

The Pledge of Allegiance was recited by those in attendance.

The regular council meeting of the City of Browns Valley, MN was held at City Hall. Council members present were Harold Hansen, Mike Heck, Jeanne Dusing, Tony Miller, and Ken Warren. Also in attendance were Richard Johnson, Bernice Piechowski, and Tom Schmitz. The meeting was called to order at 7:30pm by Mayor Hansen.

Items were added and removed from the agenda

### **Consent Agenda**

Upon motion from Heck seconded by Miller, the council unanimously approved the minutes of the September 14, 2015, Regular Council meeting. Council reviewed the Library Board minutes of August 17, 2015.

### **Bills**

Following presentation and discussion of prepaid claim, claims to be paid, and employee wages, upon motion by Dusing and a second by Heck, that the council unanimously passed the following resolution:

BE IT AND IT IS HEREBY RESOLVED by the Council of the City of Browns Valley that the payment of the following city bills and payroll be and is approved as presented.

Prepaid claims: \$66.77, Claims for approval: \$621,345.66, Wages: \$8,320.82

Motion passed 5-0.

### **Memorials/Donations**

A donation to the ambulance service from Becki Stueve in memory of Delorus Domarus in the amount of \$100.00. Dusing moved to approve and accept the generous donations given to the City and/or its departments seconded by Miller and passed unanimously.

### **Building Permits**

Council reviewed a grading permit from Robert Brockel at 514 4<sup>th</sup> Street North to construct a 12'X30' parking area beside his garage. The material used for this area will consist of millings.

Motion from Miller with a second by Heck, the council approved unanimously the grading permit.

A building permit from Patricia Bennett at 124 Walnut Street South to remove the concrete steps from her home and install a plastic deck.

Motion from Dusing with a second by Miller, the council unanimously approved the building permit for Patricia Bennett.

### **Visitors**

Richard Johnson, representing the Browns Valley Historical Society requested permission of the council to have the wooden canoe carbon dated. Johnson reported that there should not be a cost for this process.

Motion from Dusing with a second by Miller, the council unanimously approved the carbon dating of the

wooden canoe.

Johnson also presented pictures of a window from one of the buildings that is in need of repair.

Motion from Hansen with second by Heck, the council unanimously approved to have Ray Andrews look at the window and provide a cost for the repair.

Johnson also reported that the food shelf operates on donations. The food that is purchased monthly averages \$300.00 per month. The available funds are running low. He asked if the city would consider providing a donation to the food shelf in 2016.

### **Unfinished Business**

Schmitz reported that he several people have agreed to be election judges for the next election. He still has several more on the list to call.

### **New Business**

Schmitz provided the history of what the levy has been over the last three years. Council discussed a two or three percent increase for the preliminary levy remembering that the levy can be lowered but not increased at the end of the year.

Motion from Dusing with second by Warren, the council unanimously approved a three percent increase for the preliminary levy for 2016.

### **Department Reports**

#### **Sheriff's Office –**

Schmitz reported that Sheriff Wright called with an update for the Office. The Sheriff's Office was informed that they weren't awarded the COPS grant. The grant would have been used to hire an additional deputy in the department over and above the needed deputy that wasn't hired to replace Brion Plautz after he was elected as sheriff. Wright is still planning to make a request of the county board for the position that wasn't rehired in 2010.

One person was arrested that participated in the home invasion in town. A second person was caught and released. They were spotted in Watertown, SD.

#### **Library**

Piechowski reported that carpets were cleaned over the weekend.

#### **Administration**

Schmitz reported that the bond for the purchase of a new fire truck matured on September 17 at 0.4%. Schmitz was asked to call the surrounding local banks to identify if their rates are higher.

Schmitz presented the non-compete clause from the contract with John Tchida. The City cannot be involved with the discussion of the sale of the Legion building.

Schmitz reported that the ambulance service is working short at this time. There are several members unable to help cover call at this time due to medical reasons and farming.

#### **Council**

Warren stated that he is unhappy with the progress in implementing the Princeton Project. The base for the

hiring someone to manage economic development for the City was first to implement the program that was used to lure new business or the expansion of existing business.

The contract with Traverse County for law enforcement services was discussed.

Motion from Heck with second Miller, council unanimously approved drafting a letter to the Traverse County Board of Directors terminating the contract for law enforcement services.

Moved by Warren second by Dusing and passed unanimously, the meeting was adjourned at 8:22 pm.

Minutes submitted by:

Approved by:

Thomas A Schmitz, Clerk

Harold Hansen, Mayor