

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 Neil Madison, Tony Miller, and Ken Warren. Also in attendance were Bernice Piechowski, Tony Serocki, Matthew Franzese, and Tom Schmitz. The meeting was called to order at 5:30pm by Mayor Hansen.

Additions to the Agenda

1. Replacing 1,004 square yards of pavement on Washington Street So and patching areas near the school.
2. Licensing of golf carts and mini trucks

Upon motion by Warren with second by Miller, council unanimously approved the addition to the agenda.

Consent Agenda

Upon motion from Warren seconded by Miller, the council unanimously approved the minutes of the April 24, 2017.

Claims

Following presentation and discussion of prepaid claim, claims for approval, and wages, upon motion by Warren and a second by Madison, 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 is approved as presented.

Claims for approval: \$26,386.05

Building Permit

Kathryn Bartz: 222 3rd Ave NW, Install brown steel on front porch and southern facing roof over kitchen.

Motion by Hansen to not approve until more details are outlined on the permit. Second by Warren and approved unanimously.

Motion by Hansen to rescind the motion for not approving the building permit of Kathryn Bartz. Second by Warren and approved unanimously.

The City Council has 60 days to move on this permit application otherwise it will be automatically approved.

Mark Goehring: 17 Washington St, Shingle house roof.

Motion by Miller with second by Madison, council unanimously approved Mark Goehring's building permit to shingle the roof of his house.

Motion by Miller with second by Warren, council unanimously approved the special event permit for Andrea Roark to host a bean bag tournament on June 23.

Correspondence

Notice from Minnesota Management & Budget congratulating the City of Browns Valley for complying with the Local Government Pay Equity Act.

Email from Kit Johnson, County Auditor, identifying tax forfeited properties sale results.

Old Business

Motion by Warren with second by Miller, council unanimously approved Amendment to Ordinance Section 30-08 as modified by notes, which Schmitz wrote and was approved by Warren, in an email to Franzese. Motion passed 4-0.

Motion by Miller with second by Warren, council unanimously approved the Summary Ordinance of Amendment to Ordinance Section 30-08

Motion by Miller with second by Warren, council unanimously approved the location of the community garden to be on the city-owned lot between Arlene Dobbs and Delwin Pettis.

The subject of the contract with the ambulance manager was tabled as it has not been completed.

New Business

Schmitz reported that he had visited with a building inspector other than Mike Jacobson to ask how his community ensures that repairs on homes are done to where they aesthetically pleasing. He recommended adopting a zoning code. Schmitz stated that he researched zoning as well as spoke with Mike Jacobson regarding zoning. Schmitz reported that a zoning code would not be of assistance to enforce the issues that the City is dealing with.

Schmitz reported that there may be the availability of grant funds through the MN Department of Employment and Economic Development to help in the improvement of identified areas in the community. He will conduct additional research this opportunity and report back during the next meeting.

Schmitz reported that the excessively high bid for the demolition of 329 W Broadway was due to the requirement of the contract or to have a \$1,000,000 bond. Although it was advertised in this fashion, Schmitz reported that he spoke with several contractors letting them know that the requirement was to have liability insurance at \$1,000,000 per occurrence. Within the past two weeks, Schmitz had spoken to a few of the contractors that didn't provide a bid to ask if they would submit a bid should the project be re advertised. He recommended that the council consider advertise again for the project. After discussion the council agreed to advertise again and send out letters to several contractors.

Prior to the purchase of the last fire truck the City contributed \$10,000 per year toward the purchase of a new vehicle. With the purchase of the last fire truck, the City has been using this contribution as the annual payment on the USDA loan. During the last meeting, with the fire truck being paid off, asked if the council would consider contributing this amount to the truck fund. The council discussed not only contributing toward the fire department's truck fund, but contributing the same amount toward the ambulance service's truck fund. Since this contribution wasn't included in the 2017 budget, Schmitz stated that he would like to see the contribution, if any, be \$5,000 to each department this year and then budget the \$10,000 next year.

Motion by Warren with second by Madison, council approved Serocki Excavating to provide \$24,500.00 of material and labor to repave one block of Washington Street South and patch areas identified near the

school. Hansen abstained from voting.

Schmitz reported that the amendment to licensing ordinance for animals does not state how the council intended it to work. Letters would need to be written to those that have not purchased a license after each increment or month that a license was not purchased.

Schmitz presented two types of licenses that a few Minnesota cities have been using for golf carts and mini trucks. Residents with golf carts or mini trucks need to stop by City Hall, fill out the application and verify that they have the requirements noted on the application. Schmitz had a laminated example of what could be used for the Browns Valley license.

Department Report

Administrator

Schmitz reported that he had contacted the DNR regarding the erosion of the Little Minnesota River along Renville Street. He is required to draft a letter to Traverse Soil Water Conservation District requesting their assistance in planning the proper method to mitigate the issue.

Public Works

Serocki reported that a light pole along Broadway was hit over the weekend. He has made a request for the cost of a new one. He will then start replacing lamp heads with LED lighting as it will reduce the cost for lighting by over 50%.

Open Forum

Bernice Piechowski asked about the water that is standing in the ditch in front of the bus garage. She reported that prior to the sewer project this wasn't an issue. The ditch has good flow coming from the North until it comes to the culvert under 3rd Avenue NW. Serocki reported that the ditch is nearly full of sediment and they have tried to clean it using various methods without success. Serocki stated that the only solution is to dig up the culverts and replace with new ones at an elevation that would allow for the water to drain properly.

Moved by Warren with a second by Hansen and passed unanimously, the meeting was adjourned at 07:45pm.

Minutes submitted by:

Approved by:

Thomas A Schmitz, Clerk

Harold Hansen, Mayor