

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 May 3rd, 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(Absent), City Maintenance: Wayne Baldner

Public in attendance: Jenelle Parks (Mower County Independent & BP Library Board), Jan Ball, Mary Moritz, Ben Simons, Donald Konken, Don Peterson.

April 6th, 2021 Meeting Minutes stood approved.

Public Comment:

Don Peterson began by telling the Council that he had read in the Mower County Independent that Leroy was having a Community Clean up day, he asked if maybe the Council would consider doing the same. Mayor Foster commented that it was done many years ago and its tough to keep a limit on what types of trash and keeping it to City Residents only. He stated that someone would have to sit and monitor the site. Council Member Smith stated that maybe it could be considered sometime next year. Raughn Oakland asked if there was maybe a recycling alternative here in town. It was decided that over the course of the year it could be looked into what other cities do. Wayne also mentioned that he thought that there was a company that could be paid to set up and oversee an event like this but was unsure if the size of Brownsdale would be able to be included.

Don Konken asked the Council if he would need a permit to do concrete work in his driveway area, and asked if he could do a drive over curb. Mayor Foster replied that no permit was required, he told Don that with respect to the curb it would need to be replaced with concrete.

Ben Simons asked the Council about Bee keeping in City limits. He stated that he had reviewed the ordinances online and stated that the only possible impediment would be non- domestic clause in the animal control ordinance. Mayor Foster stated that this could be looked into and discussed possibly next month. Jenelle Parks stated that her family had inquired about this years ago and it was discussed that it could be potentially possible to have neighbors sign a permission form. It was stated that they as a family didn't proceed because there was a neighbor that was severely allergic at that time but has since moved.

Old Business:

Mayor Foster opened the floor to discuss the Library, Mayor Foster asked the Council if they would want time to be spent breaking down the Library expenses or keep things as is. It's the same money that's paying for the costs. The only thing that this would create is increase in the library budget to cover those expenses, so instead of asking for \$ 42,000 they would ask for \$62,000 in order to cover the needs. Unless the Council wants to know exactly how much the Library costs? He asked for their feelings on the subject, Council Member Schuette and Bakken stated that they would agree as well to keeping things the same. Mayor Foster stated that nothing will change in the budget until 2022, as the 2021 budget has already been set and levied for. The Council also discussed the number of Library Board Members at this time. Deb Smith stated that at this time there are 5 members and they can serve 3 Consecutive terms of three years and can serve 9 years in total. She also stated that she would like to see an application type of process to ensure that members that the best skill sets and interests in the Library. Jenelle Parks stated that there are policies being put in place so new members can know what their responsibilities and expectations are. We'd all like to move forward and work together.

Mayor Foster stated that new members will come through the City Council for approval or as Mayor I can appoint and as needed the Clerk will post and publicize asking for interested candidates.

The City Clerk read the seconded reading of Ordinance 2021-01 ordaining addresses in the City of Brownsdale.

New Business

Council Member Schuette made a motion to pass Resolution 2021-08 accepting a monetary donation of \$500.00 for the Library from Freeborn Mower ORU in the form of a grant for the Summer Reading program. Council Member Bakken seconded the motion. 5Yeas, 0Nays. Carried.

The Council discussed the park, bathrooms, and planting trees to replace trees that had been in the park previously. The Council briefly talked about reservations for the pavilion, and concluded that the pavilion is first come first serve basis. The Council spoke briefly about the Basketball hoops, cost and where to place the set ups.

Council Member Schuette made a motion to purchase two Goalsetter Basketball hoop set ups from Scheels for the cost of \$ 2,250.00 each. With a generous discount of \$500.00 from Scheels. Council Member Smith seconded the motion. 5Yeas, 0Nays. Carried.

The Council discussed Frontier Lounges liquor license for the 2021-2022 year. **Council Member Schuette made a motion to charge the Frontier Lounge \$600.00 dollars for the 2021-2022 License period from 07/01/2021-06/30/2022. Council Member Oakland seconded the motion. 4 Yeas, 1Nay (Smtih)**

Public Works Report: Wayne mentioned that he had very little to discuss, he stated that he wanted some discussion and feedback from the Council on what streets and what work he should be bidding for street repairs. Wayne also stated that he would like to see a few new policies included in the discussion for the next meeting about street inspections and trees inspections on a rotating yearly schedule. He stated that Cummings was in town and was going to start the driveway project at the City Shop.

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

Library: No report for the month of May

The Council went over all City policies, one policy library use after hours has been removed. All other policies have been approved without changes. The Council discussed a few more policies to put into place, Park bathroom opening policy, Noise Ordinance to be discussed further at a future meeting.

Bills were presented and signed

Council Member Schuette made a motion to adjourn the meeting at 8:42pm. Council Member Bakken seconded the motion. 5 Yeas, 0 Nays. Carried. The meeting stood adjourned at 8:22pm