

BROWN CITY COUNCIL PROCEEDINGS

AUGUST 24, 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, Walter Robison; City Manager Clint Holmes, City Clerk Juanita Smith and City Attorney Gregory Stremers.

ABSENT: None.

GUESTS: Ryan Jager, Goose Hunter.

ADDITIONS, CORRECTIONS AND DELETIONS TO AGENDA: None.

CORRECTION & APPROVAL OF MINUTES:

Motion by CM Navock, second by CM McIvor, to accept the Regular Meeting Minutes of August 10, 2020 as presented. Motion carried.

PAY BILLS:

Motion by CM Jacobson, second by CM Lee, to pay the bills in the following funds: **General - \$8,855.40** (9965 – 9978), **Payroll - \$15,335.13** (9541 – 9555 plus EFT), **Major Street - \$90.00** (4035), **Sanitary Sewer - \$4,216.57** (3911 – 3913), **Water - \$2,640.55** (3245 – 3252), **Arsenic Abatement - \$99.32** (1516 – 1517), **Equipment - \$415.45** (1729 – 1730). Motion carried.

DPW REPORT: Report reviewed. No questions or concerns.

PERSONAL APPEARANCES:

1. Ryan Jager – Goose Hunting update.

Ryan Jager appeared before the Councilmembers with a goose hunting update. He thanked the Council for letting the groups hunt at the lagoon last year and also thanked them for allowing them to hunt the geese this year as well. He said there were three groups that hunted the geese last year and that the groups got along very well together. They got a total of 120 birds last year. He said that he would be responsible for getting each member of the three groups to sign a waiver before they would be allowed to hunt in the lagoon area.

PUBLIC QUESTIONS & COMMENTS: None.

UNFINISHED BUSINESS: None Scheduled.

PUBLIC HEARING: None Scheduled.

RESOLUTIONS: None Scheduled.

ORDINANCES: None Scheduled.

PETITIONS & COMMUNICATIONS:

1. **4320 Maple Street:** Install 15' diameter above ground pool.

Motion by CM Navock, second by CM McIvor, to approve the request for a building permit to install a 15' diameter above ground swimming pool at 4320 Maple Street. The owner of 4320 Maple Street was given a copy of the ordinance for swimming pools. Motion carried.

MANAGER'S REPORT:

1. **M-90 Reconstruction:** Work on Main Street continues. Crews should have Main Street completed by the end of next week and then will continue on to M-19.
2. **Sewer Projects:** Spicer Engineering removed the flow meters installed in the City's sewer system on July 28th. Once the data is downloaded and reviewed, a report will be presented to the City. This report should provide a starting point for: Identifying sections of sewer main that may require replacement, such as the section immediately north of East Main Street and determining what measures should be taken regarding the Maple Valley Lift Station along with estimated costs. Contact with the Spicer engineer revealed that the report will not be ready until probably September.
3. **Tree Health:** The City contracted with a local tree expert to evaluate all of the trees located within the City's street rights-of-way. The report received by City Hall on August 18th revealed that of approximately 424 trees in the City's right-of way, 39 should be removed soon; 90 are reaching their life expectancy and are considered "HIGH risk"; 50 ought to be trimmed because they block street signs or sidewalks; and 245 remain healthy. How does the City Council wish to proceed? May wish to schedule a Buildings and Grounds Committee meeting to establish priorities and timelines.

The Building and Grounds Committee, which consists of Councilmembers Stacy Biel, Eugene Navock and Chairman Ross McIvor, will meet before the next Council Meeting on September 14, 2020 at 6:00 p.m. for discussion to establish priorities and timelines of the tree removal or trimming of the trees within the City's street rights-of-way.

