

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 Acting Mayor Ken Warren, Council Members Tony Miller, Neil Madison and Ken Westbrook. Absent Mike Heck. Also in attendance were Lloyd Heaney, Ambulance Manager Amber Metz, Fire Chief Brad Bartz, Librarian Bernice Piechowski, Public Works Director Tony Serocki, and City Administrator Tom Schmitz. The meeting was called to order at 5:30 p.m. by Acting Mayor Warren.

Consent Agenda

Upon a motion from Westbrook and second by Madison, the Council approved with a vote of 4-0 the minutes of the Regular Council meeting of July 8, 2019.

Financial Statement

Upon a motion from Miller with a second by Westbrook, the Council approved with a vote of 4-0 the financial statement of July 8, 2019.

Bills

Following presentation and discussion of prepaid claim, claims to be paid, and employee wages, upon a motion by Madison and second by Westbrook, the Council passed with a vote of 4-0 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: \$64,263.13 Wages: \$9,231.25

Memorials/Donations

Upon a motion from Westbrook with a second by Miller, the Council approved with a 4-0 vote Resolution 19-19, A Resolution Accepting A Donation To The City Of Browns Valley.

Visitors

Lloyd Heaney provided an update on the progress of planning for the PowWow. He requested several items to be available at the Sam Brown Cabin / Backus Field site for the event.

Correspondence

Council members reviewed:

- The benefits of being a member of West Central Initiatives Economic Development District Board.
- A Citizen's Complaint or Statement of Concern
- June 17, 2019 minutes from the Browns Valley Public Library Board of Trustees meeting

Unfinished Business

The status of mitigation being done along the Little Minnesota River and Renville street was discussed. The contractor met with Sara Gronfeld at Traverse Soil Water Conservation District. Sara informed him that rock needs to be certified, as identified in the bid spec. If field rock is used, the City wouldn't receive the grant from the SWCD. Jeff Backer is trying to procure funding to assist with this project.

Upon a motion from Madison with second by Westbrook, the Council with a 4-0 vote to wait to see if Jeff Backer is successful in obtaining any assistance with the project.

New Business

Schmitz provided a list for the Council to review of current and future projects and purchases. Several items on the list will need to be taken care of within the next year and one half. Schmitz also had identified funding that will be used for several of the items on the list.

Ambulance

Amber Metz reported that the ambulances will need to be taken to Fergus Falls to be inspected. Loaners will be sent home while the City's trucks are being checked over.

She informed the Council that the two people who had taken the EMT class in Sisseton didn't pass the course. She will be speaking with the training facility to ask if the class could be reoffered as there were many from the class that didn't pass. The class was conducted over television without an instructor at the site. The students were provided no hands-on application with mannequins or equipment. The first time they had any hands-on application was when they took the practical exam.

Upon a motion from Westbrook with second by Madison, the Council gave approval with a vote of 4-0 to speak with the Sisseton training facility to provide the EMT class with an instructor being present.

Library

Piechowski reported of upcoming events at the library. They include:

- The Lion and the Mouse – July 24th
- Lego Workshop – July 31st
- Bus trip to the Heritage Hjemkomst Interpretive Center and the Rourke Art Gallery and Museum on August 17th.

Fire Department

Chief Bartz reported that the street dance was well attended. He confirmed a new fire contract to cover Tribal land. He said that Merl Sing had contacted him as to whether the fire department would want to burn his house or use it for training. The house would need to be inspected prior to it being burnt.

He informed the Council that he ordered military grade floor paint to be used in the locker room area of the fire hall.

Bartz reported that he ordered four charging stations for the department's pagers.

Bartz informed the Council that he is planning to tear down the locker plant. He also stated that there is a cistern that he plans to remove. He asked if he could haul the block and concrete out to the landfill. He was given approval to dispose concrete and block at the landfill.

Public Works

Serocki reported that the bathrooms at the City Park are being vandalized daily. When checking, they find broken bottles, urine and feces smeared on the floors, walls and fixtures. Toilet paper and paper towels are being vandalized.

Administrator

Schmitz reported that during the last meeting they were given a letter from the State of Minnesota saying that the annual State water fee will be increasing. He said that the water fee on monthly bills will increase from \$0.53 to \$0.81 to cover the increase from the State.

Schmitz informed the Council that Amber Doschadis of the Upper Minnesota River Watershed District has requested an extension for the ditch clean out from the DNR. The project has been extended until 12/31/2020. Bid letting hasn't been done as of this time as the watershed has just received the last land easement, so they can now go forward with bid letting. Bids will be let out on August 2nd, a pre-bid meeting will take place on August 13th and bid opening will be on August 22nd. The bid letting and pre-bid meeting will take place at the office of the watershed district in Ortonville, MN. Doschadis asked if the Council would like the bid opening to take place in Browns Valley. The Council all agree that they would like the bid opening to be in Browns Valley. Schmitz will make contact with Doschadis regarding bid opening.

Council

Westbrock asked if there was an ordinance regarding cleaning up yards and old vehicles in yards.

Madison brought to the attention of the Council that neighbors are concerned about the possibility of the residence located at 114 N Washington being a nuisance property. Schmitz will check into this and report to the Council during the next meeting.

The meeting adjourned at 6:45 p.m.

Minutes submitted by:

Approved by:

Thomas A Schmitz, Clerk

Ken Warren, Acting Mayor