

BROWN CITY COUNCIL PROCEEDINGS JANUARY 23, 2012

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

Pledge of Allegiance led by Mayor Lee.

PRESENT: Mayor Christine Lee, Councilmembers: Bill Walters, Julie Miller, Ross McIvor, Pat Jacobson and Dan Loutzenhiser; City Manager Clint Holmes, City Attorney Gregory Stremers and City Clerk Kelly Pavel.

ABSENT: Councilmember Eugene Navock.

ADDITIONS, CORRECTIONS AND DELETIONS TO AGENDA: None.

CORRECTION & APPROVAL OF MINUTES:

Motion by CM Walters, second by CM McIvor, to accept the Regular Meeting Minutes of January 9, 2012 as presented. Motion carried.

PAY BILLS:

Motion by CM Jacobson, second by CM Loutzenhiser, to pay the bills in the following funds: General - \$5,316.22 (5040-5055), Payroll - \$12,143.27 (5336-5351), Sanitary Sewer - \$1,511.22 (3189-3191), Water - \$2,077.10 (2023-2027). Motion carried.

PUBLIC QUESTIONS & COMMENTS: None.

DPW REPORT:

Written report reviewed. CM Jacobson questioned if salt was spread during recent snow/ice day. City Manager reported that salt was spread, unfortunately did not work well when temperatures dropped.

PERSONAL APPEARANCES: None Scheduled.

PUBLIC HEARINGS: None Scheduled.

UNFINISHED BUSINESS: None Scheduled.

PETITIONS & COMMUNICATIONS: None Scheduled.

ORDINANCES: None Scheduled.

CM Miller arrived at 7:01 p.m.

RESOLUTIONS:

Motion by CM Walters, second by CM Jacobson, to adopt Resolution 00-12: *A Performance Resolution for Governmental Agencies – Required by MDOT to allow the City to receive permits to close Main Street for parades or maintenance.* ROLL CALL VOTE: Loutzenhiser-yes, Jacobson-yes, Mclvor-yes, Miller-yes, Walters-yes, Navock-absent. Motion carried.

Motion by CM Miller, second by CM Mclvor, to adopt Resolution 12-01, *A Resolution Allowing the Board of Review to Act Upon Written Requests from Taxpayer.* ROLL CALL VOTE: Walters-yes, Miller-yes, Mclvor-yes, Jacobson-yes, Loutzenhiser-yes, Navock-absent. Motion carried.

Motion by CM Miller, second by CM Walters, to adopt Resolution 12-02, *A Michigan Community Resolution and Intergovernmental Agreement to Manage Floodplain Development for the National Flood Insurance Program* which is a Formal agreement, required by FEMA, for the Sanilac County Department of Construction, Soil Erosion & Sedimentation Control Agency to continue performing inspection services in Brown City. ROLL CALL VOTE: Loutzenhiser-yes, Jacobson-yes, Mclvor-yes, Miller-yes, Walters-yes, Navock-absent. Motion carried.

MANAGER'S REPORT:

1. **Maple Valley Lift Station:** The City notified our insurance company of the offer from DTE for restitution of costs incurred by the City due to the power surge at the Maple Valley Lift Station. The DTE offer of \$3,500 was contingent on the City waiving subordination rights. The insurance company will pay the claim of \$13,204 less the \$500 deductible and turn the issue over to their attorney. The final paperwork is still pending.
2. **Maple Valley Road:** Liaison with the Sanilac County Road Commission revealed that widening the road by about six feet to the west at the north junction of Maple Valley Road and Main Street is possible. The Road Engineer, Robb Falls, is looking into specifications and cost considerations.
3. **Sanilac Tourist Guide:** The draft of the City's advertisement in this magazine is available to the City Council for review and action. The ad will appear in the 2012 Edition of the magazine. How does the City Council wish to proceed? Council consensus that the proposed add is adequate and appropriate.

4. **Personal Property Tax:** The Legislature continues to discuss the elimination of Michigan's Personal Property Tax (PPT). When eliminated, the City will suffer a loss of about \$24,000 in tax revenue per year, forever. Replacement of these funds from another source by the Legislature is unlikely; however, the current plan may include phasing out the PPT rather than direct elimination.
5. **Horse Exhaust:** The City continues to receive complaints about horse manure deposited in City parking lots. The City is sending a letter to the local Bishop requesting that these be cleaned up, and personal contact is being made by a local member of the community with ties to the Amish.
6. **USDA Inspection:** The USDA is sending an inspector on February 7th to evaluate the status of the Renaissance Zone industrial area since the City's present loan from USDA is not paid off until 2014. Detailed forms must be completed prior to his arrival. Since the Renaissance Zone industrial area only consists of a field, road and two fire hydrants, the inspection will include City Hall as the administrator of the loan. The City still owes a balance of \$24,000 plus interest. The next principal and interest payment is due in May. Does the City Council wish to pay the loan off early and potentially save about \$1,500? City Council consensus was to pay off the loan concurrent with the next principal/interest payment in May.
7. **Downtown Development Authority:** The DDA has a fund balance of a little over \$300. The costs associated with the building at 4227 Main Street are about \$600 per month. Does the City wish to take over payments with a potential payback when the building sells? Council consensus that there is no interest in assisting in the fees to maintain or pay off this property.
8. **MLGMA Winter Institute:** The Institute begins January 31st and continues through February 3rd. I will be in Lansing for this conference, but will be available via cell phone. Presentations scheduled include shared governmental services; EVIP: Employee Compensation; and Public Act 152 Health Care Insurance.
9. **Capital Conference 2012:** The MML is hosting this annual conference in Lansing on March 20-21 (green). Are any of the members of the City Council interested in attending? Mayor Lee will inform City Manager this week.

ATTORNEY'S REPORT:

Attorney Stremers reported that he is in agreement with City Manager's communication and procedure involving the Maple Valley Lift Station reimbursement process.

TREASURER'S REPORT: None.

MAYOR'S REPORT: None.

COMMITTEE REPORTS:

1. Police (Miller) – none.
2. Water and Sewer (Navock) – none.
3. Tax and Finance / Thumb Soybean Festival (Jacobson) – none.
4. Streets and Sidewalks (Loutzenhiser) – none.
5. Building and Grounds (Walters) – none.
6. Personnel (Mclvor) – none.

GENERAL CONCERNS OF THE COUNCIL:

City Clerk requested that the library be closed for the February 28, 2012 Election.

Motion by CM Miller, second by Mclvor, to close the Public Library for the Election on February 28, 2012. Motion carried.

PUBLIC QUESTIONS & COMMENTS: None.

EXECUTIVE SESSION: None scheduled.

ADJOURNMENT:

Motion by CM Miller, second by CM Mclvor, to adjourn at 7:30 p.m. Motion carried.

Respectfully submitted,

Kelly Pavel
City Clerk