



**BROWNS VALLEY CITY COUNCIL MEETING
BROWNS VALLEY PUBLIC LIBRARY MEETING ROOM
Monday April 27, 2026 - 5:30 P.M.**

AGENDA

Call to order

Pledge of Allegiance

Roll Call: Mike Heck Tony Miller Jerry Johnson Jan Biewer Devan Dobbs

Others in attendance: Jodi Hook-Hansen, Tony Serocki, Bernice Piechowski, Terry Biewer

Absent:

Additions or Corrections to the Meeting Agenda: Motion _____ Seconded _____

Visitors: Bryan Bye Widseth

Consent Agenda

- Approval of April 13, 2026 Regular Meeting Minutes
- Approval of April 24th, 2026 Board of Appeal and Equalization Meeting Minutes
- Approval of all expenditures
For a grand total of \$41,212.67
Wages: April 16th= \$8,597.48
Claims: April 27th=\$32,615.19

Department Reports:

Unfinished Business:

New Business:

- Approval proceeding with the pilot study as presented, contingent upon review of the attached proposal.
- Approval of Resolution 26-14 a Resolution to Display the Old State Flag In the City of Browns Valley
- Approval of Resolution 26-15 a Resolution accepting a donation to the City total donations of \$65.00
- Approval of Building Permit 214 3rd Street South (Carolyn Roark)-Re-roof
- Approval of Building Permit 118 Jefferson Street (Brian Nelson)-Re-roof
- Approval of Club Liquor License-American Legion Post 58 July 1, 2026 – June 30, 2027
- Approval of BV Fire Dept temporary liquor license -June 26-27-28,2026
- Approval of the Civilian Ride-Along Release, Non-Disclosure, and Indemnity Agreement as presented.

Dates:

- Monday May 18th **City Wide Clean-up Day**
- Monday & Tuesday May 11th & 12th **Hydrant Flushing**

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

Next scheduled meeting:

Monday May 11th at 5:30 PM

Adjournment: Time _____



**Browns Valley Regular City Council Meeting Approved Minutes
April 13, 2026**

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

Absent: Devan Dobbs

Others Present: Edith Foren and Fire Chief Dave Kuschel

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

Agenda:

- Upon a motion by Johnson, seconded by Miller, the Council unanimously approved the agenda with the following additions:
 - 322 Oak St. SE – Building Permit (Jesse Biel)
 - 112 2nd St. N – Property Sale to Wheaton Dumont
 - Discussion of Splash Park
 - Discussion/Consideration of Continued Use of the Former Minnesota State Flag

Consent Agenda:

- Upon a motion by Biewer, seconded by Johnson, the Council unanimously approved the March 23, 2026, Regular Meeting Minutes.
- Upon a motion by Miller, seconded by Biewer, the Council unanimously approved the April 6, 2026, Board of Appeal and Equalization Meeting Minutes.
- Upon a motion by Biewer, seconded by Miller, the Council unanimously approved the claims totaling \$138,316.96, including wages (April 1st = \$13,102.98; claims April 13th = \$125,213.98).
- Upon a motion by Johnson, seconded by Biewer, the Council unanimously approved March's Treasurer Report.
- Upon a motion by Miller, seconded by Johnson, the Council unanimously approved March's Delinquency Report.

Department Reports:

- City Administrator Hook-Hansen reported on administrative activities.
- Library Director Piechowski reported on library activities.
- City Maintenance Supervisor Tony Serocki reported on ongoing public works projects, including seasonal equipment maintenance and necessary repairs to ensure continued operation of city vehicles and equipment. Serocki discussed the need for replacement tires for the Bobcat to accommodate



seasonal rotation, as well as diagnostic and repair work needed for the plow truck due to sensor and lighting issues.

