

City of Brownsdale

Garden Spot of Mower County

Mayor – Jeff Foster Council Members – Debra Schuette, Jessica Klingfus, Rick Smith, Raughn Oakland

City Clerk/Treasurer – Adria Vargas

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City Council Meeting

June 5th, 2023

Present: Mayor Jeff Foster; Council Members: Debra Schuette, Rick Smith, Jessica Klingfus, Raughn Oakland

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

Public in attendance: Jan Ball, Loren Swanson, Don Peterson (Mower County Independent), Robb Luthe

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

May 1st, 2023, regular Meeting Minutes stood approved as written.

All votes are made by roll call vote.

Public Comment:

Robb Luthe commented that GAS N' GO, has attempted to correct the separation of the lean-to on City property, but feels that isn't enough as the plywood roof underneath is rotten. He feels that it would be in the best interest, of the City to contact the City Attorney to address a correction letter or a release of liability if anything were to happen. Mayor Foster stated that he had Jay from CMS come out and inspect the lean-to but wasn't terribly concerned about it. Mayor Foster asked the Council if permission should be given to the Clerk to contact the City Attorney to address the matter.

Council Member Schuette made a motion to allow the Clerk to contact the attorney. Council Member Klingfus seconded the motion. 5 Yeas, 0Nays. Carried.

New Business:

Police Chief Smerud discussed the weed ordinance with the Council, after discussion **Council Member Schuette made a motion to adopt Subsection A to the weed ordinance Council Member Smith seconded the motion. 5Yeas, 0Nays. Carried.**

The City Council discussed the large community bins for recycling in town. The Council discussed that there were bins people dumped garbage and Tv's, etc. in the bins causing an eyesore and strain on the City needing to dispose of extra trash. **Council Member Schuette made a motion to reject the placement of larger community bins for collection. Council Member Smith seconded the motion. 5Yeas, 0Nays. Carried.**

Mayor Foster updated the Council about the upcoming construction of the new shop. Husemoller Excavating will be in town next week to start the earthwork and the building will arrive sooner than

originally thought. Mayor Foster in conversating with all parties involved was told that another order of business would need to be added due to thermocodes and energy conservation. A layer of Styrofoam would need to be added two feet down vertically and two feet out horizontally, then repacked in the earthwork process. Mayor Foster asked that this be tabled for a future meeting due to the known price point.

Council discussed the Library sign, Mayor Foster stated that the roof on the eastside of the building would not structurally support the weight of the 4x8 sign. The Council refused to allow the signs be affixed to the building.

The Council discussed travel policy in regard to the library. The council asked that the Clerk contact the League for guidance.

Old Business:

Mayor Foster decided to table the decision on renewing the contract for Maguire Iron for the cleaning as a new contract has not been received by the City. Wayne will continue to check in with them periodically to make sure this is done.

The Council, after discussing the reply from The League of Minnesota Cities, in regard to the Holiday moved forward adopting the Juneteenth Holiday by way of motion. **Council Member Schuette made a motion to adopt the Juneteenth Holiday for 2023 and ask the Clerk to update Personnel Policy for future review. Council Member Klingfus seconded the motion. 5Yeas, 0Nays. Carried.**

The council discussed the city welcome signs and reviewed the email proposal for Rivard Sign Company. After discussion the Mayor tabled the discussion for the upcoming meeting due to needing further bids for installation and concrete work.

Public Works Report: Wayne stated that Damel has been out to spray weeds and are set to spray as needed at the ponds.

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

The Council discussed at great length the continuing vandalism of the park equipment and pavilion.

Officer Smerud stated that he has talked to several kids in town about the vandalism at the park but has hit a dead end. The Council discussed trail cams or security cameras. The Council also discussed reports of drinking and smoking at the park. The Council agreed to purchase a sign of park rules to be hung at the park.

Jon also mentioned that the Police Department will be going through an audit, that is scheduled every three years.

Bills were presented and signed.

Council Member Klingfus made a motion to adjourn the meeting at 8:07pm, Council Member Schuette seconded the motion. 5Yeas, 0Nays. Carried.