

BROWN CITY COUNCIL PROCEEDINGS

January 27, 2020

MEETING CALLED TO ORDER BY MAYOR JULIE MILLER AT 7:00 PM.

PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE LED BY MAYOR JULIE MILLER.

PRESENT: Mayor Julie Miller; Councilmembers: Stacy Biel, Patricia Jacobson, Christine Lee, Ross McIvor, Eugene Navock and Walter Robison; City Manager Clint Holmes, City Clerk Juanita Smith and City Attorney Gregory Stremers.

ABSENT: None.

GUESTS: Police Officer Adam Stracenrider.

ADDITIONS, CORRECTIONS AND DELETIONS TO AGENDA: None.

CORRECTION & APPROVAL OF MINUTES:

Motion by CM Navock, second by CM Biel, to accept the Regular Meeting Minutes of January 13, 2020 as presented. Motion carried.

PAY BILLS:

Motion by CM Jacobson, second by CM Lee, to pay the bills in the following funds: **General - \$15,203.51** (9626 – 9650), **Payroll - \$16,101.03** (9265 – 9282 plus EFT), **Major Street - \$1,481.80** (4020), **Local Street - \$1,481.81** (4338), **Sanitary Sewer - \$565.06** (3863), **Water - \$1,506.98** (3162 – 3166) and **Arsenic Abatement - \$1,027.85** (1484 = 1485). Motion carried.

PERSONAL APPEARANCES: None Scheduled.

PUBLIC QUESTIONS & COMMENTS: None..

DPW REPORT: Report reviewed. No concerns or questions.

UNFINISHED BUSINESS: None Scheduled.

PUBLIC HEARING: None Scheduled.

ORDINANCES: None Scheduled.

RESOLUTIONS:

1. **Resolution 20-01:** A Resolution Allowing The Board Of Review To Act Upon Written Requests From Taxpayers.

Motion by CM Lee, second by CM Jacobson, to adopt Resolution 20-01: A Resolution Allowing The Board Of Review To Act Upon Written Requests From Taxpayers.

ROLL CALL VOTE: CM BIEL – YES, CM McIVOR – YES, CM LEE – YES, CM NAVOCK – YES, CM JACOBSON – YES, CM ROBISON – YES. 6 YES VOTES, 0 NO VOTES, 0 ABSENT, 0 ABSTAINING. MOTION CARRIED.

2. Resolution 20-02: A Resolution To Formally Adopt Guidelines For Poverty Exemptions For Property Taxes.

Motion by CM Lee, second by CM Biel, to adopt Resolution 20-02: A Resolution To Formally Adopt Guidelines For Poverty Exemptions For Property Taxes.

ROLL CALL VOTE: CM Mclvor – Yes, CM Lee – Yes, CM Navock – Yes, CM Jacobson – Yes, CM Robison – Yes, CM Biel – Yes. 6 Yes Votes, 0 No Votes, 0 Absent, 0 Abstaining. Motion carried.

PETITIONS & COMMUNICATIONS: None Scheduled.

MANAGER’S REPORT:

- 1. Asset Management Seminar:** The Michigan Water Environment Association and American Water Works Association hosted all-day training in Frankenmuth on January 22nd. Training included how to finance the state’s new Lead and Copper Rule, availability and types of grants, and special training concerning the preservation of iron pipes (of which the City has about 8,486’) among others. A memo summarizing this training was provided to the Brown City Water and Sewer Committee for the meeting taking place January 27th at 6 PM with an info copy to the City Council.
- 2. Flow Meter Testing:** Spicer Group is scheduled to begin installation of the six flow meters on January 27th. Locations are expected to be Walter and Third Streets; Maple Valley Road even with Second Street; Maple Valley Road just north of Main Street; Maple Street just east of Lincoln Street; George and Main Streets; and Main Street just east of Thelman Avenue. Spicer will record the hourly results and report when the test ends in May. The Mayor will need to sign the letter of agreement.

Motion by CM Lee, second by CM Jacobson, to authorize Mayor Julie Miller to sign the letter of agreement with Spicer Group for the installation of six flow meters and for Spicer to record the hourly results and report when the test ends in May.

