

BROWN CITY COUNCIL PROCEEDINGS
NOVEMBER 15, 2021

MEETING CALLED TO ORDER BY MAYOR PRO-TEM CHRISTINE LEE AT 7:00 P.M.

PRESENT: Councilmembers: Stacy Biel, Patricia Jacobson, Christine Lee, Eugene Navock, and Ross Mclvor; City Attorney Gregory Stremers, City Manager Clint Holmes, and City Clerk Rhonda Johnson.

ABSENT: Mayor Julie Miller; Councilmember Walter Robison.

GUESTS: Robert Jacobson, Mike Vislosky, and Becky Vislosky.

PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE LED BY MAYOR PRO-TEM CHRISTINE LEE.

ADDITIONS, CORRECTIONS AND DELETIONS TO AGENDA:

1. Two items to add to the Manager Report.
2. Addition of Meeting of the Committee of the Whole November 8th minutes.

CORRECTION & APPROVAL OF MINUTES:

Motion by CM Biel, Second by CM Mclvor, to Approve the Minutes of the meeting of the Committee of the Whole for November 8, 2021, as Written.

Motion Carried.

Motion by CM Mclvor, Second by CM Biel, to Approve the Minutes of Regular Meeting of City Council for November 8, 2021, as Written.

Motion Carried.

PAY BILLS:

Motion by CM Jacobson; Second by CM Mclvor, to Pay Bills in the Following Funds: General - \$5,539.66 (10643 - 10649), Water - \$197.80 (3422 - 3424), Arsenic Abatement – \$45.40 (1573 - 1574).

Motion Carried.

PERSONAL APPEARANCES: None.

PUBLIC QUESTIONS & COMMENTS: None.

DPW REPORT: Written report submitted by Phil Bartle. Accepted by Council.

UNFINISHED BUSINESS:

1. Water Rate Review.

PUBLIC HEARING: None.

ORDINANCES: None.

RESOLUTIONS: None Scheduled.

PETITIONS & COMMUNICATIONS: None Scheduled.

MANAGER'S REPORT:

1. **EGLE:** On November 8th, the Brown City DPW was notified by the Michigan Department of Environment, Great Lakes, and Energy that the water department sent in required water quality test samples for Trihalomethanes and Haloacetic acids late. These are disinfection byproducts resulting from chlorinating drinking water. This resulted in a monitoring violation and the requirement to send a notice provided by EGLE to City water customers. The notice is being mailed November 16th. This test was one of several dozen required by federal and state law. All other water tests were conducted on time and verified that the Brown City Water Department met all water purity requirements.
2. **MRWA:** The rate expert from the Michigan Rural Water Association is scheduled to be here on November 17th to review options for changing the current utility rates structure. The process is expected to take 1-2 days.
3. **RFP For Engineering:** The Requests for Proposals approved by the City Council have been sent to various engineering firms in the state. Project is to replace the water main on Second Street between Walter and St Marys Streets. Deadline for submission is Thursday December 9, 2021 at 2:00 PM.
4. **No Overnight Parking:** Residents are reminded that there is no overnight parking on City streets between November 1st and March 31st. The Brown City Police Department began ticketing vehicles that are in violation of this ordinance on November 9th. The signs stating this policy are located east and west on M-90 and north and south on Cade Road and Maple Valley Road, plus north on Lincoln Street and south on St Marys Street. The DPW has replaced some of these signs and ordered more to ensure all are uniform and legible.
5. **Main Street Repair:** The trench in front of MVP is scheduled to be filled with concrete and finished during the week of November 15th.
6. **DPW Foreman:** The DPW Foreman/Supervisor job applications are due to the City by 4:00 PM on November 30th.
7. **DTE:** The City requested DTE convert all of the streetlights to LED both for the purpose of uniformity and to save money. DTE will schedule an audit to ensure the accuracy of the streetlight count and will generate a contract and the associated final costs.
8. **Thanksgiving Day Holiday:** City Hall, police and DPW will be closed on Thursday, November 25th and Friday, November 26th for the Thanksgiving Holiday. A DPW employee will be on call from Thursday through Sunday.

- 9. Air Advantage:** The internet and fiber optic company is being purchased by Thumb Electric Cooperative (TEC) with the sale to be completed by the end of the month. During due diligence, a couple of issues have been noted:

- a. Metro Act Permit:** On November 15th, the City received an updated Metro Act Permit concerning locally installed Air Advantage installed fiber optic along with payment. Recommend the City Council approve the Right-of-Way Telecommunications Permit and authorize the Mayor and Clerk to sign on behalf of the City.

Motion by CM Jacobson, Second by CM Mclvor, to approve the Right-of-Way Telecommunications Permit and to authorize Mayor Julie Miller and Clerk Rhonda Johnson to sign the Metro Act Permit on behalf of the City. Motion Carried.

- b. Air Advantage Lease:** The lease agreement to have antennas mounted on the City's water tower needs to be renewed. This extension will be for the period May 2020 to May 2022. Recommend the City Council approve the Lease Renewal and Extension Agreement and authorize the Mayor to sign on behalf of the City.

Motion by CM Mclvor, Second by CM Biel, to approve the Lease Renewal and Extension Agreement and to authorize Mayor Julie Miller to sign on behalf of the City. Motion Carried.

- 10. Christmas Holiday:** The second City Council meeting in December is scheduled for the 27th. Does the City Council wish to reschedule this meeting? Also, Christmas Eve and New Years Eve fall on a Friday, which in the past the City Council has designated a day off for the staff. Christmas and New Years are on a Saturday and are official holidays, which according to the City's Personnel Manual would result in City Hall being closed the day before.

Motion by CM Jacobson, Second by CM Mclvor, to Add December 27, 2021 and January 3, 2022 to the Official 2021-22 Days City Offices are Closed.

Motion Carried.

ATTORNEY'S REPORT: City Attorney Stremers reported nothing additional.

TREASURER'S REPORT: None.

CLERK'S REPORT: Nothing.

MAYOR'S REPORT:

1. Tree Lighting Ceremony – December 3rd at 6 p.m.

COMMITTEE REPORTS:

1. Building and Grounds (Mclvor) – Nothing.
2. Personnel (Biel) – Nothing.
3. Police / Fire Authority (Lee) – Fire Authority meeting Nov. 9 at 10 a.m. Mayor Pro-Tem reported on proposed wages for the Fire Department.
4. Streets and Sidewalks (Navock) – Nothing.
5. Tax and Finance (Jacobson) – Nothing.
6. Water and Sewer (Robison) – Nothing.

GENERAL CONCERNS OF THE COUNCIL:

1. CM Jacobson asked about salt. Discussion of salt remaining from last winter and the timely ordering procedure.

PUBLIC QUESTIONS & COMMENTS: None.

EXECUTIVE SESSION: None scheduled.

ADJOURNMENT:

Motion by CM Jacobson, Second by CM Biel, to Adjourn the November 15, 2021, Meeting of the City Council at 7:18 p.m. Motion Carried.

Respectfully submitted,

Rhonda Johnson
City Clerk