

The Pledge of Allegiance was recited by those in attendance.

The regular council meeting of the City of Browns Valley, MN was held in the meeting room of the Public Library. Council members present were Acting Mayor Ken Warren, Council Members Tony Miller, Neil Madison and Ken Westbrook. Also in attendance were City Attorney Matthew Franzese, 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 Acting Mayor Warren.

Additions to the Agenda

Additions to the agenda were:

- Number 2 lift station pump,
- The addition of claims from Minnesota Valley Testing Labs in the amount of \$126.00 and AFLAC in the amount of \$415.52.

Total claims to be approved for this meeting were \$20,411.73.

Upon a motion by Westbrook with a second by Miller, the Council approved with a vote of 4-0 the additions to the agenda.

Consent Agenda

Upon a motion from Madison and second by Westbrook, the Council approved with a 4-0 vote the minutes of the Regular Council meeting of October 14, 2019.

Financial Statement

Upon a motion from Westbrook with a second by Miller, the Council approved with a 4-0 vote the financial statement of October 28, 2019.

Bills

Following presentation and discussion of prepaid claim, claims to be paid, and employee wages, upon a motion by Madison and second by Miller, the Council passed with a 4-0 vote 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: \$20,411.73 Wages: \$8,897.27

Memorials/Donations

Upon a motion from Miller with a second by Madison, the Council unanimously approved Resolution 19-28, A Resolution Accepting A Donation To The City Of Browns Valley.

Building Permit

Upon a motion from Miller with second by Westbrook, the Council approved with a vote of 4-0 to accept the building permit from:

- Aaron Fattore: 309 1st Street North to install a new roof onto his home.

Correspondence

The Council reviewed:

- The Browns Valley Education Foundation, and
- Clerk/Administrator/Treasurer Job Announcement

Upon a motion from Miller with second by Westbrook, the Council approved with a vote of 4-0 vote to

accept the advertisement for the Clerk/Administrator/Treasurer.

Unfinished Business

Upon a motion from Westbrook with second by Miller, the Council approved with a vote of 4-0 to table the discussion of the city shop until all members of the council are present.

Schmitz reported that he was asked by Aaron Fattore if the property at 120 Blaine Street NE were to go up for tax forfeiture that Aaron would like to know. Aaron called the County Auditor to ask if this property could be purchased prior to the sale. He was told that the city could purchase it, and resell it to him. Aaron called to offer an agreement with the City. He would like the City to purchase the land. He said that would be responsible for the removal and cleanup of that lot. He has offered to purchase the property from the City for \$1,000.00. Franzese stated that a purchase agreement should be set up between the City and Fattore.

At a previous meeting, Serocki informed the Council that, by the end of the year, the existing piece of equipment that he uses to read water meters will no longer be serviceable. The Council approved to purchase a new meter reading device that will read all of the City's water meters and will be serviceable for many years to come. Serocki stated that, once the water meters were read this past month, there were over 50 devices that it didn't read. He informed the Council that the meters that didn't read had the old transmitters attached to them. He said that the meter device company had offered to sell the City new transmitters at \$55.00 each. Serocki stated that he called the hierarchy of the company and told them their solution to the problem was not acceptable. Serocki reported that he has been informed that the company will provide 48 transmitters at no cost to the City. He stated that he wouldn't need to purchase transmitters at this time as he has several at the shop that can be used to make up the number that is short.

New Business

One of the drive sections of the irrigator at the farmland runs through a slough that no longer drains. The drive section has gotten stuck several times this summer. The slough has gotten so bad that the public works department can no longer reach it to pull it through the slough. The Council reviewed an estimate to install drain tile to mitigate standing water at this slough. Two contractors were asked for bids for drain tile and rock for this mitigation project, but only one contractor provided a bid. The City has applied for a permit to install drain tile in this area, but hasn't received a response back from the permitting authority.

Upon a motion from Warren with a second by Miller, the Council approved with a 4-0 vote to table the discussion regarding the slough area on the agricultural land by the sewer ponds.

Schmitz provided the renewal increase and updated benefit schedule for the employee's health insurance.

Upon a motion from Miller with a second by Westbrook, the Council approved with a 4-0 vote to accept a four percent increase and to continue with Minnesota Public Employees Insurance Program (PIEP) Advantage Health Plan's Cost Level 2.

Upon a motion from Miller with a second by Westbrook, the Council approved with a 4-0 vote Resolution 19-29, A Resolution Authorizing The City Of Browns Valley To Acquire By Purchase Tax Forfeited Lands Located Within The City Of Browns Valley, Minnesota.

Upon a motion from Miller with a second by Westbrook, the Council approved with a 4-0 vote Resolution 19-30, A Resolution Authorizing The City Of Browns Valley To Acquire By Purchase Tax Forfeited Lands Located Within The City Of Browns Valley, Minnesota.

Schmitz updated the Council of his phone call with USDA Rural Development. He will contact contractors on the approved historical contractor list through the Minnesota Historical Preservation Office. He will also find out if the City can have two loans going on at the same time through Rural Development.

The next council meeting will be on Tuesday, November 12, because Veteran's Day is on Monday.

Department Reports

Public Works

Tony Serocki reported that there was a freak accident when Serocki Excavating, Inc. were paving the intersection at the northwest side to Ken Warren's home.

Serocki reported of the damage of the pump at #2 lift station. The repairs would have a 90 day warrantee.

Upon a motion from Miller with second by Westbrook, the Council approved with a vote of 4-0 to purchase a new pump and motor for #2 lift station.

Attorney

Franzese reported that the city of Wheaton advertized for a rental inspector. They ended up with three good candidates, but hired Tony Frisch.

Franzese provided an update on the property located at 302 W Broadway.

Upon a motion from Westbrook with second by Madison, the Council approved with a vote of 4-0 for Franzese to file a motion initiating a lawsuit, if need be, against Rita Kloeckner to remove the unlicensed vehicles from her back yard. Franzese will call her first to find out if she will have them removed without going through the court.

The meeting adjourned at 6:20 p.m.

Minutes submitted by:

Approved by:

Thomas A Schmitz, Clerk

Ken Warren, Acting Mayor