

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 Mayor Harold Hansen, Mike Heck, Neil Madison, Ken Warren, and Tony Miller. Also in attendance were Lloyd Heaney of Browns Valley Historical Society, Public Works Director Tony Serocki, Librarian Bernice Piechowski, and City Administrator Tom Schmitz. The meeting was called to order at 5:30 p.m. by Mayor Hansen.

Additions to the Agenda

Additions to the agenda were:

- Lloyd Heaney
- Request from Terry Miller regarding water standing on tar in front of his business place
- A claim from Traverse Electric Cooperative in the amount of \$2,032.58
- Claims totaling \$15,250.28

Upon a motion by Heck with second by Miller, the Council approved the additions to the agenda 5-0.

Consent Agenda

Upon a motion from Heck and second by Warren, the Council approved the minutes of the September 24, 2018, Regular Council meeting 5-0.

Bills

Following presentation and discussion of prepaid claims, claims to be paid, and employee wages, upon a motion by Heck and a second by Madison, 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: \$0.00 Claims for approval: \$15,250.28

Visitors

Lloyd Heaney provided the Council with a draft budget to host the Pow Wow in 2019. He reported that the committee is planning to send letters to the seven tribal districts, three local casinos, Sisseton Wahpeton Oyate Tribal Council, and will be submitting a grant proposal to the Minnesota Historical Society requesting financial assistance for the Pow Wow. Heaney has approached several business places inquiring if they would donate merchandise toward a raffle. Heaney stated that when approaching these entities, he will be asked if the planning committee has start-up funds available. He said that he would like to tell them that the City of Browns Valley has made a contribution, showing support for this project.

Upon a motion by Warren with second by Miller, the Council unanimously approved contributing \$500.00 to the Pow Wow, with the understanding that should the Pow Wow not be held the Council has the right to rescind the contribution.

Building permits

Upon a motion by Warren with second by Miller, the Council unanimously approved a building permit for Jordan Heck to replace the shingles on his home.

Correspondence

- The Council reviewed a list of utility customers who are two months past due with their utility payment.

Unfinished Business

Schmitz reported that Tina Erickson stopped at City Hall to state that she had talked to Noble Roofing and other contractors about temporarily applying spray foam over the valley between the laundromat and city shop. She stated that the contractors had advised her not to do this, as the foam may create pressure on the water below the surface of the existing roofing and walls below, causing further damage. Erickson said that one of the contractors had mentioned a product that he uses for a quick fix that can be applied in wet conditions. Erickson was going to let Schmitz know what the product is so that he could research it and try to find someone to apply it.

With the temperature getting colder, Schmitz recommended that the City no longer pursue doing anything with the building until next year.

Upon a motion by Warren with a second by Miller, the Council voted 4-1 to take no further steps at this point relevant to the shop roof. Hansen cast the opposing vote.

Schmitz reported that Midwest Health Benefits from Morris, Minnesota, will be quoting prices on five different health insurance companies that are used in western part of the State. He was told that the 2019 prices haven't been uploaded into the insurance agent's system, and that Midwest Health Benefits would have costs for us in two weeks.

New Business

Bids were opened for the replacement of the water tower control system. They were:

- Sweeney Controls Company - \$26,050.00
- Hoffman Electric - \$32,917.00

The Council had questions regarding the differences in the bids that couldn't be answered during the meeting.

Upon a motion by Miller with second by Madison, the Council unanimously approved to table the discussion until the next meeting when they receive answers to their questions.

The Purchase Agreement between Union State Bank and the City of Browns Valley for the sale of 329 West Broadway was reviewed. Schmitz called Attorney Franzese as the Council had questions regarding the Agreement. A question as to the length of the agreement and recommendations to Number 3(h) Contingencies, Additional Agreements were made.

Upon a motion by Heck with second by Miller, the Council unanimously approved the Purchase Agreement with the corrections that were discussed.

Library

Piechowski reported that the carpet in the Library was cleaned over the weekend. She was told that the carpeting should be replaced within the next few years because the backing is deteriorating. Piechowski stated that the carpeting is 22 years old and shows little wear except for the backing.

Public Works

Serocki reported that the screen in the pit of the irrigator will need to be either repaired or replaced. He stated that he had been reworking a few ditches, but with the rain it has been difficult to work on any of the

outside projects.

Administrator's Report

Schmitz reported that to insure the irrigator for the amount of \$200,000.00 would cost \$1,820.00 per year. To insure it until the end of the year will be \$500.00.

Schmitz reported that the law enforcement contract was approved by the Traverse County Board of Commissioners during their last meeting.

Council

Miller reported that after the sewer project was completed and First Avenue North East was paved, there is a low area in front of Miller Fish Company that collects water in a puddle. He stated that water never used to stand on the street in this area before. Terry Miller has asked the City if they would consider milling across the road so that the water drains from that area.

Serocki reminded the Council that the wastewater project was a sewer project and not a streets project, and that it's almost impossible to put the streets back together the way were prior to the start of the project. Prior to the project the street was flat, but now it has a crown on it to assist water in running off. Serocki stated that the reason why water stands on the road in this area is because the parking area in front of Miller Fish Company is equal to or higher than the street. Council member Miller asked if the crown could be milled from the road in that area so that the water runs to the south as it did before. Serocki said that milling would cause the pavement to become thinner where it would be milled. He added that the road was graded creating a crown on it prior to paving. Serocki said that if the Council chooses to mitigate the water in that area, they would need to decide how they want it done.

Madison asked if there was any progress with the armoring of the riverbank along Renville Street. Schmitz explained that those owning property along the area of the Little Minnesota River that would be mitigated must sign an easement allowing for the work to be done, even if the area is in the right-of-way. He reported that he had asked Tara Stotesbery of Traverse County Abstract to check out who owns parcels along the area of the river to be rocked and that she was unable to identify the owner(s) of the narrow strip of land between the street and river. She recommended contacting Roy Marihart of Marihart Surveying, as he may be able to identify the owner(s). Roy checked at the Records Office, but had no luck. Schmitz then contacted Sara Gronfeld of Traverse Soil Water Conservation District and explained the situation. He is now waiting to hear back from Sara to find out if they can do the project or not.

Moved by Warren to adjourn the meeting at 6:30pm.

Minutes submitted by:

Approved by:

Thomas A Schmitz, Clerk

Harold Hansen, Mayor