

The Pledge of Allegiance was recited by those in attendance.

The regular council meeting of the City of Browns Valley, MN was held at the library meeting room. Council members present were Harold Hansen, Mike Heck, Jeanne Dusing, Tony Miller, and Ken Warren. Also in attendance were Edith Foren, Mary Hansen, Richard Johnson, Brad Bartz, Tanya Brick, Bernice Piechowski, Matthew Franzese, and Tom Schmitz. The meeting was called to order at 5:30pm by Mayor Hansen.

Additions to the Agenda

A claim for Otter Tail Power Company in the amount \$3,407.70 was added to the agenda. Motion by Heck with second by Dusing, council unanimously approved the additions to the agenda.

Consent Agenda

Upon motion from Warren seconded by Dusing, the council unanimously approved the minutes of the July 11, 2016, Regular Council meeting with the corrections noted.

Financial Report

A motion by Dusing seconded by Miller, council unanimously approved the financial report.

Bills

Following presentation and discussion of prepaid claim, claims to be paid, and employee wages, upon motion by Heck and a second by Miller, 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: \$26.57 Wages: \$8,297.08 Claims for approval: \$10,196.81

Motion passed 5-0.

Building Permits

Motion by Hansen with second by Heck, council unanimously approved the building permit for Mike Little Jr. to replace the roof on his home located at 106 East Broadway.

Visitors

Mary Hansen, Edith Foren and Richard Johnson, representing the Browns Valley Historical Society, encouraged the council and members of the public to make an appointment to visit the upstairs of the Carnegie Library. She reported that during their June meeting, the historical society approved to have Tom Schmitz apply for a grant that can be used to hire a structural engineer to identify what needs to be done to the building. The historical society proposed to the council, expanding the use of the library as a resource for; a) displaying of historical artifacts, b) displaying historical information regarding Browns Valley, its citizens, and community, and c) as a historical museum for visiting tourists. Displays would include items dating up to 150 years in age. Hansen identified work that would need to be done prior to the buildings use by the public. Hansen stated that the historical society would like to work with the city to provide the services of a grant writer to assist with the writing of grants.

Schmitz reported that, through the State's Legacy Grant Program, there are smaller grants that do not need a match. The range from \$5,000 and \$10,000 and can be used to hire engineers to identify structural issues and costs, grant writers and other specialists that would be used to complete the project.

Correspondence

The Library board minutes from June 20, 2016 was available for review.

Old Business

Motion by Miller with second by Heck, council unanimously approved the purchase of the Kubota mower that was discussed during the last meeting.

Hansen recommended that the animal ordinance be changed from “Police Chief” to “Sheriff”. Extensive conversation continued on animal control in the city. Tony Serocki will continue with the duties of animal control officer. The process of “running at large”, and “dangerous dog” was discussed and agreed upon.

Motion by Dusing with second by Miller, council unanimously approved the appointment of Tony Serocki as the City’s animal control officer.

Franzese is to provide the city with an outline of duties that can be done legally as a non-law enforcement animal control officer.

New Business

Motion by Miller with a second by Heck, council unanimously approved court costs to continue with the abatement process for the Nerison and Armell properties.

Library

Piechowski reported that the library is being well used. Library use increases when the weather is really hot outside. While people sit in the library to cool off, they read papers, magazines, use their personal reading devices, and use computers. The summer program was well attended. The staff is working on the programming for fall. It will start the Wednesday after school starts.

Fire Department

Chief Bartz reported they responded to several fires in June. One being a mutual aid response in Sisseton. Bartz is looking to purchase a clothes washing machine and dryer to clean fire clothing. The purchase may be shared with the ambulance service as bedding is currently taken home and washed.

Ambulance

Manager Brick reported that she has been trained on the drug Narcan. The drug reduces the effect of a heroin and opiate overdose. The drug isn’t harmful if it is used on someone that hasn’t over dosed with either of these drugs. She is able to train the Browns Valley crew as well as others. The drug does not require a variance from the State.

Administration

Schmitz reported that the insurance adjuster visited the home on Renville St. that had sewer damage. He also viewed the damage caused by the windstorm. He has asked to get estimates for the damage on the library and maintenance shop.

The LGA for 2017 has been reduced by \$5,830.00. Over the last three years the city’s LGA has been reduced by over \$17,000.00.

Moved by Heck with a second by Dusing and passed unanimously, the meeting was adjourned at 7:00pm.

Minutes submitted by:

Approved by:

Thomas A Schmitz, Clerk

Harold Hansen, Mayor