- Upon a motion by Biewer, seconded by Miller, the Council gave unanimous approval for City Maintenance Supervisor Tony Serocki to purchase Bobcat tires for seasonal rotation, in an amount not to exceed \$2,000.00.
- Upon a motion by Biewer, seconded by Miller, the Council gave unanimous approval for City Maintenance Supervisor Tony Serocki to take the plow truck to the international dealership in Watertown, South Dakota, for necessary sensor diagnostics and lighting repairs.
- Code Enforcement Officer Biewer reported on actions taken to enforce City ordinances and items completed in the office.
- Fire Chief Dave Kuschel was present to discuss the three-year fire contracts the City has with surrounding townships. The consensus of the Council was that it is not in favor of lowering contract rates in order to cover more areas.

Unfinished Business:

- Discussion was held regarding the City-Wide Clean-Up. Following discussion, the Council unanimously approved holding the City-Wide Clean-Up on Monday, May 18 from 8:00 a.m. to 4:00 p.m. Dumpsters will be located at the new city shop and are requested to be removed by 4:00 p.m. No formal motion was made.

New Business:

- Upon a motion by Miller, seconded by Johnson, the Council approved the fence permit for 307 West Broadway (Kenneth Hansen) by a vote of 3–1, with Mayor Heck voting nay. Mayor Heck stated he opposed it because he believed that engineering may be required. However, staff confirmed that no engineering is necessary for the fence installation.
- Upon a motion by Miller, seconded by Johnson, the Council unanimously approved the building permit for 115 Jefferson Street North (Bradley Raw).
- Upon a motion by Miller, seconded by Biewer, the Council unanimously approved the building permit for 322 Oak Street SE (Jesse Biel).

Consideration was given to a quote from Eggers Furniture & Flooring for flooring improvements in the Browns Valley Library meeting room including installing flooring in the kitchenette area and entry walkway.

- Upon a motion by Johnson, seconded by Biewer, the Council unanimously approved Option 2 - 30 mil vinyl plank flooring with Exo scratch-resistant surface.



- Upon a motion by Biewer, seconded by Johnson, the Council unanimously approved hiring an employee for Sam Brown Cabin for the season of Memorial Day through Labor Day weekend, working Saturdays and Sundays from 1:00–5:00 p.m. at \$11.41 per hour.
- Upon a motion by Johnson, seconded by Biewer, the Council approved of Resolution 26-12 a Resolution Establishing a Fire Escrow Account Pursuant to Minnesota State Statute 65A.50.
- Upon a motion by Heck, seconded by Biewer, the Council unanimously agreed that it wanted to continue to fly the former official Minnesota State Flag. A request was made for a formal resolution to be prepared for consideration at the next meeting.
- Upon a motion by Biewer, seconded by Miller, the Council unanimously approved Resolution 26-13, a Resolution Selling Real Property Parcel No, 20-012400 to Wheaton-Dumont Coop Elevator for the sum of \$200 plus recording fees.
- Splash Pad and Playground Project – Public Response and Discussion. Mayor Heck addressed the recent article published in the Traverse County Gazette regarding the proposed splash pad and playground project at City Park. He reported receiving calls and concerns from community members following the publication, with several residents’ expressing confusion about whether the proposed project and its associated costs were connected to recent or potential increases in property taxes.
Mayor Heck also shared concerns regarding the inclusion of financial figures in the article. As a result, the publication of those figures has contributed to misunderstanding within the community. In addition, he described considerations related to the long-term maintenance and operational costs associated with splash pad facilities. He indicated that some communities are evaluating these ongoing expenses when making decisions about similar projects.
Finally, he emphasized that the City is continuing to assess the feasibility of the splash pad and playground project. Further discussion and clarification are expected as Mayor Heck will be attending the next EDA meeting.

April 24th - Board of Equalization at 10:00 AM

April 30th Deed compliance to visit in office on Redevelopment Grant

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

Next scheduled meeting:

Monday April 27th at 5:30 p.m.

The meeting adjourned at 6:53 p.m.

