

BROWN CITY COUNCIL PROCEEDINGS
July 28, 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 McIvor, to accept the Regular Meeting Minutes of July 14, 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 - \$18,920.65 (6400-6419), Payroll - \$13,400.77 (6551-6566 plus EFT), Major Street - \$90.00 (3831), Sanitary Sewer - \$907.39 (3404-3406), Water - \$1,204.47 (2395-2397), Arsenic Abatement - \$6.50 (1252), and Equipment - \$65.00 (1437). Motion carried.

PUBLIC QUESTIONS & COMMENTS: None.

DPW REPORT: Report reviewed. No questions or concerns with the report. However, CM Pat Jacobson asked the question, "Were there any problems with the storm?" City Manager Clint Holmes replied that the water and sewer were working fine. No problems significant encountered.

PERSONAL APPEARANCES: None Scheduled.

UNFINISHED BUSINESS: None Scheduled.

RESOLUTIONS:

Resolution 14-07: The City received a letter from Senators Green and Pavlov asking the City to pass a resolution opposing the nuclear waste repository Canada has proposed building near the shore of Lake Huron.

Motion by CM Miller, second by CM Pat Jacobson, to adopt Resolution 14-07: A Resolution Opposing the Construction of the Nuclear Waste Repository in the Great Lakes Basin. ROLL CALL VOTE: CM Miller – yes, CM Walters – yes, CM Pat Jacobson – yes, CM R. Jacobson – yes, CM Loutzenhiser – yes, McIvor – yes. 6 Yes Votes, 0 No Votes, 0 Absent. Motion carried.

PUBLIC HEARING: None Scheduled.

ORDINANCES: None Scheduled.

PETITIONS & COMMUNICATIONS: None Scheduled.

MANAGER'S REPORT:

1. **City Utility Bills:** The new billing system is fully operational and is working very well. The program also includes some features that make it much more useful than the previous DOS version. The bills were mailed out on Friday, July 11th. The due dates were adjusted accordingly. Those individuals who have not paid will have the July amount and penalties added to their August bill. The City will resume water shut-offs for non-payment at the end of August.

On Monday, July 28, 2014 a problem developed in that the penalty charges are not being factored in correctly. City Office Manager Dave VanCura is working on this problem. There will be no shut off notices sent in July but they will be sent out in August as needed.

2. **Cade and Parkside:** The City contacted Spicer Group for the study concerning storm water runoff from north of Parkside Drive to the Sutter Drain along Cade Road. Contact with Spicer on July 24th revealed that the work is not yet scheduled but should be completed not later than the end of August.
3. **Ice Storm Remediation Grant:** The State has made some money available to help offset (uninsured) tree-related damage from the December ice storm. The information came through Sanilac Emergency Management Director Todd Hillman who is responsible for collecting information from Sanilac County governments and forwarding a consolidated request to Lansing. The City received confirmation that the necessary forms and documentation have been successfully submitted to the State of Michigan.
4. **County Tax Foreclosures:** Two properties in the City have been foreclosed by the Sanilac County Treasurer for non-payment of taxes. The City received a letter offering the City the opportunity to purchase these properties "for a public purpose." Does the City Council have any interest in pursuing this option? Also, the Brown City police Department were tasked to monitor these properties and notify the County Treasurer if there are any issues.

The City Council has no interest in pursuing the purchase of these foreclosed properties.

5. **Brown City Rotary:** The Brown City Rotary has agreed to pay for the addition of peastone to the north and south playground areas in the Park. The DPW will acquire and install the new stone and the Rotary will reimburse the City for the costs.
6. **City Park Projects:** The youth group associated with the Fellowship Bible Church has volunteered to paint the north and south pavilions in the Park. The Park Board is providing the paint and materials and the church will do the work on Saturday, July 25th. Also, volunteers from the Brown City Missionary Church Camp will be assisting the DPW in the

demolition and clean up of the horse shoe pits in the Park. This work will take place in August.

Due to the large amount of December storm damage to the trees in the Park, a large dumpster will be rented to aid in the cleanup in the area of the horse shoe pits.

7. MML Workers' Compensation: The City is scheduled for our semi-annual inspection by a representative from the MML Workers' Compensation Fund on Tuesday, July 29th. He will meet with City staff and the DPW.

8. Resolution 14-07: The City received a letter from Senators Green and Pavlov asking the City to pass a resolution opposing the nuclear waste repository Canada has proposed building near the shore of Lake Huron. How does the City Council wish to proceed?

The City Council wished to proceed with Resolution 14-07. See Resolutions above.

9. City Hall Columns: The columns that are to be placed in front of the City Hall Building are now cut and welded and ready to be sandblasted and painted. Greg Wilcox welded the columns and Great Reflections will paint them as soon as they have time.

ATTORNEY'S REPORT: None.

TREASURER'S REPORT: None.

MAYOR'S REPORT:

Mayor Christine Lee reported that she had been invited by Girl Scout Leadership Camp to participate in a panel of female mayors on August 6, 2014 in Pontiac, Michigan.

COMMITTEE REPORTS:

1. Police (Miller) – None.
2. Water and Sewer (R. Jacobson) – None.
3. Tax and Finance (P. Jacobson) – None.
4. Streets and Sidewalks (Loutzenhiser) – None.
5. Building and Grounds (Walters) – None.
6. Personnel (McIvor) – None.

GENERAL CONCERNS OF THE COUNCIL:

CM Dan Loutzenhiser questioned the draining of the city pond in the park. What was the purpose if all the water could not be drained out?

CM Dan Loutzenhiser also said that the council should make sure the swale that is to be constructed at Parkside Subdivision actually happen.

CM Walters stated that there is grant money available for fall materials for the park. He would like to have it looked into.

CM Pat Jacobson asked about the gravel that is to be put on the edges of Cade Road so there would not be a drop-off from the new blacktop. City Manager Clint Holmes replied that the West side was done and the DPW would be getting to the East side soon.

PUBLIC QUESTIONS & COMMENTS:

Alica Park introduced herself as a resident of the city and was visiting the council as a means of gaining experience as a knowledgeable city resident.

EXECUTIVE SESSION: None scheduled.

ADJOURNMENT:

Motion by CM Miller, second by CM McIvor, to adjourn at 7:20 p.m. Motion carried.

Respectfully submitted,

Juanita Smith
City Clerk