

BROWN CITY COUNCIL PROCEEDINGS

JUNE 12, 2017

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: Pat Jacobson, Gerald Kosal, Christine Lee, Ross McIvor, Alecia Parks, and William Walters; City Clerk Juanita Smith, City Manager Clint Holmes, and City Attorney Gregory Stremers.

ABSENT: None.

GUESTS: Steven Kovac from the Brown City Banner Newspaper and Mike Vislosky.

PRESENTATION OF PROCLAMATION TO:

Brown City 2017 All Thumb Basketball Player **Calvin Cook**.
Calvin Cook was unable to attend the Council Meeting tonight as the school Sports Banquet was also held this evening. Calvin will be contacted to see if he could attend the next Council Meeting on June 26th for the presentation.

ADDITIONS, CORRECTIONS AND DELETIONS TO AGENDA: None.

CORRECTION & APPROVAL OF MINUTES:

Motion by CM Jacobson, second by CM Parks, to accept the Regular Meeting Minutes of May 22, 2017 as presented. Motion carried.

PAY BILLS:

Motion by CM Jacobson, second by CM Lee, to pay the bills in the following funds: **General** - \$18,682.71 (8042-8075), **Total Payroll** - \$30,316.25—payroll paid for 05/10/17 to 05/23/17 was \$15,626.54 (7936-7954 plus EFT), payroll for 05/24/17 to 06/06/17 was \$14,589.21 (7955-7972 plus EFT), payroll for Operating Engineers - \$100.50 (7973-7975), **Major Street** - \$2,691.38 (3918-3922), **Local Street** - \$2,511.37 (4264-4266), **Sanitary Sewer** - \$4,267.88 (3648, 3650-3655 (void #3649), **Water** - \$2,077.79 (2784, 2786-2793 (void #2785), **Arsenic Abatement** - \$108.00 (1361), and **Storm Sewer** - \$310.00 (1240-1241), and **Equipment** -\$358.54 (1562-1564). Motion carried.

POLICE REPORT: Report reviewed. No questions or comments.

Police Chief Ron Smith reported that the Brown City Festival Days was pretty quiet—that nothing outstanding happened.

PUBLIC QUESTIONS & COMMENTS: None.

UNFINISHED BUSINESS: None Scheduled.

RESOLUTIONS: None Scheduled.

ORDINANCES: None Scheduled.

PERSONAL APPEARANCES: None Scheduled.

PUBLIC HEARING: None Scheduled.

PETITIONS & COMMUNICATIONS:

1. **4211 Vine Street:** Install 5' X 12' exterior deck on north side of house. This permit that was approved by the City Council at the last meeting, has been cancelled at the request of the property owner.

MANAGER'S REPORT:

1. **City Street Crack Sealing:** The City DPW received and utilized a street crack filling machine for almost a week beginning on May 30th. On-site training was completed and the DPW Staff began work on North Cade Road, and then proceeded to the newer streets in the City to include North Lincoln, James, John, Maple, Welles, and Walter Streets. The machine was picked up by National Highways Maintenance System LTD., L.L.C. (NHMS) on June 5th. There was no charge for the machine usage; cost for the two pallets of asphalt/rubber compound for the project was \$4,605.

The Councilmembers would like to use the machine again before winter—perhaps in August or September.

2. **City Master Plan:** The City contracted with McKenna Associates to update the City's obsolete Master Plan. The Senior Planner assigned to this project – Mike Deem – wants to hold an initial meeting to explain the scope and requirements for the new City Master Plan. A copy of the contract is enclosed. Recommend the City Council and Planning Commission hold a joint meeting for this purpose. This initial meeting should last no more than an hour. Recommend Thursday, June 22nd at 7:00 PM in the Brown City Library. How does the City Council wish to proceed?

Mayor Miller will not be available on Thursday, June 22nd so the Councilmembers would like to meet with Mike Deem on Thursday, June 29th or as a backup date on Tuesday, June 27th. City Manager Clint Holmes will contact McKenna Associates to see if either of these dates will work for them.

3. **Police Grant:** Chief Ron Smith initiated a grant request to the US Department of Justice for replacement body armor for the City's two full-time officers. The grant was approved and two Safariland Threat Level 3A full wrap body armor were received and issued on May 16, 2017. Total cost of the armor was \$2,243.42. The DOJ will reimburse the City for half.
4. **Award Ceremony:** Former State Representative Paul Muxlow held a formal presentation ceremony for Dr. Dombroske and Dr. Brengel at the Brown City Health Center on Friday, June 2nd for their 30 years of service to the community. Members of

the citizen board that were involved with bringing the Health Center to Brown City were in attendance.