Minutes submitted by:

Approved by:

Jodi Hook-Hansen, City Administrator

Mike Heck, Mayor

CITY OF BROWNS VALLEY

*Check Summary Register©

Batch: Claims042726

Name	Check Date	Check Amt	
10100 PRAIRIE SUN BANK			
13768e	MN DEPT OF REVENUE	04/17/26	\$359.77
13769e	PUBLIC EMPLOYEES RETIREMENT AS	04/17/26	\$1,589.28
13770e	IRS	04/17/26	\$2,741.23 Federal
22679	BIG STONE COUNTY TREASURER	04/27/26	\$5,829.00 1st half tax 129.81 acres
22680	CENTER POINT LARGE PRINT	04/27/26	\$29.37 large print books
22681	DAKOTA WASTE SOLUTIONS	04/27/26	\$4,000.00 May garbage service
22682	FRANZESE, MATTHEW P.	04/27/26	\$1,050.00 April services
22683	HAUKOS ELECTRICAL SERVICE LLC	04/27/26	\$688.69 sewer repair
22684	JOHNSON, JERRY	04/27/26	\$117.45 EDD meeting Fergus Falls-Mileage only
22685	KJ DIESELL LLC	04/27/26	\$150.00 2003 Sterling dump truck DOT service
22686	MIDAMERICA BOOKS	04/27/26	\$98.80 books
22687	MINN-DAK FIRE AND SAFETY	04/27/26	\$331.35 annual maintenance on fire extinguishers
22688	OTTERTAIL POWER COMPANY	04/27/26	\$3,582.56 14-060262 Comm Ctr
22689	QUILL CORPORATION	04/27/26	\$249.55 library office supplies
22690	RED BRICK RESOURCES	04/27/26	\$102.86 books
22691	SEROCKI, ANTHONY	04/27/26	\$73.95 mileage to Elbow Lake water contact hours
22692	TRAVERSE COUNTY ASSESSOR	04/27/26	\$8,528.00 2026 assessment 533 parcels @ \$16
22693	TRAVERSE COUNTY	04/27/26	\$314.00 Parcel 20-0124000
22694	VIKING LIBRARY SYSTEM	04/27/26	\$2,779.33 3D printer-Opioid grant
		Total Checks	\$32,615.19

10100 PRAIRIE SUN BANK	
101 GENERAL FUND	\$17,663.89
211 LIBRARY	\$3,582.94
601 WATER FUND	\$566.86
602 SEWER FUND	\$6,801.50
603 REFUSE (GARBAGE) FUND	\$4,000.00
	<hr/>
	\$32,615.19

FILTER: ((([Act Year]='2026' and [period] in (4))) and (Source in ('Claims042726')))

