



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 Mayor Mike Heck, Tony Miller, Neil Madison, Devan Dobbs, and Jan Biewer. Also in attendance were City Administrator Jodi Hook-Hansen, City Maintenance Supervisor Tony Serocki, Library Director Bernice Piechowski, Code Enforcement Officer Terry Biewer, and City Attorney Franzese.

Absent: None

Others Present: Traverse County Sheriff's Deputy Tammy Borgheijnck, Brian Hanson, Edith Foren, and Craig Zeimer.

The meeting was called to order at 5:30 p.m. by Mayor Heck.

The Pledge of Allegiance was recited by those in attendance.

Agenda:

Upon a motion by Biewer with a second by Madison, the Council unanimously approved the agenda, with the additions of Resolution 24-14 a Resolution for State Appropriations for City of Browns Valley and the Toelle Coulee Phase 2 Project and pending litigation strategy for small claims lawsuit.

Consent Agenda:

- Upon a motion by Dobbs with a second by Miller, the Council unanimously approved the May 27, 2024, Regular Meeting Minutes.
- Upon a motion by Biewer with a second by Miller, the Council unanimously approved the claims for a grand total of \$176,550.93, including Wages (June 1st = \$13,334.17) and Claims (June 10th = \$163,216.76).
- Upon a motion by Miller with a second by Madison, the Council unanimously approved the Treasurer's Report.
- Upon a motion by Dobbs with a second by Miller, the Council unanimously approved the Delinquency Report.
- Upon a motion by Miller with a second by Biewer, the Council unanimously approved Resolution 24-12, a Resolution Accepting Donation to the City in Memory of Jim Madison from several donators in the amount of \$210.00.

Department Reports:

- Library Director Piechowski reported on activities at the library.
- City Maintenance Supervisor Serocki gave a report on public works items completed.
- Code Enforcement Officer Biewer reported on actions done to enforce City ordinances and items completed in the office. Biewer informed the Council that the property located at 502 3rd Street

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June 10, 2024**

North has had its outstanding water bill paid in full, but the water is still off because of broken pipes that occurred in January.

- Upon a motion by Biewer with a second by Miller, the Council voted 4 to 1 to have City Attorney Franzese proceed with an eviction action pursuant to City Ordinance Section 92.21(H). Dobbs Dissented.
- Deputy Borgheinck reported on recent law enforcement activity within the City.
- City Administrator Hook-Hansen reported on administrative items completed in the office.
- City Attorney Franzese gave a verbal report on actions performed for the City.

Unfinished Business:

New Business:

- Jayshaun Renville-Potentially Dangerous Dog no action taken.
- Upon a motion by Miller with a second by Biewer, the Council unanimously approved to have City Attorney Franzese to draw up Lease Agreement with Brian Hanson on Parcel ID No. 20-0409000, and to have Mayor Heck and City Administrator to make authority to make changes to lease.
- Resolution 24-13, a Resolution for Detachment of Certain Land pursuant to Minnesota Statutes 414.06, was tabled for final revisions of the Resolution.
- Upon a motion by Biewer with a second by Madison, the Council unanimously approved the acceptance of the 2023 Population estimate of 526 and household estimate of 217.
- City Maintenance Supervisor Tony Serocki informed the City Council of the broken force main. On May 30th Serocki discovered that the wastewater lagoons were not receiving wastewater. He made a call the duty officer at MPCA and reported the spill. He proceeded to find where the break was in the force main going to the ponds. The MPCA Enforcement officer recommended putting in place plans to stop the release of wastewater into the ground. Because of the emergency, Serocki received approval from the Mayor to hire a company to set up frack tanks to pump from the lift station into the tanks, and then hire semis and tanker trucks to pump out of the frack tanks and then truck the wastewater to the ponds. Doing this destroyed the road from all of the rain, requiring reinforcement of the road. The following day we were not able to keep up and had to do another release. Serocki called the duty officer at MPCA that Saturday and reported the release and then talked to the MPCA enforcement officer, who requested that the City hire a company to come in and set up a line that runs from the lift station to the ponds and to pump it that way until the force main break could be fixed. Serocki also activated MN WARN on Saturday, June 1st, as no one had the needed 3 1/2 miles of hose to reach the wastewater ponds.
The City Council instructed Hook-Hansen to seek a loan from Traverse County SWCD. If approved it would be 10-year loan at 3% interest.

Other Business:

- Upon a motion by Miller with a second by Madison, the Council unanimously approved Resolution 24-14, a Resolution for State Appropriations for City of Browns Valley and the Toelle Coulee Phase 2 Project.

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- Upon a motion by Biewer with a second by Madison, the Council voted unanimously to close the meeting. The meeting was closed pursuant to M.S.A. §13D.05, Subd. 3(b) to discuss pending litigation. The purpose of the meeting was to discuss an offer of settlement made by Brenda Bartz in litigation the City has filed against her.

The City Council went into a closed session. The time is 6:26 p.m. Council members present were Mayor Mike Heck, Tony Miller, Neil Madison, Devan Dobbs, and Jan Biewer. Also in attendance were City Administrator Jodi Hook-Hansen, Code Enforcement Officer Terry Biewer, and City Attorney Franzese.

- Upon a motion by Dobbs with a seconded by Madison, the council unanimously approved to re-open the meeting. The time is 6:56 p.m. The result of the closed meeting was that the City Council decided to accept or counter offer a settlement.
- Upon a motion by Heck with a second by Madison, the Council voted on a 4 to 1 to not accept Ms. Bartz's proposal of \$455.00 and to make a counteroffer of \$10,000.00 plus parcels 20-0056000 and 20-0055000. Dobbs dissented.

Public Comment: None at this time

Dates: Dates: June 19th CLOSED

Items for Council to consider for future:

Next scheduled meeting: Monday June 27 at 5:30 p.m.

The meeting adjourned at 7:07 p.m.

Minutes submitted by:

Approved by:



Jodi Hook-Hansen, City Administrator



Mike Heck, Mayor