

Pledge of  
Allegiance

The Pledge of Allegiance was recited by those in attendance.

Call to Order

The regular council meeting of the City of Browns Valley, MN was held at the Public Library. Council members present were Brenda Bartz, Richard Johnson, Jeanne Dusing, Ken Warren, and Tony Miller. Also in attendance were; Bernice Piechowski and Tom Schmitz. The meeting was called to order at 5:30pm by Mayor Bartz.

Agenda items added to this agenda include; Communication-Traverse County Sheriff's Office quarterly report and survey from school age children; Unfinished business-Valley Vista Apartments; and New business-Closed session to discuss recommendation for the upcoming union contract.

Minutes

Upon motion from Dusing seconded by Miller and carried 5-0, council approved the minutes of the June 23, 2014 Regular Council meeting.

Bills

Following presentation and discussion of the bills it was moved by Warren with a second by Johnson that the following resolution be adopted.

BE IT AND IT IS HEREBY RESOLVED by the Council of the City of Browns Valley that the payment of the following city bills be and is approved as presented.

Motion passed 5-0.

Building Permits

Brenda Reed: 202 East Broadway to construct an 8'X20' deck, 4-season porch and footings, and  
Erick DuMarce: Replace roof of house with asphalt shingles.

Upon motion from Dusing second by Miller and passed unanimously, council approve the building permits for Brenda Reed and Eric DuMarce.

Visitors

None

Communications

The council read a redevelopment letter that was sent to HUD regarding the Valley Vista Apartments. Schmitz will contact someone to conduct an appraisal on the apartments.

Council reviewed a grant available through the Minnesota Association of Volunteer Administration offering a \$2000.00 grant for the reason of building or enhancing a city volunteer program.

The students at the Browns Valley School were given a survey asking them what type of activities they would like to see in town. They were asked if whatever was chosen if they would be willing to help raise funds and/or help with the design. Seventy five children responded. Council discussed additional options that would enhance the lure to the community.

Mayor Bartz shared that she has written a letter to the County Commissioners and will be attending their next meeting on August 12. The letter stems from the sheriff requesting to add the position back into the department that he didn't fill when he was elected the position of sheriff.

Unfinished  
Business

Both tree trimming and rental inspection ordinances were tables until the next meeting.

New Business

Council discussed the alumni weekend. Everything went well and there was a good turnout for all events. Contingency language should be added to the application of where events will be held if bad weather occurs. There needs to be better communication between the fire department and the City regarding the use of City equipment.

Following presentation and discussion of the list of election judges it was moved by Miller and seconded by Johnson and approved unanimously that the following resolution be adopted.

BE IT AND IT IS HEREBY RESOLVED by the Council of the City of Browns Valley that the list of election judges for 2014 is approved as presented.

Shirley Ecker

Arlyne Kaus

Merle Arbach

Karen Goodhart

Edith Foren

Mavis Krone

Dorothy Christensen

Bartz shared that the City has less than 400 registered voters and qualifies to conduct voting through mail balloting. It is too late to change to mail balloting this year but may be moving toward mail ballots during the next election year.

John Tchida has contacted the City to ask if the Sunday sale of liquor could be put on the City's ballot in November. A resolution allowing the question of whether to allow Sunday liquor to be sold in the City of Browns Valley will be placed on the next agenda.

Bid opening for the wastewater project was conducted on July 10. There were six companies bidding on the project. The lowest bid was roughly \$1.3 million over the projected price of the project. USDA Rural Development will search for grant funding but it may require an amount of match from the City.

Department  
Reports  
Public Works

Last year no one was interested in working as summer help for the City. The work that needed to be done was painting of curbs and picnic tables. There was an interested party at the beginning of this summer but decided upon a job elsewhere. Connor Bartz was asked and agreed to do painting work this summer for the City.

Upon motion from Dusing second by Johnson and passed 5-0, council approved the wage for summer help at the Federal Minimum Wage of \$7.25 and to increase during the wage increase in August.

Upon motion from Miller second by Warren and passed 4-0 with Bartz abstaining, council approved the hiring of Connor Bartz for summer help.

Administration

Rental inspections will be done July 17.

Schmitz will be out of the office on the 23<sup>rd</sup> for part of the day at health insurance meeting and all day on the 24<sup>th</sup> at a fiscal officer's quarterly meeting in Osakis.

Council            There will be an emergency vehicle driving class on July 19 for the ambulance service and fire department.

Miller stated that there has been a lot of garbage blowing around. It is recommended that garbage should only be set out in a covered container the morning of pick up.

Warren is ready to present a recommendation from the trip to Princeton, Minnesota to the economic development board on their process of luring in new businesses.

Upon motion from Johnson second by Dusing and passed 5-0, council approved to close the meeting to discuss the union contract.

Upon motion from Johnson second by Warren and passed 5-0, council approved to open the council meeting.

Council discussed the union contract and changes that the council seems appropriate. Union employees will be meeting July 23 at City Hall at noon.

Adjournment    Upon motion from Johnson second by Miller and passed unanimously the meeting was adjourned at 6:42pm.

Minutes submitted by:  
Thomas A Schmitz, Clerk

Approved by:  
Brenda Bartz, Mayor