5. **Water Quality Report:** The Consumer Confidence Report (CCR) is the annual report required by the state and federal governments summarizing information about drinking water quality provided during calendar year 2016. The document was posted on the City's website; printed in *The Banner* on May 29th; and copies mailed to MDEQ and the Sanilac / Lapeer County Health Departments. Copies are also available at City Hall for review or purchase. The City met or exceeded all water quality requirements in 2016.
6. **I.T. Right:** The City's server failed sometime on June 3rd. I.T. Right, the company that the City contracted with for computer repair and installation services, immediately sent a technician who replaced a bad power supply with a temporary one until the precise replacement part was received by the City the next day. Staff replaced the unit and the system has been operating properly since.
7. **Kohler Street Ditch:** The City has contracted with Grant Burgess Excavating to clean the ditch that runs south from the corner of Kohler and Second Streets. Trees and other debris will be removed, and the portion of the ditch adjacent to Buby Street will be deepened. The work is scheduled to begin in the middle of July.
8. **2016-2017 Annual Audit:** King and King will be in the City offices on June 14th and 15th to conduct the annual financial audit for the City of Brown City, Brown City Library and the Brown City Area Fire Authority. No issues are anticipated at this time.
9. **Curb Painting:** City DPW Worker Mike Vislosky did an excellent job repainting the curbs along Main and other curbed streets and the parking space lines on the east side of City Hall.
10. **City Street Lights:** The City was notified by DTE that they filed a rate case on April 19th with the Michigan Public Service Commission (MPSC) requesting a rate increase for street light. When this 2.3% increase is approved, the City can expect to pay an additional \$828.00 per year on top of the \$36,000 currently being paid for street lights.
11. **Drinking Water Supply:** The Sanilac County News, following a county board of public works meeting, asked the City if in order to meet lowered arsenic maximums "it might be cheaper for the city to buy water from Karegnondi..." The City responded that: Brown City currently has an arsenic absorption system rather than a filtration system. Each of the City's water wells uses an independent system. Therefore we would be able to reduce levels of naturally occurring arsenic in drinking water to zero if necessary. Tying into the Karegnondi water system was one of a number of options the City researched prior to investing in the absorption system. Analysis revealed that this would be neither cost effective nor sufficiently redundant to meet the City's requirements. For example, cost to construct the City's arsenic removal system was about \$1,500,000, of which the City still owes \$420,000; annual maintenance is about \$96,000 to include \$56,000 debt payments. Connecting to the Karegnondi would be at least \$4,500,000; associated maintenance costs are unknown. Does the City Council wish to investigate this option further?

The Councilmembers wish to continue with the water system/source that we currently have.

- 12. Brown City Cleanup Day:** This annual event will take place Wednesday, June 21st. All appliances and scrap metal should be stacked separately from non-metal eligible items. Owners of appliances that contain Freon that plan to dispose of them must pay a Freon removal fee of \$15 at City Hall by June 16th. The official notice and instructions are being published in *The Banner* on June 5th, 12th, and 19th.

ATTORNEY'S REPORT:

City Attorney Gregory Stremers reported that Brown City has two multi-family housing units that are having water shut-off issues. One of these is the housing unit on Maple Valley Road and the other is a duplex on Lincoln. When one of the families does not pay their bill on time it affects all of the units with their water being shut off also. City Attorney Gregory Stremers suggested that a letter be sent out to the landlords stating that the apartment unit water shut-offs must be separated therefore eliminating this problem.

TREASURER'S REPORT:

Summer tax bills will be sent out next week.

CLERK'S REPORT: None.

MAYOR'S REPORT:

1. Resolution 17-09: Resolution Opposing the Construction of a Nuclear Waste Repository in the Great Lakes Basin – additional Canadian responses received.
2. Signed Open Letter to Canada's Minister of Environment and Climate Change concerning #1 above.

Mayor Miller signed the letter on behalf of the City as she had been instructed to by the Councilmembers at a previous meeting.

3. Brown City Memorial Day activity report

The Brown City Memorial Day activity presented by the Brown City Band at the Memorial was very well attended. However, Mayor Miller would like to see our Veterans honored by an additional ceremony next year.

4. Michigan Township Participating Plan Board of Director Election Ballot
Motion by CM Lee, second by CM Jacobson, to vote for CM William Walters on the Michigan Township Participating Plan Board of Director Election Ballot. Motion carried.

COMMITTEE REPORTS:

1. Tax and Finance (Jacobson) – None.
2. Streets and Sidewalks (Kosal) – None.
3. Police (Lee) – None.
4. Building and Grounds (McIvor) – None.
5. Personnel (Parks) – None.

6. Water and Sewer (Walters) – None.

GENERAL CONCERNS OF THE COUNCIL:

CM McIvor said he had been approached by one of the car cruiser participants. He said he had been stopped by the police for a couple of items pertaining to his car. Police Chief Smith said they were illegal. A discussion ensued about an Open Cruise or a Closed Cruise.

CM Lee spoke of being part of the State Track Meet. She and her husband, Richard, both worked at the track meet. It was the first time ever for a husband and wife team to work at a State Meet.

A question was asked about when the work would begin on Lincoln Street now that school will be out for the summer. City Manager Clint Holmes said that there is no set date at this time.

Mayor Miller thanked Mike Vislosky for all his help at the Brown City Festival—especially at the Hospitality Tent.

The sidewalks needing repair on Main Street were discussed. A small hole in the sidewalk in front of the old bowling alley requires patching, and the DPW is determining how best to accomplish this.

The sidewalk in front of LaFonda's Restaurant will be looked at by Tony Lung to see what needs to be done to repair or replace it.

The Burnout was well attended.

The band on Friday night downtown was good. However, complaints were received that there was not enough seating other than a few straw bales to sit on.

PUBLIC QUESTIONS & COMMENTS: None.

EXECUTIVE SESSION: None scheduled.

ADJOURNMENT:

Motion by CM Lee, second by CM Kosal, to adjourn at 7:33 p.m. Motion carried.

Respectfully submitted,

Juanita Smith
City Clerk