Council Member Wollenburg seconded the motion. 5Yeas, 0 Nays. Carried.**

**Council Member Wollenburg made a motion adopting Resolution 2017-27 granting the annual Cigarette License to CHS, Council Member Crabtree seconded the motion, 5 Yeas, 0 Nays. Carried.**

**Council Member Crabtree made a motion to adopt Resolution 2017-30 with regret, accepting a letter of resignation from Council Member Wollenburg, stating that she no longer qualifies to sit on the Council due to Moving out of City limits. Council Member Larick seconded the motion also**

**with regret. The City Council adopting Resolution 2017-30 also declares a vacancy and seeks to fill the appoint from 12/31/17-1/03/19 by interview.**

Notice is hereby given, that Brownsdale City Council has a vacant Council seat that will be filled by interview. Any and all interested persons must be 21 years of age to assume office, be a resident of Brownsdale at least 30 days from vacancy 12/31/17 and eligible to vote per State Statute. Please submit a letter of Interest by 12:00 noon on Wednesday January 3<sup>rd</sup>, 2018 to the City Clerk's office located at 103 East Main St. Brownsdale, MN. 55918.

**Bills were presented and signed**

**Council Member Crabtree made a motion to adjourn the meeting at 8:15 pm, Council Member Wollenburg seconded the motion, 5 Yeas, 0 Nays. Carried. Meeting stood adjourned at 8:15 pm.**

Adria Vargas  
City Clerk/Treasurer