

**BROWN CITY COUNCIL PROCEEDINGS  
MARCH 24, 2008**

Meeting called or order at 7:00 p.m. by Mayor Laura Carpenter.

Pledge of Allegiance led by Mayor Carpenter.

**PRESENT:** Mayor Laura Carpenter, Councilmembers: Pat Jacobson, Julie Miller, Ross McIvor, Mike Lents, Christine Lee, Ken Brown. City Manager Clint Holmes, City Attorney Gregory Stremers, City Clerk Kelly Pavel.

**ABSENT:** None.

**ADDITIONS, CORRECTIONS AND DELETIONS TO AGENDA:** None.

**CORRECTION AND APPROVAL OF MINUTES:**

Motion by CM Brown, second by CM Miller, to accept the Regular Meeting Minutes of March 10, 2008 as presented. Motion carried.

**PAY BILLS:**

Motion by CM Lee, second by CM Brown, to pay the bills in the following funds: General - \$19,821.54, Payroll - \$13,805.73, Major Street - \$12,013.02, Local Street - \$896.12, Sanitary Sewer - \$955.63, Water - \$1,426.45. Motion carried.

Motion by CM Lee, second by CM Brown, to pay Water Treatment Facility bills in the amount of \$58,161.40. Motion carried.

**PUBLIC QUESTIONS AND COMMENTS:** None.

**PERSONAL APPEARANCES:** None scheduled.

**DPW REPORT:** Written report reviewed. No questions or comments.

**UNFINISHED BUSINESS:**

1. School Flooding – work will be completed this week or next.
2. 7030 Wells Street Basement Flooding – no obvious breaks found during television work. Discussion regarding installation of a catch basin in the future.
3. Burger Building Sale – property transfer complete. All contents belonging to City have been removed from the building.

Motion by CM Miller, second by CM Lents, to remove Burger Building Sale from Unfinished Business portion of agenda. Motion carried.

4. Motorcycle Club Park Use Scheduling – pending.

#### **PETITIONS & COMMUNICATIONS:**

Motion by CM Brown, second by CM Lents, to accept the pre-application building permit for 4227 Maple Street to replace dormers, adjust roof line and replace shingles. Motion carried.

#### **RESOLUTIONS:**

City Manager discussed various Resolutions included in agenda.

Motion by CM Lee, second by CM McIvor, to adopt Resolution 08-07 *A Resolution to Approve the Negotiated Agreement Between the City of Brown City and the International Union of Operating Engineers Local Number 324, AFL-CIO*. ROLL CALL VOTE: Jacobson-yes, Miller-yes, McIvor-yes, Lents-yes, Lee-yes, Brown-yes. Motion carried.

**ORDINANCES:** None scheduled.

#### **MANAGER'S REPORT:**

1. **Mayor Exchange:** The City of Algonac is interested in a Mayor's Exchange scheduled for the latter part of the third week of June. They are also interested in having a two-year verses a one-year program. Specifically, they would visit with us this year and we would visit their community in 2009. How does the City Council wish to proceed?  
Consensus of the City Council to proceed with the Mayor Exchange with Algonac during the third week of June, and to have them visit Brown City this year and we visit them next year.
2. **City Liability Insurance:** The City's Insurance Carrier Representative from Township Participating Plan met with me on March 17<sup>th</sup> to discuss levels of coverage and costs. Accomplished was the removal of the Burger Building from the City's coverage. The good news is that insurance rates are flat and we do not expect an increase from the \$52,000 we paid for the 1007/2008 Policy Year.
3. **Ford Dump Truck:** The fire that resulted in \$1,530 in damage to the truck has been reported to the insurance company. Expect reimbursement (less the \$250 deductible).
4. **City Hall Computers:** The bookkeeping computer and administrative assistant computers were picked up from Town & Country TV on March 14<sup>th</sup>. Both have been set-up and required databases transferred to the new machines. The staff wants to thank the City Council for this investment and for helping the City employees do their jobs better.
5. **Barley Straw:** The DPW Foreman provided an article that states that a natural way to reduce or eliminate algae in the sanitary sewer lagoon involves sinking bales of barley straw in the water along the edges of the lagoon. Turns out there are individuals around the area that put the barley straw in their farm ponds to achieve the same effect. Research revealed that we would need about 100 bales at about \$4.00 each this would cost about \$400 plus

shipping. If there is no objection from the City Council, the Foreman and I would like to try this chemical-free approach.

Consensus of the City Council is to continue with the research.

#### **PUBLIC HEARING:**

Mayor Carpenter opened the Public Hearing at 7:15 p.m. for the proposed Brown City Millage Rate, Park Millage Rate and Fiscal Year 2008-2009 Budget.

City Manager discussed budget items.

No public questions or comments.

Mayor Carpenter closed the Public Hearing at 7:17 p.m.

Motion by CM McIvor, second by CM Lee, to adopt Resolution 08-06 *A Resolution Formally Approving the City of Brown City Millage Rate of 16.8733 Mills and Brown City Park Millage Rate of 1.25 Mills and the Fiscal Year 2008-2009 Budget.* ROLL CALL VOTE: Jacobson-yes, Miller-yes, McIvor-yes, Lents-yes, Lee-yes, Brown-yes. Motion carried.

Motion by CM Miller, second by CM Lee, to adopt Resolution 08-05 *A Resolution of the City of Brown City to Amend the City's 2007-2008 Budget to Better Reflect Revenues and Expenditures.* ROLL CALL VOTE: Jacobson-yes, Miller-yes, McIvor-yes, Lents-yes, Lee-yes, Brown-yes. Motion carried.

#### **MANAGER'S REPORT CONTINUED:**

6. **Pre-application Building Permits:** The County made some minor changes to the form and has modified the rules for what does and does not need a permit. Copies of the form and changes are in the packets of the members of the Buildings and Grounds Committee.
7. **City Barn:** A local farmer is interested in storing hay in the City owned barn on the eastern portion of the renaissance zone. Also discussed was him growing barley straw for the City's use in the lagoon as a rental fee. Council consensus that hay be allowed to be stored in this barn with proper insurance coverage by the farmer and to continue discussion regarding possible growing of barley straw for City use.

#### **ATTORNEY'S REPORT:**

No new reports. City Attorney will begin doing legal work for the City of Marlette.

**TREASURER'S REPORT:** None.

#### **COMMITTEE REPORTS:**

1. Police- none.
2. Water and Sewer – none.

3. Tax and Finance – none.
4. Streets and Sidewalks – none.
5. Buildings and Grounds – none.
6. Personnel – Committee meeting March 13, 2008.

**GENERAL CONCERNS OF THE COUNCIL:**

CM Brown thanked council for the get-well card and thoughts during his recent hospital stay.

CM Lents discussed current asphalt business and costs that may effect the City in the future.

CM McIvor questioned letter being sent on behalf of the bowling area. City Manager briefed council on findings. Suggestion that since arbitration is close, legal opinion is to not send a letter at this time on behalf of the bowling alley.

**MAYOR’S REPORT:** None.

**PUBLIC QUESTIONS AND COMMENTS:** None.

Motion by CM Brown, second by CM Lee, to adjourn at 7:31 p.m. Motion carried.

Respectfully submitted,

Kelly Pavel  
City Clerk