

City of Brownsdale

Garden Spot of Mower County

Mayor – Jeff Foster Council Members – Gene Crabtree, Debra Schuette, Jessica Bakken, Rick Smith

City Clerk/Treasurer – Adria Vargas

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City Council Regular Meeting October 7th, 2019

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, Debra Schuette, Rick Smith, Jessica Bakken,

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

Public in attendance: Don Peterson, Mary Moritz, Aaron Port, Brad Peterson, Don Konken, Jan Ball, Jenelle Parks, Scott Weiderhoeft, Mike Lorentz, Ben Simmons

September 7th, 2019 meeting minutes stood approved as written

Public Comment:

The Mayor addressed the public for comment.

Aaron Port stated that he would like language for the Forced Water Way and Utility easement that runs along his land. The Clerk stated that there is minimal language on the plat map and proceeded to read that language out loud, He was provided a paper copy of the plat map at the meeting. Mayor Foster concluded that was all that is available as far as language for the easement and stated that nothing further would be needed.

Brad Peterson and Mike Lorentz discussed with the Council that the neighbor is building up his property causing water to back drain unto their properties and causing flooding issues. They asked if the Council would consider passing an ordinance on building up land and lawns that could cause flooding or drainage issues. The Property owners showed pictures to the Council as to provide a visual perspective on the matter. The Council gave them permission at their cost to install a drive over curb to allow water to flow to the storm sewer. The property owners also stated that they believe that the property will continue to be built up due to the fact that the other owner has a pile of dirt with weeds growing on it along the sidewalk on Mill St. They also stated that the sidewalk is damaged due to quad axel trucks driving over the curb and sidewalk to leave dirt.

Don Konken discussed with the Council the need for an industrial park in the City of Brownsdale to grow our businesses that are here in town. He stated that he heard that IBI industries is wanting to move out of town because they don't have enough room. He commented that we need to have something in town to attract businesses to come in and to stay here.

New Business

Steve from Roto Rooter went over the video of the needed areas of concern for the sewer that needs to be repaired. He stated that the patches could be done at any-time but liners should be done when its warmer outside.

The Council after discussion adopted the I Pad Policy as written, **Council Member Schuette made a motion to adopt the I Pad Policy as written, Council Member Bakken seconded the motion. 5 Yeas, 0 Nays. Carried.**

The Council after discussion changed the City Clerk's office hours starting November 1st, 2019 to Monday -Thursday 7:30am – 3:30pm and Fridays 7:30-11:30am , **Council Member Crabtree made a motion to change the City Clerk's office hours starting November 1st, 2019 Monday-Thursday 7:30am -3:30pm and Fridays from 7:30am-11:30am , Council Member Bakken seconded the motion. 5 Yeas, 0 Nays. Carried.**

Public Works Report: None

City Police Officer's Report: available at the City Clerk's office upon request.

Officer Smerud asked the Council to consider the purchase of a Taser. Upon reviewing the bids and a short discussion. **Council Member Schuette made a motion to purchase a Taser 7 with a 5-year subscription for \$720.00 yearly which includes certifying, training, and cartridges. Council Member Bakken seconded the motion. 5Yeas, 0 Nays. Carried**

Officer Smerud thanked the Council and stated that this will work better than OC spray, which doesn't affect some people or animals. OC spray can also be less effective depending on the direction of the wind. Aaron Port asked the Council who will own the Taser and questioned if that equipment would travel with Officer Smerud if he were to take employment elsewhere.

Officer Smerud stated the vandalism that was done to the Pavilion Bathroom was done by a juvenile and has been handled, he included a handwritten letter of apology that was given to the Mayor. No name was released.

Officer Smerud also stated that he has a new electrical cable on order for the radar that is in the squad.

Library:

Deb stated that the Library has a newsletter out that give details for fun events at the library. The Newsletter also describes the strategic planning that SELCO is hosting. The Potato bar fundraiser is set for the Friday of the City- Wide sales stop out and check us out. She commented that she's always busy.

Old Business

The Council discussed the library windows and asked that they be inspected by Public Works and caulked to detour water leakage when it rains.

Bills were presented and signed

Council Member Bakken made a motion to adjourn the meeting at 8:12 pm. Council Member Schuette seconded the motion. 5 Yeas, 0 Nays. Carried. The meeting stood adjourned at 8:12 pm.

Adria Vargas; City Clerk/Treasurer

