

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

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

Public in attendance: Jan Ball, Loren Swanson, Don Peterson, Mary Moritz, Deb Smith, David Nelson

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

December 1st, 2021, regular Meeting Minutes stood approved with corrections as follows; Council Member Bakken motioning to purchase the Clerks Computer and Council Member Schuette seconding the motion.

Public Comment:

David Nelson approached the Council about adding a jake breaking sign to the south end of town. He stated now that the rink is gone there isn't much of a buffer now. He said most semi's are good but that there are still a few cowboys that are making lots of noise. Mayor Foster stated that the City will look into getting a sign or working with MNDOT to post a sign and ask the Police Chief for enforcement per ordinance.

Don Peterson commented that someone is looking to build a house in the area of Brownsdale, Dexter, Hayfield and has found through this person that there are 5-year tax abatements and that maybe the City taxes aren't bad after all. He thanked the City for all the good work being done.

Old Business: The Council discussed the 2022 tax forfeiture of 22.005.0090 owned by RWLS, Council Member Schuette by way of motion moved to reassess all prior amounts (City taxes, water, sewer, lawn care and razing of the building site and misc. charges. IE; late fess, professional fees etc., and not bill water, sewer and lawn care etc. for 2022, to allow the county courthouse to settle all amounts prior to the 60day expiration of redemption. Council Member Oakland seconded the motion. 5Yeas, 0Nays. Carried.

New Business

Council Member Bakken made a motion to adopt Resolution 2022-1 Annual Appointments Council Member Schuette seconded the motion. 5Yeas,0Nays. Carried.

Council Member Schuette made a motion to adopt Resolution 2022-2 City Fee Schedule Council Member Smith seconded the motion. 5Yeas,0Nays. Carried.

Council Member Schuette made a motion to adopt Resolution 2022-3 Donation to Library Council Member Bakken seconded the motion. 5Yeas,0Nays. Carried.

Council Member Schuette made a motion to adopt Resolution 2022-4 Cigarette License to Gas N' Go Brownsdale, Council Member Smith seconded the motion. 5Yeas,0Nays. Carried.

Council Member Schuette made a motion to proceed with the 2021 Audit to be completed by Feldmann and Company, Council Member Bakken seconded the motion. 5Yeas, 0Nays. Carried.

The Council also discussed employee raises. After a brief discussion Mayor Foster commented that the Library Board will issue library raises, **Council Member Schuette made a motion to increase Clerk, Public Works and Police by .75 cents hourly. Council Member Bakken seconded the motion. 5Yeas,0Nays. Carried.**

Public Works Report: Wayne reported that he received a bid for the lift station. Council spoke briefly on the bringing the pumps above ground at the Lift Station and the bid or doing an upcoming street project. The Council also discussed having Brian Johnson from Jones, Haugh and Smith come to an upcoming meeting the help with the project. Clerk will also need to check if this project qualifies for ARPA funds usage. Wayne also discussed the updates on the damage and process of the truck claim.

City Police Officer's Report: available at the City Clerk's office upon request. In Officer Smerud's absence the council was given a paper copy of updates. Jon mentioned that the rifle will be returned to the state on Jan.12th at an in person drop off. The list also included the outfitting materials have all been ordered and are slowly arriving. The build date for the new pickup squad is around the first week on Jan and delivery date of February or March. He noted that more than 500 calls this year alone, up about 100 calls from last year. He noted that he has spoken to Featherlite Graphics and will have some designs at the upcoming meeting. He also thanked the Citizens, employees, and the council for another great year.

Library: Library Director Smith submitted a monthly library report for Council's review. Deb commented on behalf of the Brownsdale Business association on the upcoming planning meeting being held on January 12th, 2022 an outside facilitator will be present to aid the group in moving future forward.

Council Member Smith stated that his attorney was out of town and that more time was needed. Mayor Foster tabled the matter.

The Council discussed the Firehall contract for deed. Mayor Foster stated that his Dad had wanted to forgive at least \$10,000 of it with the understanding that all payments had been made on time. Subject was tabled for March meeting.

Bills were presented and signed

Council Member Bakken made a motion to adjourn the meeting at 8:05pm. Council Member Schuette seconded the motion. 5 Yeas, 0 Nays. Carried.