CITY OF BROWNS VALLEY

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Payments

Current Period: April 2026

Payment Batch Claims042726		\$32,615.19	
Refer	<u>3243 MN DEPT OF REVENUE SW</u>	<u>Ck# 013768E 4/17/2026</u>	
Cash Payment	G 101-21702 State Withholding		\$359.77
Invoice			
Transaction Date	4/17/2026	PRAIRIE SUN BANK 10100	Total \$359.77
Refer	<u>3244 PUBLIC EMPLOYEES RETIREMEN</u>	<u>Ck# 013769E 4/17/2026</u>	
Cash Payment	G 101-21704 PERA		\$1,589.28
Invoice			
Transaction Date	4/17/2026	PRAIRIE SUN BANK 10100	Total \$1,589.28
Refer	<u>3245 IRS</u>	<u>Ck# 013770E 4/17/2026</u>	
Cash Payment	G 101-21701 Federal Withholding	Federal	\$915.35
Invoice			
Cash Payment	G 101-21703 FICA Tax Withholding	SS & Medicare	\$1,825.88
Invoice			
Transaction Date	4/17/2026	PRAIRIE SUN BANK 10100	Total \$2,741.23
Refer	<u>3246 TRAVERSE COUNTY AUDITOR</u>	<u>Ck# 022693 4/27/2026</u>	
Cash Payment	E 101-41000-442 Property taxes	Parcel 20-0124000	\$146.00
Invoice			
Cash Payment	E 101-41000-442 Property taxes	Parcel 20-0076000	\$168.00
Invoice			
Transaction Date	4/17/2026	PRAIRIE SUN BANK 10100	Total \$314.00
Refer	<u>3247 BIG STONE COUNTY TREASURER</u>	<u>Ck# 022679 4/27/2026</u>	
Cash Payment	E 602-49450-442 Property taxes	1st half tax 129.81 acres	\$2,232.00
Invoice			
Cash Payment	E 602-49450-442 Property taxes	1st half tax 170.0 acres	\$3,597.00
Invoice			
Transaction Date	4/17/2026	PRAIRIE SUN BANK 10100	Total \$5,829.00
Refer	<u>3248 DAKOTA WASTE SOLUTIONS</u>	<u>Ck# 022681 4/27/2026</u>	
Cash Payment	E 603-49500-300 Professional Svcs (GENE	May garbage service	\$4,000.00
Invoice 144255 4/14/2026			
Transaction Date	4/17/2026	PRAIRIE SUN BANK 10100	Total \$4,000.00
Refer	<u>3249 FRANZESE, MATTHEW P.</u>	<u>Ck# 022682 4/27/2026</u>	
Cash Payment	E 101-41610-304 Legal Fees	April services	\$1,050.00
Invoice			
Transaction Date	4/17/2026	PRAIRIE SUN BANK 10100	Total \$1,050.00
Refer	<u>3250 OTTERTAIL POWER COMPANY</u>	<u>Ck# 022688 4/27/2026</u>	
Cash Payment	E 101-41000-381 Electric Utilities	14-060262 Comm Ctr	\$84.82
Invoice			
Cash Payment	E 602-49450-381 Electric Utilities	14-065992 W Brdwy Grind	\$89.26
Invoice			
Cash Payment	E 601-49400-381 Electric Utilities	14-061130 Bulk Station	\$24.10
Invoice			
Cash Payment	E 101-43160-220 Repair/Maint Supply (GE	14-004837 Street lights	\$1,364.24
Invoice			
Cash Payment	E 601-49400-381 Electric Utilities	14-004838 Well #3	\$308.84
Invoice			

CITY OF BROWNS VALLEY

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Payments

Current Period: April 2026

Cash Payment Invoice	E 602-49450-381 Electric Utilities	14-004839 Renville Disp Lift	\$577.76
Cash Payment Invoice	E 601-49400-381 Electric Utilities	14-004840 Well #1	\$125.08
Cash Payment Invoice	E 101-41000-381 Electric Utilities	14-004841 Fire Siren	\$9.28
Cash Payment Invoice	E 101-41000-381 Electric Utilities	14-004843 City/Fire Hall	\$99.15
Cash Payment Invoice	E 101-42153-381 Electric Utilities	14-004843 City/Fire Hall	\$21.25
Cash Payment Invoice	E 101-42260-381 Electric Utilities	14-004843 City/Fire Hall	\$21.24
Cash Payment Invoice	E 602-49450-381 Electric Utilities	14-004844 321 Lift Station	\$162.09
Cash Payment Invoice	E 101-45000-381 Electric Utilities	14-005010 Bdwy Museum	\$27.18
Cash Payment Invoice	E 101-45000-381 Electric Utilities	14-010558 796 W Bdwy SB Cabin	\$31.68
Cash Payment Invoice	E 101-42260-381 Electric Utilities	14-020839 Fire Hall	\$65.51
Cash Payment Invoice	E 211-45500-381 Electric Utilities	14-023343 Library	\$323.03
Cash Payment Invoice	E 101-45000-381 Electric Utilities	14-034884 Backus Field	\$24.10
Cash Payment Invoice	E 101-45000-381 Electric Utilities	14-036446 Backus Field	\$24.10
Cash Payment Invoice	E 101-45000-381 Electric Utilities	14-040532 Hwy 28 Shelter	\$25.39
Cash Payment Invoice	E 101-43000-381 Electric Utilities	14-086156 New City Shop	\$87.23
Cash Payment Invoice	E 101-45000-381 Electric Utilities	14-086156 New City Shop	\$17.45
Cash Payment Invoice	E 601-49400-381 Electric Utilities	14-086156 New City Shop	\$34.89
Cash Payment Invoice	E 602-49450-381 Electric Utilities	14-086156 New City Shop	\$34.89
Transaction Date	4/20/2026	PRAIRIE SUN BANK 10100	Total \$3,582.56
Refer	3251 JOHNSON, JERRY	Ck# 022684 4/27/2026	
Cash Payment Invoice	E 101-41110-331 Travel Expenses	EDD meeting Fergus Falls-Mileage only	\$117.45
Transaction Date	4/20/2026	PRAIRIE SUN BANK 10100	Total \$117.45
Refer	3252 MINN-DAK FIRE AND SAFETY	Ck# 022687 4/27/2026	
Cash Payment Invoice	E 101-41000-300 Professional Svcs (GENE annual maintenance on fire extinguishers		\$331.35
	858797 4/20/2026		
Transaction Date	4/20/2026	PRAIRIE SUN BANK 10100	Total \$331.35
Refer	3253 CENTER POINT LARGE PRINT	Ck# 022680 4/27/2026	
Cash Payment Invoice	E 211-45500-435 Books and Pamphlets	large print books	\$29.37
	2243250 4/3/2026		
Transaction Date	4/22/2026	PRAIRIE SUN BANK 10100	Total \$29.37
Refer	3254 QUILL CORPORATION	Ck# 022689 4/27/2026	

