

# 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

July 7<sup>th</sup>, 2022

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

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

Public in attendance: Jan Ball, Don Konken, Tanya Rumsey, Chris Weis (Mower County SHIP), Pat Roles, Mary Oakland, Bonnie Nelson, Mary Moritz

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

June 6<sup>th</sup>, 2022, regular Meeting Minutes stood approved with one correction, number of votes of adjournment to 4 Yeas.

All votes are made by roll call vote.

## **Public Comment:**

All attendees were asked individually if they had anything to address to the council. Bonnie Nelson approached the Council about a firework that was found on her roof. She stated that she doesn't want a fire. She questioned what she should do, she asked if the policeman is on duty. Mayor Foster stated that Jon is in service most every day and if she would need to, she could contact the nonemergency number at the Mower Courthouse, and they would dispatch our officer or a deputy to her home. She asked aren't fireworks like this illegal. Council Member Smith stated that in the state of Minnesota any fireworks that flies in the air are illegal.

Mary Moritz approached the council about the empty lot to the rear of her property. She stated that she would like to see the City Council keep that property as residential and not allow anything other than a home there.

Don Konken stated that he'd like to see the City Council get some type a four-wheeler or cart so that the volunteers watering the flowers have something useful. He stated I wonder what people think driving through town when they see someone watering with ice cream buckets. He stated I know we aren't Austin, but we should be able to do something. Mayor Foster and the Council replied that a solution could be found but that our volunteers can't drive anything issued by the City for insurance purposes. Don said it sure would be nice to do something if we could get around all that legal stuff.

**Old Business:** Clerk Vargas did the second reading of Cross connection/contamination ordinance 2022-01

**New Business**

Tanya Rumsey approached the Council about Brownsdalefest. she stated at the bar is simplifying things this year by only doing the car show, activities, and music behind the bar. She stated that she is waiting for a response from the volunteers if there will be inflatables at the park. She stated also there would be no tractor pull this year. Tanya stated she's been busy with the food truck and had just had surgery, that its just too much for one person to do. She stated that she's going to get started earlier next year and would like volunteers, so we can get things back in full swing for next year. Tanya had one request that the road from county 2 to Highway 56 and Pleasant to California be blocked off for the Car show. the City Council approved her request to block off those roadways. City clerk to instruct public works to drop off barricades on or before August 5<sup>th</sup>, 2022.

The City Council read a request from Vista Village Mobile Home Park asking if the Council would consider a reduction in rates for vacant homes until the owners decide which homes they will be remodeling or removing. The City Council after a brief discussion move to deny the request for the reduction based on the Water and Sewer bill Ordinance 2011-02. The City Council stated that no reduction would be made until the lines in question were capped and inspected by Public Works.

Scott Oakland made a request to the Council by way of the Clerk asking for the road to be barricaded on July 30<sup>th</sup> from Approx. 11:00am to 6:00pm, starting at the corner of Highway 56 to the corner of Market Street. The City Council approve the request with the following condition that if there were to be a wedding or a funeral or any event at the Methodist Church the road would not be able to be barricaded for his event.

The City Council discussed the portion of roadway that is washed out on the corner of Southwest California St and County Road 2. The City Council instructed the clerk to meet with Wayne and have Husemoller Excavating dig up and packed down that corner.

Council Member Schuette made a motion to adopt resolution 2022- 8 accepting a donation of three picnic tables from Ken Hofner. Council Member Smith seconded the motion. 4 Yeas, 0 Nays Carried.

Chris Weis from Mower County SHIP program came and discussed some grant opportunities for City's in Mower County. She stated there are two options one through ARPA and the second through SHIP. She and the Council discussed various ideas of items in town that would take a tax burden off of taxpayers. She urged the Council to consider the grant opportunities and will forward information to the Clerk.

**Public Works Report:** None Absent

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

**Library:** Available by request from the Library or Clerks office.

**Bills were presented and signed**

**Council Member Schuette made a motion to adjourn the meeting at 8:00pm. Council Member Smith seconded the motion. 4 Yeas (Foster, Oakland, Smith, Schuette) 0 Nays. Carried**

