

**BROWN CITY COUNCIL PROCEEDINGS**  
**June 24, 2019**

**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:** County Commissioner Joel Wyatt, Police Officer Stracener, DPW employee Ron Trombley, Michele Blake, Whitley Blake, Savannah Goddeeris, Wynn Blake, Jim Blake, Zaniyah Hylton, Danny Smith, Devin Smith, Lucas Smith, Millanie Pasco, Joshua Pasco, Dan Jones, Erin Magee, Don Twiss, Pat Wilson, Allisyn Fortune, Chris Fortune, and Amethyst Millsap.

**PRESENTATION OF PROCLAMATIONS TO THE BCCS TRACK TEAM.**

Mayor Miller opened the Council Meeting with the presentation of a Proclamation to the Brown City Girl's Track and Field Team which won the 2019 Greater Thumb Council East Regional championship and qualified for the MHSAA State Finals. Honored were **Whitley Blake, Allisyn Fortune, Savannah Goddeeris, and Amethyst Millsap.** Those unable to be in attendance were **Sarah Woodall, Olivia Bovensclien and Juliana Hanson.** This group of girls was well coached by Don Twiss and Joanne Fuhrman.

A Proclamation was given to the Brown City Junior High School Boys for their outstanding athletic performance as a 2019 Junior High Track and Field Team. In attendance to accept their proclamation was **Wynn Blake and Devin Smith.** **Clint Ford and Easton Jager** were also part of this team but not in attendance. The contribution by Coach T.J. Schindler is duly noted by the Council and the City of Brown City.

Two wrestlers were presented with Proclamations from the City Council. They are **Senior Whitley Blake and Sophomore Josh Pasco.** **Whitley** earned over 100 career wins and placed 2<sup>nd</sup> at Inaugural Girl's State while Josh had a season record of 50-10 and placed 6<sup>th</sup> in state finals. Whitley and Josh were well coached by Jim Blake.

Pictures were taken of each athletic receiving their Proclamation from Mayor Miller and also group pictures were taken with their coaches.

**ADDITIONS, CORRECTIONS AND DELETIONS TO AGENDA:**

City Manager Clint Holmes stated that there would be two additions to the Manager's Report.

**CORRECTION & APPROVAL OF MINUTES:**

Motion by CM Navock, second by CM Mclvor, to accept the Regular Meeting Minutes of June 10, 2019 as presented. Motion carried.

**PAY BILLS:**

Motion by CM Jacobson, second by CM Lee, to pay the bills in the following funds: **General - \$14,693.72 (9284 – 9305), Payroll - \$19,428.56 (8974 – 8991 plus EFT), Major Street - \$3,000.25 (3996 – 3999), Local Street - \$546.50 (4323 – 4324), Sanitary Sewer - \$2,031.20 (3811 – 3816), Water - \$4,330.48 (3073 – 3083), Arsenic Abatement - \$279.25 (1673 – 1676), Storm Sewer - \$572.64 (1290 – 1291), and Equipment - \$1,227.04 (1673 – 1676).** Motion carried.

**PERSONAL APPEARANCES:**

Joel Wyatt, County Commissioner: Appeared before the Council to bring them up to date on County happenings. He spoke of several grants that the County may receive. These grants would help with the recycling project and also purchasing drones for rescue work.

**PUBLIC QUESTIONS & COMMENTS:**

A City resident spoke about the house at 6934 John Street and that she thought it should be condemned. She wanted to know what could be done about this or where she should turn for help in getting it observed and possibly condemned. Our Attorney said that pictures or some other verification would be needed to prove her accusations. The Attorney suggested that she check with Legal Aid.

**DPW REPORT:** Report reviewed. No questions or concerns.

**UNFINISHED BUSINESS:** None Scheduled.

**PUBLIC HEARING:** None Scheduled.

**RESOLUTIONS:** None Scheduled.

**ORDINANCES:** None Scheduled.

**PETITIONS & COMMUNICATIONS:**

1. **6801 Cade Road:** Request building permit to install a 10' X 16' skid shed in the rear of the property.

**Motion by CM Navock, second by CM Mclvor, to approve the request for a building permit to install a 10' x 16' skid shed in the rear of the property at 6801 Cade Road. Motion carried. The City building permit may be picked up at the City Hall after 10:00 a.m. on Tuesday, June 25, 2019.**

2. **4353 Main Street:** Request building permit to install a 20' X 30' fence on the east (McMorran) side of the property.