CITY OF BROWNS VALLEY

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Payments

Current Period: April 2026

Cash Payment	E 211-45500-210	Operating Supplies (GE	library office supplies		\$249.55
Invoice	48527651	4/13/2026			
Transaction Date	4/22/2026		PRAIRIE SUN BANK 10100	Total	\$249.55
Refer	3255	<u>RED BRICK RESOURCES</u>	<u>Ck# 022690 4/27/2026</u>		
Cash Payment	E 211-45500-435	Books and Pamphlets	books		\$92.86
Invoice	1900850	4/14/2026			
Cash Payment	E 211-45500-333	Freight and Express	books		\$10.00
Invoice	1900850	4/14/2026			
Transaction Date	4/22/2026		PRAIRIE SUN BANK 10100	Total	\$102.86
Refer	3256	<u>VIKING LIBRARY SYSTEM</u>	<u>Ck# 022694 4/27/2026</u>		
Cash Payment	E 211-45500-429	Misc Grant Items for Rei	3D printer-Opioid grant		\$2,779.33
Invoice	1858	4/21/2026		Project Opioid	
Transaction Date	4/22/2026		PRAIRIE SUN BANK 10100	Total	\$2,779.33
Refer	3257	<u>MIDAMERICA BOOKS</u>	<u>Ck# 022686 4/27/2026</u>		
Cash Payment	E 211-45500-435	Books and Pamphlets	books		\$98.80
Invoice	89292	4/9/2026			
Transaction Date	4/22/2026		PRAIRIE SUN BANK 10100	Total	\$98.80
Refer	3258	<u>TRAVERSE COUNTY ASSESSOR</u>	<u>Ck# 022692 4/27/2026</u>		
Cash Payment	E 101-41000-300	Professional Svcs (GENE	2026 assessment 533 parcels @ \$16		\$8,528.00
Invoice	2026 ASMT	4/14/2026			
Transaction Date	4/22/2026		PRAIRIE SUN BANK 10100	Total	\$8,528.00
Refer	3259	<u>SEROCKI, ANTHONY</u>	<u>Ck# 022691 4/27/2026</u>		
Cash Payment	E 601-49400-208	Training and Instruction	mileage to Elbow Lake water contact hours		\$73.95
Invoice					
Transaction Date	4/22/2026		PRAIRIE SUN BANK 10100	Total	\$73.95
Refer	3260	<u>HAUKOS ELECTRICAL SERVICE LL</u>	<u>Ck# 022683 4/27/2026</u>		
Cash Payment	E 602-49450-220	Repair/Maint Supply (GE	sewer repair		\$108.50
Invoice	3046	4/19/2026			
Cash Payment	E 101-43160-220	Repair/Maint Supply (GE	street lights		\$580.19
Invoice	3046	4/19/2026			
Transaction Date	4/23/2026		PRAIRIE SUN BANK 10100	Total	\$688.69
Refer	3261	<u>KJ DIESELL LLC</u>	<u>Ck# 022685 4/27/2026</u>		
Cash Payment	E 101-43000-220	Repair/Maint Supply (GE	2003 Sterling dump truck DOT service		\$150.00
Invoice	10398	4/22/2026			
Transaction Date	4/23/2026		PRAIRIE SUN BANK 10100	Total	\$150.00

