

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, Mike Heck, Tony Miller, and Ken Warren. Mayor Hansen arrived after the start of the meeting. Also in attendance were Tim Hoffman, Denise Pikarski, Bernice Piechowski, Mike Piechowski, Tony Serocki, Matthew Franzese, Brad Bartz, and Tom Schmitz. The meeting was called to order at 5:30pm by Ken Warren, continuing with Vice Mayor Heck after his arrival.

### **Additions to the Agenda**

1. Tim Hoffman to explain cost and payback of LED lighting for Broadway.
2. County Attorney requesting to file 10-day notification with the court if abatements were not followed.
3. Continued discussion of the licensing ordinance for dogs.
4. Discuss building permit of Kathy Bartz to place steel on the entryway and south half of the roof on the east side of the house.

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

### **Consent Agenda**

Upon motion from Miller seconded by Warren, the council unanimously approved the minutes of the May 8, 2017.

### **Financial Reports**

Motion by Madison with second by Miller, council unanimously approved the financial reports from 05/08/17 and 05/22/17.

### **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.

Prepaid Claims: \$0.00

Claims for approval: \$26,386.05

Wages: \$18,443.78

### **Building Permit**

Motion by Warren with second by Miller, council unanimously approved a building permit for Dean Schwagel to install a new roof on the house and garage at 819 2<sup>nd</sup> Ave. NW.

### **Visitors**

Otter Tail Power Company is offering rebates to install energy efficient lighting. Tim Hoffman presented a proposal to replace street lights on Broadway with LED lighting. Advantages of LED lighting is that the city would no longer need the maintenance contract with Otter Tail Power, as the contract is to only change bulbs and photo eyes at a cost of \$413.00 annually. Another advantage is, even though there is an upfront cost now, that in three and one half years the initial investment would be paid back by savings of electric

costs plus the reduced cost for electricity in future years. The estimated savings is \$2,644.00 in energy cost.

Denise Pikarski presented a letter from Keenan Pikarski to the council. The letter requests the council's approval of a special permit to keep his five chickens. Keenan has been a member of FFA for two years at his school in Sisseton and poultry is part of his project. The letter states that he is willing to pay a registration fee for this permit. Keenan states that the chickens are well taken care of and inspected on a monthly basis by his FFA advisor or club members. The letter states that towns as close as Wheaton allow chickens and that while watching a Sioux Falls news channel, the city of Sioux Falls allows residents to have six chickens as long as they are 25 feet from their neighbor's property. Keenan states that he has received an award for his poultry project from FFA (Poultry Production Entrepreneurship), as well as FFA honor student award.

Mike Piechowski presented his concerns regarding standing water in the ditch along 300 block of Second Street North. He states that the standing water will become stale. He believes that it is a public nuisance and safety hazard. Piechowski stated that the issue started with replacement of the sewer mains. Serocki stated that the issue is that the culvert south of Piechowski's property is full of sediment not allowing water to flow through. He said that the culverts should be replaced and reset at a height that will allow for proper drainage. Serocki will obtain cost estimates to replace the culverts along this area.

### **Correspondence**

The council reviewed the minutes from the April 17, 2017 Browns Valley Public Library Board.

The council reviewed a flyer explaining the benefits of being a member of the Minnesota Association of Small Cities.

The council reviewed a notification from the State Auditor regarding the participation in the Performance Measurement Program. The program is voluntary. The notification explains the Program and identifies the Standard Measures for Small Cities. The city hasn't participated in the Program in the past. Schmitz stated that participating in the Program would cost the city more financially than what it would benefit by participating.

Motion by Warren with second by Miller, council unanimously approved to not participate in the MN State Auditor Performance Measurement Program for 2017.

### **Old Business**

Franzese clarified the rules for securing bids from contractors.

Motion by Miller with second by Warren, council unanimously approved rescinding the motion to approve the bid from Serocki Excavating to repave one block of Washington Street South and patch areas that were identified by the school.

Schmitz updated the council of his contacts with the Traverse Soil & Water Conservation District (SWCD) and MN DNR Waters Division. A request to help with planning to mitigate the Little MN River along Renville will go before the Water Board of the SWCD later this summer.

### **New Business**

Motion by Miller with second by Warren, council unanimously approved to rescind Resolution 17-07, A Resolution Approving Transferring Funds.

Motion by Miller with second by Warren, council unanimously approved the approval of Resolution 17-09, A Resolution Approving Transferring of Funds.

Motion by Miller with second by Heck, council unanimously approved Resolution 17-08, A Resolution Approving Transferring of Funds.

Motion by Heck with second by Hansen, council unanimously approved Matt Franzese to send out a ten day notification letter to Jordan Ortley as his house has been red-tagged as per state law and file action with the court.

**Department Report**  
**Public Works**

Serocki expressed concerns regarding vehicles with South Dakota license plates and asked about the enforcement to change to Minnesota licenses.

**Ambulance**

The service conducted a fund raiser. It was well attended considering the quick decision to have it and short time to put it together. It raised \$560.00 without expenses being taken from the total.

**Library**

Piechowski handed out a flyer of the library's summer programs. Employees of the 21<sup>st</sup> Century Grant will be working with children throughout the summer at the library.

**Fire Department**

Chief Bartz reported that the fire department burnt the old District Center for the Lake Traverse Tribal District. Bartz presented a \$6,000 check to reimburse the City for equipment purchases that have been made. Dale Oletzke donated some equipment that the department could use.

**Administrator**

Schmitz reported that Jeanne Dusing had called to ask if the city would be interested in selling four surveillance cameras.

He has placed advertising for the licensing of golf carts and not to blow grass onto city streets.

Schmitz reported that he has received demolition language for advertising the removal of the building at 329 W Broadway. He stated that he has been contacted by someone that may have an interest in purchasing the building to rehab it into individual office space. Franzese will check with the county auditor to identify if the building can be resold or if it must be demolished.

Moved by Madison with a second by Miller and passed unanimously, the meeting was adjourned at 07:05pm.

Minutes submitted by:

Approved by:

Thomas A Schmitz, Clerk

Harold Hansen, Mayor