**Motion by CM Navock, second by CM Mclvor, to approve the request for a building permit to install a 20' x 30' fence on the east (McMorran) side of the property at 4353 Main Street. The fence must be 5' away from the sidewalk. The owner of the 4353 Main Street property may pick up the building permit on Tuesday, June 25, 2019 after 10:00 a.m.**

#### **MANAGER'S REPORT:**

1. **AT&T Cell Antenna:** The City was notified that the AT&T representative – Wally Haley – will be at the July 8<sup>th</sup> meeting to present the proposed contract and plans for the ground station.
2. **Thumb Cellular Ground Station:** Thumb Cellular has asked to replace the current 10' X 10' ground building with a new one that is 12' X 20'. They are expected to submit plans and an application for a building permit at the next City Council meeting.
3. **Lincoln Street:** The second of two annual inspections contracted for with the completion of the Lincoln Street Project took place at 2:00 PM on Thursday, June 13<sup>th</sup>. Overall the street looks to be in good condition. The formal report from the engineer for the project – Huron Consulting – has not yet been received by the City.
4. **Water Purification:** The City operates two arsenic abatement facilities using technology that absorbs arsenic out of the City's drinking water. As this absorption media becomes saturated, it must be removed and replaced. Currently, there is apparently only one provider of this media. Since Well #4 is due for replacement, the City contacted De Nora Tetra and received a proposal for \$73,900. This issue was discussed at the Water and Sewer Committee meeting and they recommend the City Council approve the proposal and authorize the Mayor to sign on behalf of the City so this project can be scheduled.

**Motion by CM Mclvor, second by CM Biel, to approve the proposal for \$73,900 (Seventy-Three Thousand, Nine Hundred Dollars) with De Nora Tetra to remove and replace the absorption media for Well #4 that absorbs arsenic out of the City's drinking water. This motion also authorizes Mayor Miller to sign on behalf of the City so this project can be scheduled. Motion carried.**

5. **Wastewater Engineering:** The lagoon capacity study results are still pending. The Sewer and Water Committee deliberated the repairs to the sewer main north of East Main Street and the proposed lift station on Maple Valley Road. The sewer main repairs are estimated at about \$100,000. Spicer Engineering proposed to design a new lift station for \$73,500, bringing anticipated lift station costs to about \$600,000. The current Sewer Find Reserves are about \$116,305. The City will need to borrow funds to proceed with these projects. The Committee tasked the City Manager to research funding sources. That process continues.
6. **Wastewater Analysis:** The Spicer Group wastewater engineer met with the BCCS Superintendent and City Manager at the school on June 21<sup>st</sup> to discuss ways to ameliorate

- potential sewer back-up issues. The engineer highlighted what the City had done concerning this situation and provided his analysis. The recommendation from Spicer Group was for the school to have their system televised to determine its status and have him review the results. Subsequently, further recommendations or courses of action can be devised. The school plans to schedule this televised inspection.
7. **DDA Meeting:** Under Michigan Public Act 57, the DDA is required to hold two “informational meetings.” Informational meetings are meetings for the purpose of informing the public of the goals and direction of the authority, including projects to be undertaken in the coming year. They are not for the purpose of voting on policy, budgets or other operational matters. The DDA Board Meeting scheduled for June 27<sup>th</sup> will detail the status of the Brown City DDA. Also, a portion of the August 12<sup>th</sup> City Council meeting will be devoted to satisfying this state requirement.
  8. **Brown City Street Projects:** Work began to mill and resurface Maple Valley Road from the railroad tracks south to the City Limits on June 12<sup>th</sup>. Work on Thelman Avenue, Belview Drive and Autumn Gold Street began on June 17<sup>th</sup>. Both projects are proceeding well and should be completed by the end of the month.
  9. **Infrastructure Asset Management:** The Michigan Infrastructure Council was established by the Department of Treasury through Public Act 323 of 2018 and is hosting summits throughout Michigan. The one for SE Michigan took place in Lapeer on June 20<sup>th</sup>. The class highlighted the mission of this new organization and discussed new reporting requirements, to include capital improvement plans and status of existing infrastructure, which will be required from the City beginning as early as this fall.
  10. **Sanilac County Hazard Mitigation Plan:** The group met again on Thursday, June 20<sup>th</sup> to continue the update of the County plan. Additional work is required before the plan can be provided to local Sanilac County governments for review and action. Expect the final working group meetings to take place this summer. Then the document will be provided to the Michigan State police for review then opened up for a 60-day public comment period. Final version must be delivered to FEMA by June 2020.
  11. **Water Well Pump Assessment:** Several years ago, the City signed a contract with Northern Pump and Well to assess each of the City’s wells and water pumps each spring. Total cost for both wells is \$500 annually. These tests have been very helpful for determining when maintenance needs to be scheduled. The contract is due for renewal, and includes a \$70 increase. Recommend the City Council authorize the City Clerk to sign on behalf of the City. Requires Motion.

