

City of Brownsdale

Garden Spot of Mower County

Mayor – Jeff Foster Council Members – Debra Schuette, Jessica Bakken, Rick Smith, Raughn Oakland
City Clerk/Treasurer – Adria Vargas
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City Council Regular Meeting July 1st,2021

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

Present: Mayor Jeff Foster(Facetime); Council Members: Debra Schuette, Rick Smith, Jessica Bakken, Raughn Oakland

City Employees: City Clerk: Adria Vargas,; Police Chief: Jon Smerud, City Maintenance: Wayne Baldner

Public in attendance: Jan Ball, Emily Meyer, Loren Swanson

June 1st, 2021, regular Meeting Minutes stood approved as written.

Clerk Vargas asked for public acknowledgment that they could see, hear, and recognize Mayor Foster VIA Facetime for the meeting. The Public and Council acknowledged that Mayor Foster was present at the meeting VIA Facetime.

Mayor Foster also instructed the Council to vote by attendance to be clear on who was Yea or Nay during a particular motion.

Public Comment: Emily Meyer introduced herself to the public and the Council and stated that she was again new to town and stated that she had once lived in Brownsdale many years ago. She then later commented on the condition of her apartment stating that there is feces and urine that wasn't cleaned in her apartment when she moved in. Council Member Smith stated that he is a landlord and that there are rules and regulations about conditions of properties and that she should have stated that during her walk though he then stated that if she wasn't happy with the conditions that she shouldn't have moved in. She also asked for clarification on a community hall rental for some friends of hers. She asked for a reduction in rental hall fees because they are low income. The Council stated that the fees are set at the beginning of the year in a fee schedule and that no reduction would be made at this time. Jon escorted Emily to the Community room to discuss the remainder of her concerns in a private setting.

Loren Swanson and Jan Ball stated that he had nothing at this time to add. After hearing no additional public comment Mayor Foster moved on to Old Business

Old Business: Mayor Foster stated that the Cemetery board sent out a thank you note for the donation that was made. He stated that the response for Rep. Mueller in regards to the MN Dot contract was included in tonight's meeting packet.

New Business

Several agenda items were tabled to allow for further discussion during the August meeting.

Public Works Report: Wayne stated that he had two bids for the Street repair projects discussed at the June meeting. Council had a brief discussion about the bids and Council Member Schuette made a motion to contract Blackstone for the 4inch bid of \$8,453.00 as outlined in the bid. Council Member Smith seconded the motion. 5Yeas, 0Nays. Carried. Wayne was instructed to get further bids for the other projects. Wayne also mentioned that there was a storm sewer culvert washed out down on Fremont Street. He reported that Husemoller has been called to fix the culvert. Wayne also reported that the Basketball goals are up at the park and wanted to thank Pat Roles, Gene Crabtree, Foster Construction and the whole Police Department of all of the donated time and help making the project happen.

City Police Officer's Report: available at the City Clerk's office upon request. Chief Smerud discussed the bid for a Body Camera, from AXON. Jon stated that after some discussion about storage that the bid changed from \$7,000 to \$731.00. **Council Member Bakken made a motion to purchase a Body Camera from Axon in the amount of \$731.00 Council Member Schuette seconded the motion. 5Yeas,0Nays. Carried.**

Jon mentioned that the state He feels that due to the timing and deadline for ordering and securing the necessary bids for the Council that the Squad Car purchase will have to wait until next year. This item has been tabled at this time.

Jon also mentioned on behalf of Frontier Lounge that they would like to close off one block of California Street for the Kiddie Parade and the tractor pull. They would also like to close off the block behind the bank for the car show.

Legacy approached Jon about blocking off the side of the road along Latham Street on the afternoon of the 17th of July for their Classic Car show. It was mentioned that he should have some discussion with Legacy about the fact that Latham is considered a county road before talking to Mower County about the closure.

Council Member Oakland asked Jon if he had purchased the bikes yet for the BrownsdaleFest. Jon stated that he hadn't yet purchased the bikes yet but there was still plenty of time until the event.

Library: Library Director Smith submitted some written information for review in her absence.

Mayor Foster commented on the Library board meeting that he and Council Member Smith attended. Mayor Foster stated that he requested that the Library Board hold off on any comp time and manage the library within the confines of the hours given by council. He stated that the Library Board asked for two months to get the details in order before they fully take over governing the Library. Mayor Foster also explained to the Council that there has been a restructure of the Payroll to hold a week in arrears. The Council agreed by various comments that's the way its always been where any of us has worked, it only makes sense.

Bills were presented and signed

Council Member Bakken made a motion to adjourn the meeting at 7:45pm. Council Member Smith seconded the motion. 5 Yeas, 0 Nays. Carried. The meeting stood adjourned at 7:45pm

