

# 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 Meeting

April 4<sup>th</sup>, 2022

Present: Mayor Jeff Foster; 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, Mary Moritz, Don Konken, Deb Smith, Dave Nelson, Loren Swanson, Darr Ehmke and Children.

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

March 8<sup>th</sup>, 2022, regular Meeting Minutes stood approved as written

All votes are made by roll call vote.

## **Public Comment:**

Don Konken mentioned that the last ride for Camp Courage will be riding through June 25<sup>th</sup> and will be camping on the school grounds in Hayfield. All that would like to join are welcome. He also stated that he will be hooking up his team and will offer any child in town with a handicap a ride to Austin. He also offered an invitation to the City Council, City staff, and Brownsdale Fire Department and all immediate family to an appreciation dinner at Our Saviors Lutheran Church April 25<sup>th</sup> at 6:30pm.

**Old Business:** The Council discussed the potential upcoming project at the lift station. Mayor Foster stated that he hasn't spoken to Jones, Haugh and Smith but knows that Brain Johnson has been in communication with Quality Flow about putting together a plan and a bid and that information should be available for the May meeting.

## **New Business**

**Council Member Schuette made a motion to accept the 2023 Fire Department contract with the 3% percent increase for a total cost of \$22,238.00 Council Member Bakken seconded the motion. 5Yeas,0Nays. Carried. (Yeas Foster, Oakland, Schuette, Bakken, Smith)**

Darr Ehmke spoke on behalf of the Brownsdale Fire Department thanked the Council for their generosity of the forgiveness of the remaining roughly \$13,000 dollars in remaining payments for the building. The Council and the Community present thanked them for all their service to the Community.

The Council asked that Wayne schedule Asbestrol to study the barn located at 205 Main Street W. and to keep them abreast of the findings. They also asked Wayne to get updated costs from Mark Husemoller on the Culvert work on Shania Street. Start to schedule the further water repair on California and keep Mark in the Loop about the barn so that Mark can plan to mobilize one time for all three jobs.

After a brief discussion about the dump truck Council Member Schuette made a motion to take it to Hamilton Auction, Council Member Smith seconded the motion. 5Yeas,0Nays. Carried.

**Public Works Report:** Wayne reported to council and to Dave Nelson (who brought this concern initially) about the jake breaking sign, that he had left a message with MNDOT about the jake breaking sign on the south end of town and that they called and stated that he would investigate the request when he had the time and get back to Wayne when he could.

Wayne talked with the Council on options for the potential build of the new city shop. They discussed placement on the lot with respect to existing storm drain and the containment of snow during plowing that it hauled to that area, size, and specifications. They asked that Wayne facilitate a tour with the City of Dexter with Natalie, as that they had recently built a 50x50 shop within the last 3 years.

**City Police Officer's Report:** available at the City Clerk's office upon request. Officer Smerud commented that he has been looking into updates for the new squad truck and there isn't a build date as of today. He stated that with the nicer weather more children are out, so to please watch when driving.

**Library:** Deb presented several handouts on available activities and volunteer opportunities for the library and in the community. She commented briefly about National Night Out and BrownsdaleFest and there are plans to get things started again like it was before COVID. She also brought up the Brownsdale sign and grounds around it as an area that needs some attention. Mayor Foster stated that it would be nice to get a granite sign like some of the surrounding communities something that would last for many, many years.

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

**Council Member Schuette made a motion to adjourn the meeting at 8:34pm. Council Member Bakken seconded the motion. 5 Yeas (Foster, Bakken, Oakland, Smith, Schuette) 0 Nays. Carried**