

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 Mike Heck, Jeanne Dusing, and Ken Warren. Also in attendance were Neil Madison, Brad Bartz, Tony Serocki, Bernice Piechowski and Tom Schmitz. The meeting was called to order at 5:30pm by Vice Mayor Heck.

Additions to the Agenda

Claims

- Med Compass - \$20.00
- Henry Schein - \$295.00
- Bernice Piechowski - \$51.27
- Display Sales - \$25.50

Motion by Warren 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 December 12, 2016, Regular Council meeting.

Financial Report

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

Bills

Following presentation and discussion of claims to be paid and employee wages, upon motion by Warren and a second by Dusing, 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.

Wages: \$7,782.70 Claims for approval: \$17,722.46

Motion passed 3-0.

Correspondence

The minutes of the November 21, 2016 Library Board meeting were reviewed.

Motion by Dusing with a second by Warren, council unanimously approved paying for the one-year membership with Lakes Country Service Cooperative.

Schmitz included LMC's elected official's training agendas.

Old Business

None of the council members were able to attend the County's Truth-in-Taxation meeting.

Member Warren shared elected official reimbursement data from the League of Minnesota Cities. There was a discrepancy between meeting pay from the last four years to this reimbursement. Schmitz recommended creating a policy addressing elected official reimbursement. Warren will recommend meeting reimbursements within the next two weeks and the council will finalize meeting costs during the December 27th council meeting. A policy will be created once meeting reimbursements have been finalized.

Motion by Warren with a second by Heck, council unanimously approved retroactive pay for 2016 to be \$50 per regular meeting and \$25.00 for special meetings.

New Business

Motion by Heck with a second by Warren, council unanimously approved Resolution 16-13, A Resolution Approving The 2016 Tax Levy, Collectable in 2017.

Motion by Dusing with a second by Warren, council unanimously approved payment of the remaining bills that will be due prior to the end of the year.

Council discussed the cost to reclaim old records that were water damaged during the basement flooding of the community center. Twenty boxes of records were sent out to a record reclamation company to find out what the cost would be to restore the records. Schmitz received an estimate of nearly \$29,000 to reclaim and rebind the documents. After much discussion it was agreed upon that a resolution will be drawn up to approve the destruction of the damaged records.

Late notices for utility bills were discussed. A late fee will be included in a 2017 resolution amending the rates for water, sewer, garbage, and other various services.

Motion by Heck with a second by Warren, council unanimously approved Resolution 16-14, A Resolution Authorizing The City Of Browns Valley To Evict Person From Tax Forfeited Land Located Within The City Of Browns Valley, Minnesota.

Department Reports

Library

Piechowski reported that Brian Freeman, a Minnesota author will be at the library in March. She also mentioned several other authors that will be at the municipal library in the future.

Fire Department

Bartz reported that they were called out on a mutual aid fire near Beardsley. The fire crew has been monitoring a generator at the Easter tower in Roberts County. The fire and ambulance paging operates through this tower.

Bartz asked if the council would reinitiate depositing \$10,000 into the fire truck fund. Prior to the purchase of the last fire truck, the council deposited monies annually toward the purchase of a new truck. After the purchase of the last truck, the monies were used for payments toward the purchase.

Motion by Warren with a second by Dusing, council unanimously approved reinitiating \$10,000 into the fire truck fund for the purchase of a new vehicle.

Administration

Schmitz reported that Bob Goodhart hasn't decided if he is interested in the lot east of Goodhart's shop.

The City's new website will be online sometime during the week.

Schmitz reported that the community center is valued at \$25,600. The insurance adjuster recommended increasing the value of the building.

Roy Klemm would like to move to town. He asked about one of the City's lots that the City is offering for free.

Moved by Dusing with a second by Warren and passed unanimously, the meeting was adjourned at 6:27pm.

Minutes submitted by:

Approved by:

Thomas A Schmitz, Clerk

Harold Hansen, Mayor