

BROWN CITY COUNCIL PROCEEDINGS

February 24, 2014

MEETING CALLED TO ORDER BY MAYOR CHRISTINE LEE AT 7:00 PM.

PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE LED BY MAYOR CHRISTINE LEE.

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

ABSENT: None.

ADDITIONS, CORRECTIONS AND DELETIONS TO AGENDA: None.

CORRECTION & APPROVAL OF MINUTES:

Motion by CM Miller, second by CM Pat Jacobson, to accept the Regular Meeting Minutes of February 10, 2014 as presented. Motion carried.

PAY BILLS:

Motion by CM Pat Jacobson, second by CM Loutzenhiser, to pay the bills in the following funds: General - \$18,482.41 (6171-6183), Payroll - \$13,692.77 (6328-6345 plus EFT), Major Street - \$1,137.37 (3815), Local Street - \$1,136.36 (4204), Sanitary Sewer - \$431.65 (3369-3370), Water - \$2,359.20 (2337-2342), Arsenic Abatement - \$71.30 (1236-1237), Equipment - \$180.00 (1414). Motion carried.

PUBLIC QUESTIONS & COMMENTS: None.

DPW REPORT: Report reviewed. No questions or concerns.

PERSONAL APPEARANCES: None Scheduled.

UNFINISHED BUSINESS: None Scheduled.

PUBLIC HEARING: None Scheduled.

RESOLUTIONS: None Scheduled.

ORDINANCES: None Scheduled.

PETITIONS & COMMUNICATIONS: None Scheduled.

MANAGER'S REPORT:

1. **Maple Valley Lift Station:** Receipt, invoices and pay vouchers in the amount of \$42,546.01 were forwarded to both insurance companies involved with the claim. An additional contract for \$12,489.00 was also included plus the written statement put together the DPW Foreman. The “best practices” document recommended by the City Attorney is being written by another contractor and should be available soon. A claims adjuster sent by one of the insurance companies inspected the lift station and ruined VFD modules on February 19th and will forward a report to his headquarters. Replacement VFDs have been ordered and should be here within the next two weeks.
2. **Police Grant:** The Brown City Police Department received a grant for \$2,000 for a new in-car camera system. The components were ordered and received and installation is scheduled for February 24-25. Total cost of the project is \$2,750. Reimbursement from the grantor will be requested once the project is complete.
3. **Board of Review:** The Board of Review will meet at City Hall on Tuesday, March 11th from 2-5 and 6-9 PM; and on Wednesday, March 12th from 9 AM to noon and 1-4 PM. Ratios and multipliers are available at City Hall for review.
4. **EVIP Activity:** The Governor has proposed changes in the requirements of the EVIP Program. To meet these changes, the City would have to use Alternative One – which are the three existing categories of the current process; or follow Alternative Two – which means meeting the following four criteria by October 1st –
 - a) An unrestricted general fund balance equal to or greater than 6.0% of General Fund budgeted expenditures;
 - b) Defined benefit (DB) contributions equal to or greater than the annual required contribution amounts determined by the actuarial valuation used for the most recent audited financial report or the CVT does not offer a DB plan;
 - c) Other post-employment benefit contributions equal to or greater than the annual required contribution amounts determined by the actuarial valuation used for the most recent audited financial report, or the CVT does not offer an OPEB plan; and,
 - d) The CVT's most current general obligation debt bond or credit rating, as assigned by at least two credit rating agencies, is no less than Aa3 (Moody's), AA- (Fitch), or AA- (S&P), or the CVT does not have outstanding general obligation debt.

Also being proposed is a one-time Supplemental EVIP for those meeting the above four requirements plus the City can raise the level of the payment by meeting one or more of the following –

- i. City, Village or Township (CVT) has certified that the four standards in Alternative Two under Ongoing EVIP above are met;
 - ii. CVT has a population of 5,000 or more and is in the highest 25.0% of Michigan communities based on violent crime rates;
 - iii. CVT has a population of 20,000 or more and is in the highest 25.0% of Michigan communities based on jobless rate; and/or,
 - iv. CVT has a deficit elimination plan approved by the Department of Treasury.
- However, the City cannot meet requirements 5.d), 5.ii., 5.iii., or 5.iv.

