

# 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**

**December 4<sup>th</sup>, 2023**

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

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

Public in attendance: Jan Ball, Mary Mortiz, Loren Swanson

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

November 6<sup>th</sup>, minutes stood approved as written.

All votes are by roll call vote.

### **Public Comment:**

Mayor Foster, hearing none moved on to new business.

### **New Business:**

Wayne updated the council about the progress of the City Shop. Almost completed waiting for a few finishing items to be installed and completed.

Officer Smerud informed the Council that he had to catch a Pelican in town that was wandering down Fremont Street. He informed them that he had contacted the DNR to inquire about where the animal could be taken. Officer Smerud with the assistance of Council Member Smith caught the Pelican and it was taken to Mantorville to a bird rescue/sanctuary.

After a brief discussion Council Member Schuette made a motion to allow Feldmann and Associates CPA, PC conduct the 2023 audit of accounts. Council Member Smith seconded the motion. 4Yeas, 0Nays. Carried.

The Council discussed the 2024 City Council meeting dates. **Council Member Schuette made a motion to approve 2024 City Council meeting dates as follows, Council Member Smith seconded the motion. 4Yeas, 0Nays. Carried.**

**2024 City Council Meeting Dates**

**January 2<sup>nd</sup>, 2024 at 7:00pm**

**February 5<sup>th</sup>, 2024 at 7:00pm**

**March 4<sup>th</sup>, 2024 at 7:00pm**

**April 1<sup>st</sup>, 2024 at 7:00pm**

**May 6<sup>th</sup>, 2024 at 7:00pm**

**June 3<sup>rd</sup>, 2024 at 7:00pm**

**July 8<sup>th</sup>, 2024 at 7:00pm**

**August 5<sup>th</sup>, 2024 at 7:00pm**

**September 3<sup>rd</sup>, 2024 at 7:00pm**

**October 7<sup>th</sup>, 2024 at 7:00pm**

**November 4<sup>th</sup>, 2024 at 7:00pm**

**December 2<sup>nd</sup>, 2024 at 7:00pm**

**January 2<sup>nd</sup>, 2025 at 7:00pm**

**MEETINGS ARE OPEN TO THE PUBLIC.**

**MEETINGS ARE HELD IN THE BROWNSDALE COUNCIL CHAMBERS LOCATED AT 103 EAST MAIN ST.**

The Council discussed the potential road project at Vista Village Mobile Home Park. The council gave the Clerk permission to write a letter on letterhead for owners of Vista Village Mobile Home Park outlining collaboration and support on a potential road project for the owners, seeking to write a grant from the State of Minnesota for continued updates and improvements at the park. The Council would like Brain Johnson from Jones, Haugh and Smith to attend either the January or February 2024 meeting to discuss the project.

Wayne spoke to the Council about cutting back on hours during the overnight snow plowing. Mayor Foster stated that he could assist along with Council Member Oakland but at a paid rate not for no fee. Mayor Foster asked for the Council's opinions on the matter. Council Member Smith said it's fine, but that Wayne is not doing the water and sewer and now you want to cut back on the snow removal to, if you cut back much more, we are going to have to look at something else is my opinion. The Council agreed to continue with this agreement for the present moment.

The Council discussed the need to purchase office supplies, furniture and safe and shelving for the new offices that will be in the new building. The Council agreed to purchase said items.

The Council discussed the new legislation passed regarding the new earned sick and safe time that goes into effect 01/2023. The Clerk prepared an amendment for review to add to the personnel policy. The Council, after discussion, decided that it will be accrual based. The Council will approve the updated amendment at the January 2024 meeting.

Mayor Foster suspended the regular meeting at 7:29pm to hold the Public Hearing certifying the final 2024 Property tax levy.

**Council Member Schuette made a motion to adopt Resolution 2023-11 approving the final 2024 Property tax levy, general fund \$139,990.00, and debt service total \$32,530.00 for a total \$172,520.00 Council Member Smith seconded the motion. 4Yeas, 0Nays. Carried.**

Mayor Foster opened the regular meeting at 7:34pm.

**Old Business:**

The council spoke briefly on the car wash membership. No action taken.

**Public Works Report:** see above under new business.

**City Police Officer's Report:** available at the City Clerk's office upon request. See above under new business.

**Bills were presented and signed.**

**Council Member Schuette made a motion to adjourn the meeting at 7:42pm, Council Member Smith seconded the motion. 5Yeas, 0Nays. Carried.**