Payments

Current Period: April 2026

Fund Summary

	10100 PRAIRIE SUN BANK
101 GENERAL FUND	\$17,663.89
211 LIBRARY	\$3,582.94
601 WATER FUND	\$566.86
602 SEWER FUND	\$6,801.50
603 REFUSE (GARBAGE) FUND	\$4,000.00
	<hr/>
	\$32,615.19

Pre-Written Checks	\$32,615.19
Checks to be Generated by the Computer	\$0.00
Total	<hr/>
	\$32,615.19

**CITY OF BROWNS VALLEY
RESOLUTION 26-14**

**A RESOLUTION TO DISPLAY THE OLD STATE FLAG
IN THE CITY OF BROWNS VALLEY**

WHEREAS, the Governor of Minnesota and 2023 Legislature created a State Emblems Redesign Commission to redesign the official state flag and official state seal due to perceived cultural insensitivity;

WHEREAS, the Redesign Commission was charged with bringing recommendations on the redesign to the Legislature by no later than January 1, 2024;

WHEREAS, the official state flag and seal are not only symbols of our state, but also of our history, and both the current official state flag and official state seal contain historical information on our farming background, American Indian heritage, and the co-existence that is part of the rich history of our state;

WHEREAS, the redesigned flag removes these identifiable symbols pertaining to our state's history in lieu of convoluted colors and symbols that contain no obvious identification to our state;

WHEREAS, and the redesigned seal inexplicably removes the year of our state's founding and the state motto;

WHEREAS, the State Flag has remained largely unchanged since 1893, and the current official state flag was created in 1957 with modifications in 1983;

WHEREAS, there has been substantial negative public reaction to the redesigned state flag and seal that has prompted several County Boards and numerous City Councils throughout the State to enact resolutions opposing the redesign;

WHEREAS, Minnesota Statute does not require a municipality to fly the state flag; and

WHEREAS, the decision to fly the state flag is a policy decision of the Browns Valley City Council.

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED by the City Council for the City of Browns Valley that the Minnesota State Flag, as modified in 1983 will be flown on city property.

Adopted by the City Council for the City of Browns Valley this 27th day of April, 2026.

BROWN VALLEY CITY COUNCIL

Mike Heck, Mayor

RESOLUTION NO. 26-15

A RESOLUTION ACCEPTING A DONATION TO THE CITY OF BROWNS VALLEY

WHEREAS the City of Browns Valley is authorized to accept donations of real and personal property pursuant to Minnesota Statutes Section 465.03 for the benefit of its citizens; and

WHEREAS, the following entities and individuals have made donations to the City:

<u>Donated by</u>	<u>Purpose</u>	<u>Amount</u>
Township of Foster	Ambulance Operating	\$65.00

WHEREAS, all such donations have been contributed for the benefit of the City and its residents, as allowed by law; and

WHEREAS, the City Council finds it appropriate to accept the donations.

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED by the City Council of the City of Browns Valley, Minnesota, as follows:

- 1. The donations described above are hereby accepted and shall be used for their intended purposes, as allowed by law.**
- 2. The City Clerk/Administrator is directed to issue acknowledgments to each donor recognizing receipt of their donation.**

Adopted by the City Council of Browns Valley, Minnesota this 27th day of April, 2026.

Mayor / Acting Mayor

Attested:

City Administrator