

**BROWN CITY COUNCIL PROCEEDINGS
OCTOBER 13, 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, Julie Miller, and Bill Walters; City Clerk Juanita Smith, City Manager Clint Holmes, and City Attorney Gregory Stremers.

ABSENT: Councilmember Ross McIvor.

GUESTS: Alicia Parks and Stephany DeSpain.

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 September 22, 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 - \$15,225.85 (6514-6543), Payroll - \$13,699.95 (6633-6650 plus EFT), Major Street - \$350.40 (3841-3842), Local Street - \$95.00 (4221), Sanitary Sewer - \$420.00 (3423), Water - \$1,246.50 (2426-2432), Equipment - \$3,079.94 (1449-1454). Motion carried.

PUBLIC QUESTIONS & COMMENTS: None.

POLICE REPORT: Report reviewed. Not questions or concerns.

PERSONAL APPEARANCES: None Scheduled.

UNFINISHED BUSINESS: None Scheduled.

PETITIONS & COMMUNICATIONS:

- 1. 3950 Burnsline Road – Bluebird Enterprises:** Request for permit to install a 35' X 40' roof and sidewalls on the rear loading dock of the factory.

Motion by CM Walters, second by CM Pat Jacobson, to grant a building permit to Bluebird Enterprises of 3950 Burnsline Road to install a 35' x 40' roof and sidewalls on the rear loading dock of the factory. Motion carried.

- 2. 4211 Vine Street:** Request for permit to remove tree off the building; demolish porches and outbuildings in accordance with Sanilac County requirements and have the option to completely demolish the structure. (See manager's report below.)

Motion by CM Walters, second by CM R. Jacobson, to grant a permit to the owners of the property at 4211 Vine Street to remove a tree off the building, and to demolish the porches and outbuilding in accordance with Sanilac County requirements and also to have the option to completely demolish the structure if need be. Motion carried.

RESOLUTIONS: None Scheduled.

ORDINANCES: None Scheduled.

PUBLIC HEARING: None Scheduled.

MANAGER'S REPORT:

- 1. 4211 Vine Street:** The City Attorney, City Manager and Police Chief met with the attorney of the listed owner of this house before the Sanilac County attorney magistrate. The individuals who are financially responsible for the house also met with us later that morning. They plan to either sell the house or at least bring it in line with City ordinances and County building codes. See application above requesting a building permit to do the demolition required by the Sanilac County Building Department. A court date has been set for 10 AM on Friday October 31st to determine the legal owner and appropriate course of action.
- 2. Horse Manure:** The City sent a letter to the leader of the local Amish community concerning failure to clean-up horse manure on City streets and parking lots. Bishop Yoder responded by telephone on September 11th. He stated that a series of meetings with local Amish was scheduled for the week of September 15th, and that he would bring up the issue, try and determine some alternatives, and respond back to the City. There has been no further contact from Bishop Yoder or other member of the community. How does the City Council wish to proceed?

The City Council will not pursue the horse manure issue at this time but will continue to wait and see if Bishop Yoder responds back to the City.

The City has received correspondence from three individuals who took exception of the City's desire to reduce the amount of horse manure on City streets. The individuals were from Goodels, Redford and one from the Facebook universe. An individual also called from Marlette with similar concerns. The issue has also been the subject of articles in The Banner, Sanilac County News, Port Huron Times Herald and Detroit Free Press.

- 3. Park Loan:** The City Council approved a loan of \$4,000 from the General Fund to the Park Fund to allow the Park to meet expenses. Due to a miscommunication, both a \$3,000 and \$4,000 were posted to the account for a total of \$7,000. A detailed review of the Park Budget revealed the additional \$3,000 is needed to make expenses. How does the City Council wish to proceed?

Motion made by CM Miller, second by CM Pat Jacobson, to approve the additional \$3,000 loan to the Park from the General Fund until the December tax revenues become available. Motion carried.

4. **City Health Care Policy:** The City Council approved a new health insurance policy for City employees that meet the requirements of the Affordable Care Act (Obamacare). The necessary paperwork was received from the company and was completed and returned. New policy should become effective December 1st.
5. **Rural Task Force:** The Legislature has identified additional road repair money for Michigan communities. There will be a meeting of the Rural Task Forces from Tuscola, Huron and Sanilac Counties in Caro in October 21st to identify projects. The City Manager will attend as a member of the Rural Task Force representing Sanilac County municipalities.
6. **Mid-Year Budget Amendment:** Copies of the proposed budget amendment were provided to the Mayor and members of the Tax & Finance Committee. With the exception of the Park Fund, revenues and expenditures are generally in-line with projections. Does the Tax & Finance Committee wish to schedule a meeting to review the budget amendment and Resolution 14-08 to amend the budget?

Tax & Finance Committee Chairman, CM Pat Jacobson scheduled a meeting to review the budget amendment and Resolution 14-08 to amend the budget on Thursday, October 23, 2014 at 6:30 p.m. in the Brown City Library. Members of this committee are CM Pat Jacobson, Chairperson, CM Julie Miller, and CM Bill Walters.

ATTORNEY'S REPORT:

City Attorney Gregory Stremers reported that an October 31, 2014 trial date is set for the 4211 Vine Street property. At this time the true owner of this property will be determined. Progress is being made concerning this property issue.

TREASURER'S REPORT: None.

MAYOR'S REPORT:

Mayor Christine Lee requested the Halloween Trick-or-Treat hours be set.

Motion by CM Miller, second by CM Pat Jacobson, to set the Halloween Trick-or-Treat hours for 5:30 p.m. to 7:30 p.m. for Friday, October 31, 2014. Motion carried.

Mayor Christine Lee had City Clerk Juanita Smith read the names of the Election Inspectors slated to work at the November 4, 2014 election. The election workers are Myrtle Kohn, Stella Pepper, Ruth Render, Bud Render, Barb Stimson, Sarah Steigerwald, Imogene Sealey, Joann Steinhoff, Nicki Sanchez, and Rometta Hicks.

Nicki Sanchez will serve as Chairman and the Board of Conversers will be Ruth Render and Joann Steinhoff.

Motion by CM Miller, second by CM Pat Jacobson, to approve the stated election workers and inspectors for the November 4, 2014 election. Motion carried.

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 Pat Jacobson spoke of her concern of the traffic speed going through town especially at school dismissal time. “Is there any way we can slow the traffic down?”

City Policeman Ron Smith replied that he could sit down on Main Street when school is released instead of up by the school. This tactic should help.

CM Walters reminded the Council and Policeman Smith of the Risk Reduction grants which are due by November 30, 2014.

PUBLIC QUESTIONS & COMMENTS: None.

EXECUTIVE SESSION: None scheduled.

ADJOURNMENT:

Motion by CM Miller, second by CM Loutzenhiser, to adjourn at 7:21 p.m. Motion carried.

Respectfully submitted,

Juanita Smith
City Clerk