



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, Devan Dobbs, 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:** Jan Biewer

**Others Present:** Traverse County Chief Deputy Sheriff Andy Miller Widseth engineer Bryan Bye, and Edith Foren.

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

**Vistors: Water Treatment Plant – Pilot Study Proposal (Widseth / Bryan Bye)**

Bye presented a proposal for a pilot study related to the design of the new water treatment plant. Widseth's current design is based on typical groundwater conditions in the region and Minnesota Department of Health (MDH) design criteria. A pilot study, to be conducted by the filter manufacturer, is recommended to:

- Verify design parameters;
- Confirm the proposed treatment process meets MDH requirements; and
- Identify any additional chemicals that may be needed to optimize treatment.

Following identification of the well site, Widseth plans to proceed with the pilot study. While initially intended for late fall, space limitations at the Beardsley pumphouse delayed implementation. With improved weather conditions, Widseth is proposing to move forward with the pilot study this spring. The pilot study is: (1) included in the overall project budget; and (2) eligible for reimbursement through project funding.

Bye reviewed the pilot study proposal with the Council and answered questions asked of him.

**Agenda:**

- Upon a motion by Johnson, seconded by Miller, the Council unanimously approved the agenda with the following additions:
  - Approval to submit a grant application for a turnout gear dryer for the Fire Department.

**Consent Agenda:**

- Upon a motion by Miller, seconded by Johnson, the Council unanimously approved the April 13, 2026 Regular Meeting Minutes, with requested corrections from Mayor Heck.



- Upon a motion by Miller, seconded by Dobbs, the Council unanimously approved the April 24, 2026, Board of Appeal and Equalization Meeting Minutes.
- Upon a motion by Johnson, seconded by Dobbs, the Council unanimously approved the claims totaling \$41,212.67, including wages (April 16<sup>th</sup> = \$8,597.48), and claims (April 27<sup>th</sup> = \$32,615.19).

**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.
- Code Enforcement Officer Biewer reported on actions taken to enforce City ordinances and items completed in the office.
- Chief Deputy Miller provided an update on law enforcement activities within the City of Browns Valley.
- Mayor Heck attended the April 20, 2026, EDA meeting to discuss concerns and issues with the EDA Committee regarding the proposed splash park project, related financial information, and public response following the article published in the Traverse County Gazette. Discussion included concerns about project costs, potential maintenance expenses, and public perception regarding property tax increases.

**Unfinished Business: None**

**New Business:**

- Upon a motion by Dobbs, seconded by Miller, the Council unanimously approved proceeding with the pilot study from Tonka Water as presented, contingent upon review of the proposal in the amount of \$18,000.00. The proposal also includes a price adder of \$5,800.00 per week for additional weeks of Tonka Water operation and \$1,600.00 per week for additional equipment rental. Pilot units are scheduled for lease four to eight weeks after receipt of the signed purchase order. The City Administrator signed the purchase order on Wednesday, April 29, 2026.
- Upon a motion by Dobbs, seconded by Johnson, the Council unanimously approved Resolution 26-14, a Resolution to Display the Old State Flag in the City of Browns Valley.
- Upon a motion by Miller, seconded by Dobbs, the Council unanimously approved Resolution 26-15, a Resolution accepting a donation to the City total donations of \$65.00 from Folsom Township.
- Upon a motion by Miller, seconded by Johnson, the Council unanimously approved the Building Permit located at 214 3<sup>rd</sup> Street South (Carolyn Roark)-Re-roof
- Upon a motion by Miller, seconded by Dobbs, the Council unanimously approved the Building Permit located at 118 Jefferson Street (Brian Nelson)-Re-roof.



**Browns Valley Regular City Council Meeting Approved Minutes  
April 27, 2026**

- Upon a motion by Miller, seconded by Johnson, the Council unanimously approved the Club Liquor License for the American Legion Post 58 for the period of July 1, 2026, through June 30, 2027.
- Upon a motion by Miller, seconded by Johnson, the Council unanimously approved the Browns Valley Fire Department Temporary Liquor License for June 26–28, 2026.
- Upon a motion by Miller, seconded by Johnson, the Council unanimously approved the Civilian Ride-Along Release, Non-Disclosure, and Indemnity Agreement as presented.
- Upon a motion by Dobbs, seconded by Miller, the Council unanimously approved staff to submit a grant application for a turnout gear dryer for the Fire Department, with the required 10% match to be provided by the Fire Relief Association.

**Dates:**

April 30<sup>th</sup> 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 May 11<sup>th</sup> at 5:30 p.m.

The meeting adjourned at 6:46 p.m.

Minutes submitted by:

  
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Jodi Hook-Hansen, City Administrator

Approved by:

  
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Mike Heck, Mayor