



Browns Valley Regular City Council Meeting Approved Minutes June 23, 2025

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

The meeting was called to order at 5:30 p.m. by Acting Mayor Jan Biewer

The Pledge of Allegiance was recited by those in attendance.

Others Present: Edith Foren, Ben Schierer, and Amber Doschadis

Absent: Mayor Mike Heck

Visitor: Ben Schierer, representing West Central Initiative (WCI), provided the Council with an update on the organization's recent work within our community and throughout the region over the past year. He gave a brief presentation outlining WCI's current initiatives, accomplishments, and areas of focus. Following the presentation, the floor was opened for questions and discussion pertaining to both current challenges and potential future opportunities for collaboration between WCI and our community. He also explained the rationale behind WCI's requests for financial support from the nine counties and 82 communities they serve, highlighting the impact and value of regional investment in shared goals.

Amber Doschadis director from The Upper Minnesota River Watershed District (UMRWD) provided an overview of the benefits establishment process for the Little Minnesota River Diversion project. The Upper Minnesota River Watershed District (UMRWD) will host a public hearing on Thursday, June 26, 2025, at 5:30 PM at the Browns Valley American Legion. During this hearing, UMRWD and its consultants will present the proposed benefits roll to the public and seek feedback.

Additional discussion took place regarding Toelle Coulee Phases 1 and 2. These phases will also be addressed during the special meeting portion of the June 26th hearing. UMRWD has issued a request for bids to spray Toelle Coulee Phase 1 during the summer and will coordinate with landowners throughout the process.

Agenda:

Upon a motion by Miller, seconded by Backer, the Council unanimously approved the agenda with the following additions:

- Christine Renville Chicken Permit

Consent Agenda:

- Upon a motion by Backer, seconded by Dobbs, the Council unanimously approved the June 09, 2025, Regular Meeting Minutes.
- June 16, 2025, Special Meeting Minutes were tabled for further clarification of the motion pertaining to the length of the proposed TIF.

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- Upon a motion by Dobbs, seconded by Miller, the Council unanimously approved the claims totaling \$57,684.19, including wages (June 16th = \$7,162.00) and claims (June 23rd = \$50,522.19).

Department Reports:

- Library Director Piechowski reported on activities at the library.
- City Maintenance Supervisor Serocki reported on completed and ongoing public works projects.
- Code Enforcement Officer Biewer reported on actions taken to enforce City ordinances and items completed in the office.
- 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 of Browns Valley.

New Business:

- There was no motion made for the sale of the following properties to Matthew and Cynthia Zinniel:
- 434 E Broadway (20-0290000)
 - No Address (20-0449000) Lot 200x125
 - 24 4th Street South (20-0064000)
- The Council wants to give additional consideration as to whether it wants to sell these properties.
- There was no motion to acquire the parcel at 538 2nd Avenue NW.
- Upon a motion by Dobbs, seconded by Miller, the Council unanimously approved the building permit for Jeff Fox to place a shed on a cement slab at 525 3rd Street North.
- The Council engaged in a thorough discussion regarding the TIF Agreement; however, no final decision was reached.
- Upon a motion by Miller, seconded by Backer, the Council unanimously approved a Chicken Permit for Christine Renville at 316 5th Street North, valid through December 31, 2025.

Items for council to consider for future: Union Negotiations, TIF District, RFP for Garbage Contract, Budgeting and Future Projects

Dates:

Next scheduled meeting Monday July 14 at 5:30 PM

The meeting adjourned at 6:54 p.m.

Minutes submitted by:


Jodi Hook-Hansen, City Administrator

Approved by:


Mike Heck, Mayor