4. **Northern Pump & Well:** The annual tests on the water pumps were completed on July 13, 2020. Results of the tests were recently provided to the City. The tests were satisfactory and no replacement/overhaul is recommended at this time. However, Well #3 will probably require overhaul in either 2021 or 2022.
5. **MML Annual Meeting:** The Michigan Municipal League will be hosting a virtual conference rather than the one planned for Mackinac Island. The conference will take place September 30-October 2, 2020. If the City wishes to vote on issues raised during the League's Annual Business Meeting at 3:00 PM on September 29th, the City Council must pass a motion that identifies the Voting Member by Name and position and an alternate. Who wishes to be registered for this conference and who does the City Council wish to appoint as the Voting Member and alternate?

The Council does not wish to appoint a Voting Member at this time.

6. **Sanilac County Hazard Mitigation Plan:** The draft document was provided to the Michigan State police for review then opened up for a 60-day public comment period. It was then forwarded to FEMA and was recently approved. A resolution to adopt the plan will be presented to the Sanilac County Board of Commissioners on September 1st. Subsequent to that, expect a resolution to be presented to the City Council for action.
7. **I.T. Right:** On August 18th, a hard drive on the City's server failed. I.T. Right sent a technical representative and a new drive was installed. No data was lost, and the server is now fully operational.
8. **COVID-19:** The City continues to closely monitor the situation. No employees have exhibited symptoms. We are still emphasizing use of mail, email, the utility payment drop box and telephone for conducting business. City Hall is open to the public, but masks should be worn and no more than one customer at a time should be in City Hall.

ATTORNEY'S REPORT:

The City Attorney had two issues to address with the Councilmembers. The first issue was the FOIA request from True the Vote. City Attorney Gregory Stremers said he would send a sample of response to our City Manager. Our County Clerk has also been working on this issue and has currently sent out a ten day extension on behalf of all the City and Townships in Sanilac County.

The second issue that our Attorney addressed was that of Medical Marijuana coming into the farmland and small areas. Our Planning Commission will meet on September 3rd and discuss this issue and decide if we want a commercial business growing plant in our community. Their recommendations will then be sent to the Council for action.

TREASURER'S REPORT: None.

CLERK'S REPORT: None.

MAYOR'S REPORT:

Mayor Miller had a picture of a sign that read, "Brown City Community Park", that Jim and Tammy Siegler would purchase for the City. The one that is currently on a post says, "Brown" on one line and "City Park" on another line. The Councilmembers would like it in green if possible but otherwise it would be a brown sign. The sign that was chosen is \$227.00.

COMMITTEE REPORTS:

1. Building and Grounds (Mclvor) – Reminder of the meeting scheduled for September 14, 2020 at 6:00 p.m. before the regular Council Meeting.
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) – Committee Meeting: Water & Sewer Project Update: **The Water and Sewer Committee met before the regular scheduled Council Meeting. At this meeting they discussed the SCADA system and its need to be replaced.**

Motion made by CM Robison, second by CM Mclvor, to purchase a new SCADA system for a cost of \$21,235 (Twenty-One Thousand, Two Hundred Thirty-Five Dollars) for the City's water system. ROLL CALL VOTE: CM Lee – Yes, CM Navock – Yes, CM Jacobson – Yes, CM Robison – Yes, CM Biel – Yes, CM Mclvor – Yes. 6 Yes Votes, 0 No Votes, 0 Abstaining, 0 Absent. Motion carried.

GENERAL CONCERNS OF THE COUNCIL:

CM Jacobson asked about the storm water catch basin on Lincoln and Maple Streets. There is debris on it that prevents drainage. Mayor Miller tasked Clint Holmes, City Manager, to have the DPW check all the storm water catch basins in town to make sure they are letting the water run through them. Clint Holmes said he would have the DPW check them.

CM Navock questioned why when the red light came on at the Maple Valley Lift Station indicating a high water level during the recent heavy rain, the school was not notified. Clint Holmes said the City did not receive notice of the high water because the notification system had gone off line. The system has been reset and is now working properly.

PUBLIC QUESTIONS & COMMENTS: None.

CLOSED SESSION: None Scheduled.

ADJOURNMENT:

Motion by CM Lee, second by CM Mclvor, to adjourn the meeting at 7:43 p.m. Motion carried.

Respectfully submitted,

Juanita Smith
City Clerk