

# City of Brownsdale

Garden Spot of Mower County

Mayor – Jeff Foster Council Members – Gene Crabtree, Jan Ball, Debra Schuette, Carol Larick

City Clerk/Treasurer – Adria Vargas

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## City Council Regular Meeting November 5th, 2018

Mayor Jeff Foster called the meeting to order at 7:00 P.M.; everyone stood for the Pledge of Allegiance.

Present: Mayor Jeff Foster; Council Members: Gene Crabtree, Carol Larick, Debra Schuette  
Jan Ball

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

Public in attendance: Loren Swanson, Gene Tindal, Rick Smith, Ardis Jensen, Jenelle Parks, Jared Parks,  
Mary Moritz, Don Heimer, Jonathan Rodd (Jaguar Communications)

October 1<sup>st</sup>, 2018 meeting minutes stood approved as written.

**Floor Opened for Public Comment:** The Public was asked for comment. After  
Hearing none the mayor continued to next item of business.

**City Engineer's Report:** None

### **City Public Works Report:**

Wayne updated the Council on receiving the John Deere tractor. Wayne stated that the skeleton bucket and rear blade are due in this week or the early part of next week. He reports that is meeting his expectations. He also joking stated that the old Ford tractor has found itself a new place out on the farm (literally). This lead into the a brief discussion on space in the City Shop. The Council stated that a schedule will have to be made in regards to parking arrangements until the next meeting. Wayne is to find suitable alternative options and bids by the next meeting.

Wayne stated that Officer Smerud complained that the ballasts in the back office are humming loudly. Wayne stated that he had received a bid from Fox Electric to take out the ballasts and change the building over to LED. The Council discussed the project and the bids extensively. After the discussion **Council Member Schuette made a motion to contract Fox Electric to complete the LED change over not to exceed \$6,500.00 council member Larick seconded the motion. 5Yeas, 0 Nays. Carried.**

Wayne commented that he has received only one bid for the pavilion and has sent the plans to several contractors and has had no bids returned. The Council gave a name of a general contractor to send the information to secure a second bid to get ready for work in the Spring.

### **Public Hearing:**

**Council Member Crabtree made a motion to suspend the regular meeting at 7:59pm to hold the Public Hearing for assessing past due water, sewer and lawn care bills. Council Member Schuette seconded the motion. 5 Yeas, 0 Nays Carried.**

**Council Member Crabtree made a motion to adopted Resolution 2018-18 to assess 2018 Water and Sewer and Lawn Care bill to the tax roll. Council Member Larick seconded the motion. 5 Yeas, 0 Nays. Carried.**

**Council Member Schuette made a motion to adjourn the Public Hearing at 8:04pm and reopen the regular meeting at 8:05 pm. Council Member Larick seconded the motion. 5 Yeas, 0 Nays Carried.**

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

Available at the City Clerk's office upon request.

Officer Smerud commented that two repairs have been made to the Squad one to the antenna. The other was a recall that was corrected; an additional seal in the rear hatch area to prevent Carbon Monoxide from entering the cab.

Officer Smerud reported that Halloween went great. No problems were reported and it appeared that the kids had fun.

Officer Smerud commented about the lack of lights on Shania Street. Wayne commented that he spoke briefly to Freeborn Mower and that they will look into this as a Spring project.

Officer Smerud commented that one of the cars in possession has been returned to its legal owner. He had been made aware that another is a DWI forfeiture and will take additional paper work before it can be disposed of or returned to its owner if time statutes allow.

### **New Business**

Jonathan Rodd visited the Council from Jaguar Communications he passed out some materials for the Councils consideration. Jonathan approached the Council about a dual franchise along with Media Com. Stating that Fiber Optic buried cable is the material they use to provide service. He also mentioned it is a local company with 90 plus employees and has local offices out of Austin and Owatonna to name a few. The Council discussed the benefit and need for better and more affordable services in town.

**Council Member Schuette made a motion to enter into a dual franchise agreement with Jaguar Council Member Crabtree seconded the motion. 5 Yeas, 0 Nays. Carried.**

The Council discussed hazard properties it was determined that this item be tabled until Spring 2019.

Council Member Larick questioned the Librarian about the purchase of a coffee cart. Deb stated that it was a donation. Deb stated that during meeting that the standard of services that Libraries are offering is

changing to more of a coffee shop style décor. Deb stated that she went through her library board and always shops to get the best deals possible. Council Member Larick asked the Librarian to be more accountable. Council Member Larick asked if it was a donation that should be accepted by resolution whether it is monetary or a material donation.

**Council Member Schuette made a motion to accepted Resolution 2018- 19 accepting donations for the library in the amount of \$750.00 from Freeborn Mower operation round up, the second amount of \$ 441.00 from the Potato Bar Fundraiser for a total amount of \$1,191.00 Council Member Crabtree seconded the motion. 5 Yeas, 0 Nays. Carried.**

**Council Member Schuette made a motion to adopted Resolution 2018-20 accepting a memorial donation to the park from Sally and Gene Gerhart in Memory of Marlys Akkerman. Council Member Crabtree seconded the motion. 5 Yeas, 0 Nays. Carried.**

**Council Member Crabtree made a motion to adopt Resolution 2018-21 to enter into a joint Snow removal contract with MNDOT, the amount was set to \$180.00 an hour for loader with operator. 5 Yeas, 0 Nays. Carried.**

#### **Bills were presented and signed**

**Council Member Larick made a motion to adjourn the meeting at 8:39 pm. Council Member Schuette seconded the motion. 5 Yeas, 0 Nays. Carried. Meeting stood adjourned at 8:39 pm.**

Adria Vargas; City Clerk/Treasurer