- 3. AT&T:** AT&T notified the City on January 23rd that the project will likely be delayed until next year. The \$94,000 cost of the antenna platform plus “other issues” is causing the delay. Updates will be provided on the installation schedule as it becomes available.
- 4. Michigan Public Policy Survey:** The most recent survey, concerning energy policies and environmental leadership among Michigan’s local governments, was recently released. A summary of the survey is enclosed. A copy of the 18-page survey is available for review at City Hall.
- 5. First February City Council Meeting:** The February 10th City Council meeting has been rescheduled for February 17th.

6. **Presidents Day:** The City Hall, Police and DPW will be closed on Monday, February 17th in honor of Presidents' Day. An employee of the DPW will be on call.

ATTORNEY'S REPORT:

City Attorney Gregory Stremers spoke of the liability for people taking pictures of their water lines on the inside of their house. He said that the City would not be liable in case of injury while taking pictures.

TREASURER'S REPORT: None.

CLERK'S REPORT:

1. Notice of Registration advertisement.

Information was sent to Denise, our County Clerk, to publish in the Brown City Banner as to when the office will be open for Registration to vote and also to pick up an AV application. We are required this year to be in the office for a total of 8 hours on the Saturday and/or Sunday before the election on Tuesday. It can be a combination of Saturday and/or Sunday as long as it equals 8 hours. We decided to have all 8 hours on Saturday the 7th or March. Stephanie will be in the office from 8 until noon and I will be there from noon to 4:00 p.m.

2. Absentee Ballots for March primary.

The Permanent Absentee Voter Ballot applications have been sent out for the March primary election. The actual ballots will be sent out to the applicants when we receive their completed request.

3. There is a mandatory meeting with our County Clerk on Wednesday, February 5th at 6:00 p.m. for the Clerk and Chairman for a review of the election.
4. The election inspector list will go out this week stating at what station they will work and at what time. We must send a list of workers to the Chairs of the Democratic and Republican parties by February 18th.
5. The Public Accuracy Test is scheduled for Wednesday, February 26th at 5:00 p.m. It is open to the public and you are all invited to attend.
6. All MOVE ballots had to be processed by January 25th. (We had none). A report must be filed with the state on our MOVE ballots by January 27th.

MAYOR'S REPORT: None.

COMMITTEE REPORTS:

1. Building and Grounds (Mclvor) – None.
2. Personnel (Biel) – None.
3. Police / Fire Authority (Lee) – None.
4. Streets and Sidewalks (Navock) – None.
5. Tax and Finance (Jacobson) – None
6. Water and Sewer (Robison) – **The Water and Sewer Committee met on January 27th before the regular Council Meeting to discuss the new Lead and Copper Rules (LCR) set up by the state. The state said**

we must replace 5% of any lead related water pipes in the City in each year with 100% of the copper/lead pipes replaced completely within 20 years. Committee Chairman Robison said 1) they discussed the Lead and Copper rules and where the city would start this project. 2) A \$5.00 credit would be given to homeowners to get them to take pictures of their water line on the inside of their house. The Councilmembers had no objection to offering a \$5.00 rebate on their water bill if they sent in pictures they had taken and 3) a new charge would be added to the homeowners water bill that would be for the Lead and Copper 20 year project.

A motion was made by CM Lee, second by CM Mclvor to schedule a Public Hearing on February 24, 2020 at 7:05 p.m. to discuss imposing a fee for the Lead and Copper ruling. Motion carried.

The Council decided to wait until May to send out a letter to all Property Owners detailing the program to take photos of their water lines and how to get the \$5 rebate on their water bill as part of the City meeting the requirements associated with the new Lead and Copper Rules.

GENERAL CONCERNS OF THE COUNCIL:

CM Mclvor asked about the house beside the Little Texas Party Store that is boarded up and wondered if there is anyway the City could have it condemned. Clint Holmes, our City Manager, said he would look into what the City could do.

In response to the question of High Speed Internet in Brown City, City Manager Clint Holmes replied that he and Mayor Miller are meeting with a representative from Pigeon Telephone/Thumb Cellular later this week to discuss making residential service available.

PUBLIC QUESTIONS & COMMENTS: None.

CLOSED SESSION: None Scheduled.

ADJOURNMENT:

Motion by CM Lee, second by CM Jacobson, to adjourn at 7:32 p.m. Motion carried.

Respectfully submitted,

Juanita M. Smith
City Clerk