

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 March 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; Council Members: Debra Schuette, Rick Smith, Jessica Bakken, Raughn Oakland

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

Public in attendance: Jenelle Parks (Mower County Independent & BP Library Board), Jan Ball, Loren Swanson, Tim Duren, Bonnie Williams, Mary Moritz, Mabelle Flugum (Hill, Larson, Walth PA)

February 1st, 2021 Meeting Minutes were approved without corrections.

Public Comment: Deb Smith stated that she was in attendance as a public member not as Library Director. She stated that she had passed out some materials for the Brownsdale Area Businessman Association. She stated that the Easter Egg hunt is still on for this year and that she had included another tentative schedule of upcoming events such as the City- wide sales. Deb also passed out some materials for the Farmers Market. She stated that the Bank will still allow the use of the green space and that they would plan to use the pavilion on rainy days. She added that, the market would be held one Saturday a month, she stated that she had vendors that would like to be included but that they were only available Saturdays.

Old Business:

Mayor Foster commented to the Council that yearly policy review, he would like to review the policies after the appointment with the City Attorney, if the rest of the Council was in agreement. Policy review tabled until next month.

New Business

Mayor Foster asked the Mabelle from Hill Larson Walth PA step forward to present the 2020 Audit report. Mabelle reviewed the Audit, discussed cash balances and expenditures for the 2020 year. A full copy of the Audit report is available for review in the Clerks office. Fund balances have been published on Brownsdalemn.com and in the City Clerks window and are set to publish next week in the Mower County Independent. **Council Member Schuette made a motion to accept the 2020 Audit report, Council Member Smith seconded the motion. 5Yeas, 0Nays. Carried.**

The Mayor briefly discussed the 2022 Fire contract stating that there was a 0 % increase from the 2021 year. The total amount to enter into the contract is \$21,591.00. Council Member Smith made a motion to enter into the 2022 contract with the Brownsdale Volunteer Fire Department for the amount of \$21,591.00, Council Member Schuette seconded the motion. 5Yeas, 0Nays. Carried.

Mayor Foster asked for a motion to suspend the regular meeting to hold a Public Hearing to hear Ordinance 2021-01. **Council Member Bakken made a motion to suspend the regular meeting at 7:29pm. Council Member Oakland seconded the motion. 5Yeas, 0Nays. Carried.**

Mayor Foster after addressing the Council and the Public for comment or objection to addressing the Lots located on Cedar St NW. After hearing no comment or objection asked that Clerk Vargas read Ordinance 2021-1.

**ORDINANCE 2021-1
AN ORDINANCE OF THE CITY OF BROWNSDALE, MINNESOTA,
ASSIGNING NEW STREET ADDRESS FOR PROPERTIES**

THE CITY COUNCIL OF THE CITY OF BROWNSDALE DOES HEREBY ORDAIN:

Address Location # 1 Parcel B

That the property with Property ID number 22.002.0494; Currently assigned with the street address of (No Known Street address) in the City of Brownsdale, MN., County of Mower be assigned to a street address of 301 Cedar St. N.W. (Brownsdale, MN. 55918 in the County of Mower)

Address Location # 2 Parcel A

That the property with Property ID number 22.002.0496; Currently assigned with the street address of (No Known Street address) in the City of Brownsdale, MN., County of Mower be assigned to a street address of 303 Cedar St. N.W. (Brownsdale, MN. 55918 in the County of Mower)

Adopted by the Brownsdale City Council this 1st day of March, 2021

Jeff Foster, Mayor

ATTEST:

Adria Vargas, City Clerk/ Treasurer

A motion was made by Council Member Bakken to adjourn the Public Hearing at 7:30pm. Council Member Schuette seconded the motion 5Yeas, 0Nays. Carried.

After Much discussion about the Library. Mayor Foster addressed the Council stating that an appointment needs to be set up to discuss the Library matters. He stated that there is an unwritten agreement that the Mayor and Council agree before seeking paid legal council for general matters. **Council Member Schuette made a motion to allow Clerk and Mayor to seek legal council. Council Member Oakland seconded the motion. 5Yeas, 0Nays. Carried.** Mayor Foster said he would also like to address the contract written between Vista Village and the City in regards to, road maintenance. The Council also agreed.

Council Member Bakken made a motion to pass Resolution 2021-06 making a paper transfer of \$57,970 from the General fund to the Debt Service Fund, to correct the deficit in the Debt Service fund from 2020, 2009A bond payoff. Council Member Smith seconded the motion. 5Yeas, 0Nays. Carried.

Public Works Report: Wayne mentioned that during this last cold snap that the City had two water main breaks. This will cost the City around \$ 12,000 to \$13,000 a piece after the patching of the road is completed. This is a big hit to the budget when we were just talking about other projects last meeting. He stated that he wanted to the Council to be aware of the cost associated with the repairs while still thinking about other things that need to be completed here around town. He stated that he is contacting Maguire Iron for a bid to address the corrosion in the pump house. He also stated that the Council should consider looking at purchasing a new blade for the plow. He stated remember a few years ago I had it welded. It's now flimsy and bent and floppy. That should be looked at before next year's plow season.

City Police Officer's Report: available at the City Clerk's office upon request. Officer Smerud said he didn't have a lot to comment about. He asked the Council for permission to cash out 40hours of Comp time. The Council agreed there was no issue and no motion needed to do this action.

Library: Librarian Smith passed out a report and Board President Parks spoke on behalf of the Library briefly, stated that Deb had attended a virtual training last Friday about Small Libraries. She also stated that we as a Library are just trying to figure where we are in all of this change and see what it looks like and go from there. Mayor Foster then stated that after the meeting with the attorney we will have to have a second workshop to get this all figured out.

Librarian Smith and the Council discussed holding small group events for the Library in the Community room. After much discussion it was decided that Adult events with 15 or less people in attendance could be held. Council Member Oakland asked that the activities and use of the Community Room be discussed monthly in case of changes in the current pandemic situation.

Tim Duren asked Deb Smith how the County Commissioner could be of more help with the concerns and financial needs of the Brownsdale Public Library. Deb stated that she feels that she's had previous support from other County Commissioners she stated that Polly Glynn from Grand Meadow sits on the board there and has been helpful because she understands Libraries.

Bills were presented and signed

Council Member Schuette made a motion to adjourn the meeting at 8:02pm. Council Member Smith seconded the motion. 5 Yeas, 0 Nays. Carried. The meeting stood adjourned at 8:02pm