

BROWN CITY COUNCIL PROCEEDINGS
JULY 12, 2010

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

Pledge of Allegiance led by Mayor Carpenter.

ADDITIONS, CORRECTIONS AND DELETIONS TO AGENDA: None.

CORRECTION & APPROVAL OF MINUTES:

Motion by CM Miller, second by CM McIvor, to accept the minutes from the June 28, 2010 Regular Meeting. Motion carried.

PAY BILLS:

Motion by CM Lee, second by CM Walters, to pay the bills in the following funds: General - \$13,314.73 (4201-4226), Payroll - \$12,591.12 (4605-4618), Major Street - \$1,842.58 (3693-3694), Sanitary Sewer - \$6,085.92 (3047-3050), Water - \$7,414.58 (1817-1821), Arsenic Abatement - \$2,073.53 (1129-1131), Storm Sewer - \$167.15 (1066-1067), Equipment - \$107.70 (1243-1244). Motion carried.

PERSONAL APPEARANCES: None Scheduled.

PUBLIC QUESTIONS & COMMENTS: None.

POLICE REPORT: Written report reviewed. No questions or comments.

UNFINISHED BUSINESS: None Scheduled.

PETITIONS & COMMUNICATIONS: None Scheduled.

RESOLUTIONS: None Scheduled.

MANAGER'S REPORT:

1. **Sewage Lift Stations:** The cover for the Belview Drive lift station has been ordered and should be here within a couple of weeks. Replacement of the Maple Valley Road lift station check valve is complete. However, while attempting to replace the gate valve, the contractor determined that the previous valve had been improperly installed causing damage to the pump. This resulted in having to pull one of the two pumps and send it back to the shop for repair. Since this contractor was the one that installed the valve five years ago, the discussion over who should pay for the repairs is being explored.

2. **Well #4 Overhaul:** Layne-Christian continues the overhaul of Well #4. The motor and shaft have been completed and should be reinstalled the week of July 12th. Well #3 remains able to provide all the water needs for the City.
3. **City Engineer:** The (acting) City Engineer met with the City Manager and DPW Foreman on June 30th and completed the final inspection of John Street. All seems to be in order. The Engineer then provided the City with subcontractor releases and provided a letter recommending release of final payment. The final payment of about \$1,800 is being forwarded to the contractor closing out the John Street Project.
4. **Storm Drains:** The City Engineer, Foreman and Manager also inspected the storm water drainage issues on 4th and Lincoln/Welles Streets. The plan for Lincoln/Welles Streets is to replace the heavily damaged pipe from 7146 Welles Street south to the Winsor Drain, and connect the storm drains at the south end of Welles to the new pipes. The DPW, due to trees and buildings, will dig the trench from 7146 to 7180 Welles Street and the City will contract to have an excavator dig from there south to the Winsor Drain. A couple of options were explored to ease the drainage problem on 4th Street. The City is still waiting on plans, estimates, and easements.
5. **Government and Utility Credit Card Services:** Following a couple of requests by residents concerning using a credit card for paying utility bills, the City spoke with US Payment Solutions. Customers would be able to pay by credit or debit card either at City Hall or through the City's webpage. However, there would be a transaction fee charged by the credit card company of up to 7% (paid by the City) PLUS a convenience or access fee (paid by the customer). It would probably be cheaper for customers to use their credit card for a cash advance than to provide this service. A general overview from the company's website is attached.
6. **City Webpage:** Current pictures of the City Council were successfully uploaded to the City's website (ci.brown-city.mi.us).
7. **Mayor Exchange:** This annual event is scheduled for July 21st. A copy of the proposed itinerary is attached. Each of the merchants on the tour was personally contacted, and a letter sent along with the schedule. Information was also forwarded to Capac. We need to know who wants to participate so transportation can be arranged. A schedule of Capac events will be provided when available. Are there any additional Brown City activities that the City Council would like to see added to schedule? Council requested no changes.

ATTORNEY'S REPORT: None.

TREASURER'S REPORT: None.

MAYOR'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 – none.

GENERAL CONCERNS OF THE COUNCIL:

Motion by CM Miller, second by CM Jacobson, that the library be closed on August 3, 2010 for the Primary Election. Motion carried.

PUBLIC HEARING: 7:15 PM - \$3.00 increase in the Storm Sewer Fee.

Mayor Carpenter opened the Public Hearing at 7:15 p.m.

No public questions or comments.

Mayor Carpenter closed the Public Hearing at 7:16 p.m.

Council discussion regarding proposed Storm Sewer Fee increase.

Water and Sewer Chairman Walters read a letter from a citizen with concerns for the proposed sewer fee increases as well as a letter that was in the local paper. City Manager read a letter he sent to respond to the citizen's concerns with an explanation of how these figures were derived.

Various discussion regarding improvements to sewer system, citizen concerns.

ORDINANCES: Amendment to Appendix 1 and Appendix 2 of Chapter 52 of the Brown City Code to reflect a necessary increase in the Storm Sewer Fee and adjust rates from quarterly to monthly.

Motion by CM Walters, second by CM Loutzenhiser, to make the Amendment to Appendix 1 and Appendix 2 of Chapter 52 of the Brown City Code to reflect a necessary increase in the Storm Sewer Fee and adjust rates from quarterly to monthly. ROLL CALL VOTE: Walters-yes, Miller-yes, Mclvor-yes, Jacobson-yes, Lee-yes, Loutzenhiser-yes. Motion carried.

PUBLIC QUESTIONS & COMMENTS:

County Commissioner Jamie Daws gave a brief report concerning Sanilac County activities.

EXECUTIVE SESSION: None scheduled.

ADJOURNMENT:

Motion by CM McIvor, second by CM Miller, to adjourn at 7:28 p.m. Motion carried.

Respectfully submitted.

Kelly Pavel
City Clerk