- 5. Union Negotiations:** The International Union of Operating Engineers Local 324 notified the City by certified mail their requirement to negotiate a new contract. They also, thoughtfully, enclosed a completed Federal Mediation & Conciliation Service Notice to Mediation Agencies. The Personnel Committee may wish to meet to discuss options.

City Manager Clint Holmes will speak with their representative and then make a recommendation to the City Council and the Personnel Committee.

- 6. Supplemental Winter Road Funding:** The Michigan Legislature is reviewing a one-time appropriation of \$100,000,000 to MDOT, counties and municipalities to off-set the cost of clearing snow and repairing potholes. The Senate passed SB 608 and the bill now goes to the House. The \$100 million will be divided up through the state's normal road funding formula with \$39.1 million to MDOT, \$39.1 million to counties, and \$21.8 million to municipalities.

- 7. City Water Well Status:** Northern Pump and Well conducted the annual production and pump tests on Wells #3 and #4 on February 7th. Well #3, which was overhauled last year, is in good shape. Well #4, which would normally have been overhauled in 2014, has seen a reduction of 23% and should be overhauled in the near future. They are providing an estimate for the work. Assuming that the costs are in line with those associated with Well #3 last year, recommend the Water and Sewer Committee plan this project for possible scheduling within the next few months.

The Water and Sewer Committee will meet on Monday, March 3, 2014 at 7:00 p.m. at the Brown City Library to discuss Well #4's overhaul.

- 8. Lift Station Inspections:** For the past 20+ years, Hydrodynamics has conducted the annual inspections of the City's three lift stations, they charge about \$1,200. Northern Pump and Well has submitted a contract to conduct these annual inspections. While their cost is higher - \$2,100 – work includes a more extensive inspection plus routine maintenance. How does the Water and Sewer Committee wish to respond to this option?

The Water and Sewer committee will meet on Monday, March 3, 2014 at 7:00 p.m. at the Brown City Library to discuss the annual inspections of the City's three lift stations.

- 9. Off Road Vehicle (O.R.V.) Ordinance:** Lapeer County is proposing adoption of a new O.R.V. Ordinance. The Public Hearing associated with this new Ordinance is scheduled for Thursday, April 3rd at 9:30 AM at the Lapeer County Complex, Commission Chambers, at 225 Clay Street in Lapeer. A copy of the proposed ordinance is available at City Hall in the City of Brown City for review.

- 10. 2014-2015 City Budget:** The new Budget and 2013-2014 Final Budget Amendment must be approved prior to April 1st. The draft copies of these two documents should be ready for distribution to the Tax & Finance Committee at the March 10th regular meeting. The Committee should plan to meet so that final copies will be available for City Council action on March 24th. A Public Hearing concerning the 2014-2015 Budget and the tax rate to support it will need to be scheduled for March 24th at 7:10

The Tax and Finance Committee will meet on Thursday, March 20, 2014 at the Brown City Library to discuss the 2014-2015 City Budget.

ATTORNEY'S REPORT: None.

TREASURER'S REPORT: None.

MAYOR'S REPORT: None.

COMMITTEE REPORTS:

1. Police (Miller) – None.
2. Water and Sewer (R. Jacobson) – Committee Meeting set for Monday, March 3, 2014 @ 7:00 p.m. at the Brown City Library.
3. Tax and Finance (P. Jacobson) – Committee Meeting set for Thursday, March 20, 2014 @ 7:30 p.m. at the Brown City Library.
4. Streets and Sidewalks (Loutzenhiser) – None.
5. Building and Grounds (Walters) – None.
6. Personnel (Mclvor) – None.

GENERAL CONCERNS OF THE COUNCIL:

It was brought up that Timeless Creations has been listed for sale. The DDA is aware it has been listed for sale with the amount of a loan owed them if it is sold.

The question was asked, "How did the pumps work during the power outage on Saturday afternoon, February 22, 2014". City Manager Clint Holmes replied that they worked great. No problems noted.

The cracks in the streets are becoming very noticeable. "Is there something we can get to fill them in?" was a question asked by Mayor Christine Lee. City Manager Clint Holmes will look into this situation which will probably only get worse as the spring weather approaches.

PUBLIC QUESTIONS & COMMENTS: None.

EXECUTIVE SESSION: None scheduled.

ADJOURNMENT:

Motion by CM Miller, second by CM Walters, to adjourn at 7:19 p.m. Motion carried.

Respectfully submitted,

Juanita M. Smith
City Clerk