

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 Nov. 6th, 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, 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, Ken Petzold, Mary Mortiz, Loren Swanson

October 2nd, 2017, minutes stood approved as written.

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

Ken Petzold stated that there are cars that have been parked past the 48- hour time limit and that if they could be checked on, or possibly be moved. The Council asked Chief Grunewald to look into this matter. 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. Wayne thanked Jeff Foster for roofing the lift station building. Wayne also thanked Gene Crabtree for lending the scaffolding to enable the clear coating to be completed on the murals. Wayne also thanked Jan for the apples she brought in to be used as bait for trapping the Muskrats at the pond structures.

Wayne also brought to attention that trapping is becoming more difficult at the ponds and mentioned that other cities have a rifle that they use for pest control only. The Mayor stated that the Police Chief could go and use her weapon for pest control at the ponds. The Mayor stated that a trapper could come in to trap the animals so that they don't destroy the structures. The Mayor also stated that the City would pay for the cost of the ammunition used by the Police Chief for this matter.

Wayne mentioned that the streets are being swept.

Wayne also mentioned that a new thermostat was ordered for the heater in the well house and that a milk house heater is doing the job now for the mean time. The pumps in the wellhouse have been checked and that the meters have been calibrated at the Lift Station. Wayne also asked the Council what they would like to do about the generator at the lift station as it is running on high voltage and is tripping an alarm on the new control panel. The Council stated that Kohler could come out and service the generator if needed.

Wayne stated that he would like to wash his maintenance pick up on a regular basis. The Council instructed the Clerk to call and set up this service through the car wash.

Wayne also asked about a back-up plan for snow plowing if he would happen to be sick or gone during a snow fall. The Mayor stated that he would be willing to hop in and take-over if need be.

Council Member Wollenburg made a motion to close the regular meeting at 7:59pm and to hold the Public Hearing to assess all past due water and sewer bills to the tax roll. Council Member Crabtree 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 accepted resolution 2017-21 assessing all past due bills that are not paid to the City of Brownsdale by 5:00 pm on November 20th, 2017. A motion was made by Council Member Crabtree to adjourn the Public Hearing at 8:04pm and reopen the regular meeting at 8:05pm. 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.

Hazardous Building report: Improvements and clean-up have come to a stand-still at Vista Village. The Council after a brief discussion asked the Clerk to research the licensure of Vista Village with the State of Minnesota. This matter is tabled until next month.

Old Business

The Council discussed the park pavilion. The Council decided to move forward and the Mayor will be contacting Geneva Lumber to start making the plans for the pavilion.

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.

After a discussion about the tree trimming and removal of various Boulevard trees, per The City of Brownsdale's tree policy, a letter will be sent from the City to the Property owner offering a tree in replacement of the removed tree, to be planted by the property owner, not on the Boulevard but on private property.

New Business

Deb reported that she attended the Library conference. Deb told the council that she enjoyed and had collected many new ideas and items and that over time she may want to implement them here at the library.

The Clerk approached the Council asking for a payout of 20 hours of her PTO. **Council Member Crabtree made a motion to approve the payout of 20 hours of the City Clerks PTO. Council Member Wollenburg seconded the motion. 5 yeas 0 nays. Carried.**

Council Member Crabtree made a motion to accept resolution 2017-22 receiving a monetary donation of \$500.00 dollars to the Library from Freeborn Mower County Operation Round Up for Fiber arts materials and Instruction and a second donation of \$400.00 also from the Freeborn Mower County Operation Round up to initiate activity and movement. Council Member Larick seconded the motion. 5 Yeas 0 Nays. Carried.

Council Member Larick made a motion to accept resolution 2017-23 accepting donations to the library for the Baked Potato bar fundraiser in the amount of \$495.00 from various community members. 5 Yeas 0 Nays. Carried.

Bills were presented and signed

Council Member Crabtree made a motion to adjourn the meeting at 8:30 pm, Council Member Ball seconded the motion, 5 Yeas, 0 Nays. Carried. Meeting stood adjourned at 8:30 pm.

Adria Vargas
City Clerk/Treasurer