**Motion by CM Navock, second by CM Mclvor, to authorize the City Clerk, Juanita Smith, on behalf of the City to sign a contract which is up for renewal with Northern Pump and Well to assess each of the city’s well and water pumps each spring. The cost to the City will be \$570 (Five Hundred Seventy Dollars) per year. Motion carried.**

12. **Second Street Sidewalks:** The tree at 6914 James Street was removed. The estimate to replace the sidewalk west of the southwest corner of James and Second Streets is \$2,700.

The cost to replace the entire sidewalk on the south side of Second Street from James to St Marys Streets is \$11,000. How does the City Council wish to proceed?

**The Councilmembers would like to get a second quote before they proceed with a decision.**

13. **Police Car:** During the evening police patrol on June 20<sup>th</sup>, the Ford Explorer police car struck a deer. Cost to repair the vehicle is estimated at \$9,229.79. Once a police report is submitted, a claim will be filed with the City's insurance carrier for repairs.
14. **July 4<sup>th</sup> Holiday:** City Hall, police department and DPW will be closed on Thursday, July 4<sup>th</sup> in observance of Independence Day. A DPW employee will be on call. The regular Planning Commission meeting will take place as scheduled at 7:00 PM in the City Library.
15. **County Drain Commission:** A packet of information was delivered by the Lapeer County Drain Commissioner and provided to the City Council concerning the informational meeting about the Black River drainage district. The meeting will take place on Tuesday, July 9<sup>th</sup> from 9:00 a.m. to 5:00 p.m.
16. **Church and Parsonage at First and George Street:** The Church and Parsonage were apparently a single property that has since been separated. There is a possibility that they share a common sewer line. Owners of the parsonage will excavate to determine the situation. If a new line must be installed, should the property owner be charged a connection fee?

Consensus of the City Council was to follow the ordinance and charge the connection fee if a new line is required.

**ATTORNEY'S REPORT:**

Social Media --He is compiling information from a conference he presided over and will get it to City Manager Clint Holmes for review.

**TREASURER'S REPORT:** Nothing.

**CLERK'S REPORT:**

We have been notified by Election Source that on Tuesday, July 2<sup>nd</sup> we have to take our election equipment, (ICP Tabulator, ICX Touchscreens --printers, ATI device and headphones) to Fremont Township Hall for upgrading. Brown City's time is scheduled for 10:00 to 11:00 a.m.

We have received a FOIA on the Presidential Election of 2016. We have five days to respond to this request.

**MAYOR'S REPORT:**

1. Proclamations for wrestlers Whitley Blake and Josh Pasco: See the Opening of Meeting report.

**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) – June 17<sup>th</sup> Committee meeting.—nothing more.

**GENERAL CONCERNS OF THE COUNCIL:**

CM Navock said he had received several complaints about the City Clean-Up days not being advertised enough. The Council discussed several things that could be done but would be costly. A **Motion was made by CM Robison, second by CM Mclvor, that next Clean-Up Days CM Navock would personally get in touch with the people who had called him. Motion carried.**

CM Mclvor wanted to know when the trash in the bank lot was going to be cleaned up. DPW employee Trombley answered with the comment that it will be picked it up right away.

CM Jacobson asked about a pipe with holes in it in front of 4345 Maple Street - the house by the Park. What is it for? DPW Trombley stated that the pipe had been there for as long as he has worked for the City. He didn't know what it is for but it has been there for a long time.

**PUBLIC QUESTIONS & COMMENTS:**

Dan Jones asked about the fire hydrant on Main and John Street and when could they expect it to be repaired. DPW worker Ron Trombley said that they are ready to get at it now. They were waiting for school to let out for the summer.

**EXECUTIVE SESSION:** None scheduled.

**ADJOURNMENT:**

Motion by CM Lee, second by CM Mclvor, to adjourn at 8:11 p.m. Motion carried.

Respectfully submitted,

Juanita M. Smith  
City Clerk