



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

Absent:

The meeting was called to order at 5:30 p.m. by Mayor Heck.
The Pledge of Allegiance was recited by those in attendance.

Others Present: Deputy Steve Roos from the Traverse County Sheriff's Office, Angela Beacom, and Bryan Bye.

Agenda:

- Upon a motion by Miller, seconded by Johnson, the Council unanimously approved the agenda with the following additions:
 - Angela Beacom

Visitors:

- Angela Beacom addressed the City Council regarding an ongoing noise concern involving a neighboring property owned by Casey Nelson. Ms. Beacom reported that a semi-truck is regularly left running overnight, creating excessive noise that disrupts nearby residents. She requested the Council consider whether a city ordinance addressing noise disturbances may be appropriate.

Council Discussion

The Council discussed the concern, including the impact of prolonged engine noise on residential areas and whether existing ordinances address this type of disturbance. The Council noted that the City currently does not have a specific noise ordinance regulating engine idling or nighttime noise levels.

Mayor Heck directed city staff to research existing city ordinances and comparable noise ordinances from similar communities, and to return to the Council with recommendations for a potential noise or engine-idling ordinance.

- Bryan Bye – Widseth engineer: Provided a verbal update on the Well Project.

Consent Agenda:

- Upon a motion by Johnson, seconded by Miller, the Council unanimously approved the January 12, 2025, Regular Meeting Minutes.

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- Upon a motion by Biewer, seconded by Miller, the Council unanimously approved the claims totaling \$45,943.57, including wages (January 16th = \$8,292.65; claims January 26th = \$37,650.92).

Department Reports:

- City Administrator Hook-Hansen reported on administrative activities.
- Library Director Piechowski reported on library activities.
- City Maintenance Supervisor Serocki reported on public works projects.
- Deputy Roos provided an update on law enforcement activities within the City of Browns Valley.
- Code Enforcement Officer Biewer reported on actions taken to enforce City ordinances and items completed in the office.
- City Attorney Franzese gave a verbal report on actions performed for the City of Browns Valley.

New Business:

- Upon a motion by Biewer, seconded by Dobbs, the Council unanimously approved Resolution 26-04: a Resolution Authorizing Application for Grant Navigator Support for the City.
- Upon a motion by Dobbs, seconded by Miller, the Council unanimously accepted the resignation of Lance Nelson from the Volunteer Fire Department and thanked him for his service.
- Council discussed FEMA deed restrictions on City-owned properties acquired with Hazard Mitigation Assistance (HMA) funds. It was noted that under 44 CFR § 80.19, such properties may only be transferred to a public entity or qualified conservation organization and may not be sold to private individuals. Any approved private use must comply with open space and deed restriction requirements.

Staff indicated that additional information is needed, including the property address/PIN, acquisition date, and recorded deed restrictions. If state bond funds were involved, the City must follow Minnesota Management and Budget (MMB) requirements, including statutory authority, a resolution declaring the property no longer needed, an appraisal at fair market value, and review of any purchase agreement. Net proceeds from any sale must be returned to the State per Minn. Stat. § 16A.695, subd. 3. Staff will coordinate with MMB on next steps and ask the potential buyers to do the appraisal at their expense.

- Council discussed concerns regarding dogs running at large within the city. It was noted that enforcement will continue, and that continuous repeat offenders may be subject to arrest in accordance with City ordinance.
- Council discussed concerns regarding substandard buildings within the city and reviewed enforcement options available under City code. No formal action was taken.

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Dates:

January 27th -Food Shelf Meeting at 3:00 PM

February 2nd EDA Meeting at 5:00 PM

February 16th- Office Closed President's Day

Items for council to consider for future: Sales Tax / Tier Pricing

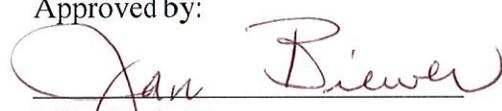
Next scheduled meeting Monday February 9th - 5:30 PM

The meeting adjourned at 6:29 p.m.

Minutes submitted by:


Jodi Hook-Hansen, City Administrator

Approved by:


Mike Heck, Mayor
Jan Biewer, Acting Mayor