

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

May 2nd, 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: Mary Moritz, Loren Swanson, Odean Haarstad, Joshua and Kelly Meres

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

April 4th, 2022, regular Meeting Minutes stood approved as written

All votes are made by roll call vote.

Public Comment:

All attendees were asked individually if they had anything to address to the council. All attendees stated they were only present to observe, apart from Odean Haarstad and Joshua and Kelly Meres continued with their questions.

Kelly Meres asked the council if they would have any objections if they were to purchase the old lumber yard and turn it into a dog training and doggie day care. The mayor stated that he didn't think there would be any issues, but that upon them purchasing the property as public hearing would be called to allow the neighboring properties a chance to open discuss any concerns. The council asked if there would be overnight boarding. Kelly stated that there would not be overnight boarding. Only training and daycare facilities. She stated that they were in the beginning stages and wanted to see what would need to be done.

Kelly Meres also approached the Council to discuss the sidewalk that runs west of her property and whether the Council would allow them to remove it. The Council stated that they would need to look at the sidewalk condition and system before giving an answer. They will answer at the June 6th council meeting.

Odean discussed the vacant lots on Cedar Street. He stated that if he were to buy and build on those two lots, he feels that the trees and brush would be the City's responsibility due to that laying within the confines of the boulevard. Odean also asked if the mounded area could be graded down when the

excavator is there. He asked if there were any restrictions on the building on the property. He was looking into building a home without a basement. The Mayor stated that on those lots have no known restrictions other than the City's regular zoning restrictions.

Old Business: The Council discussed the potential upcoming project at the lift station. Specs and details and bid letters and needed permits are all in the works for future discussion.

New Business

The Council discussed resolution 2022 -05 approving county board classification for forfeited tax property, public sale of said property and declaring the city's intention to reassess unpaid assessments. Council Member Schuette made a motion to accept said resolution and reassess \$34,771.53, Council Member Smith seconded the motion. 5Yeas, 0Nays. Carried.

City Council members discussed a request for sidewalk removal at 305 market St. SE. The request was denied.

After a very brief discussion Council member Schuette made a motion to adopt Resolution 2022- 06 appointing election judges. Council Member Bakken seconded the motion. 5Yeas, 0Nays. Carried.

After he lengthy discussion Council Member Schuette made a motion to adopt Resolution 2022-07 requesting marked crosswalks along Highway 56 at intersections of Pleasant, Latham, and County Rd. 2(Main St.) Council Member Bakken seconded the motion. 5Yeas, 0Nays. Carried.

The Council discussed road conditions at Vista Village. Mayor Foster stated that a potential project would include much planning he included that the City Engineer would need to assist. Mayor Foster also stated that in 2023 another bond would be paid off and the city would need to bond again for a project of this nature. He stated that if and when a project be done that the infrastructure under the road would need to be completed as well. The Clerk interjected that the new owner is looking at some special state grant monies for mobile home park infrastructure and that he is seeking cooperation to allow for him to apply. Mayor Foster stated that the City Engineer will be coming to an upcoming meeting, and it would be beneficial if the new owner could attend that meeting.

Public Works Report:

Wayne talked with the Council on options for the potential build of the new city shop. They discussed the recent tour of the Dexter shop. Mayor Foster stated that if this does proceed that he wouldn't want to see it any smaller. Mayor Foster also stated that he would like to see prices with an office and bathroom and without. Wayne asked if the Council would like to proceed with the planning, Wayne to proceed.

Wayne stated that Asbestrol had completed the study and no asbestos was found. The Council went on to discuss the potential tear down of the barn, water repair and culvert work on Shania St. After much discussion Council Member Schuette made a motion to accept the bid from Husemoller for the barn demo, culvert reconstruction and water repair for a total cost of \$ 18,300.48, Council Member Smith 2nd motion. 4 Yeas, 1 Abstain (Foster) Carried.

Wayne told the council that the dump truck is parked at Hamilton Auction, auction is scheduled for June. 7th.

Wayne and the Council discussed spraying for weeds at the park and in city locations. They also discussed spraying the ponds and brush for noxious weeds. The Council asked that Wayne get a bid for all locations.

City Police Officer's Report: available at the City Clerk's office upon request. Officer Smerud commented that he has an update for the new squad truck there is a build date as of first week of June, delivery of mid-July. He stated that when the truck arrives, he will arrange for all the installation. Jon stated that town has been quiet but sure it'll pick up when the weather gets nicer.

Library: NONE

Bills were presented and signed

Council Member Bakken made a motion to adjourn the meeting at 8:12pm. Council Member Schuette seconded the motion. 5 Yeas (Foster, Bakken, Oakland, Smith, Schuette) 0 Nays. Carried
