

**BROWN CITY COUNCIL PROCEEDINGS
MAY 21, 2007**

Meeting called to order at 7:00 p.m. by Mayor Laura Carpenter.

Pledge of Allegiance led by Mayor Carpenter.

PRESENT: Mayor Laura Carpenter, Council members: Ross McIvor, Mike Lents, Julie Miller (arrived at 7:08 p.m.) Christine Lee and Ken Brown. City Attorney Gregory Stremers, City Manager Clint Holmes, City Clerk Kelly Pavel.

ABSENT: Council member Ron Wood.

ADDITIONS, CORRECTIONS AND DELETIONS TO AGENDA: None.

CORRECTION AND APPROVAL OF MINUTES:

Discussion regarding absences. From now on, absent members will be listed under present portion with an arrival time in parenthesis. Change to be made regarding Council member Lee's arrival at the 5-14-07 meeting to read, "(arrived at 7:03 p.m.)"

Motion by CM Brown, second by CM Lee, to accept the Regular Meeting Minutes of 5-14-07 as corrected. Motion carried.

Motion by CM Lee, second by CM Brown, to pay the bills in the following funds: General - \$4,915.35, Major Street - \$60.00, Sanitary Sewer - \$ 719.46, Water - \$5,427.37, Arsenic Abatement - \$3,862.50, Equipment - \$1,860.79. The invoice from Rowe Engineering for \$1,862.50 held in abatement for further discussion. Motion carried.

Council member Miller arrived at 7:08 p.m.

PUBLIC QUESTIONS AND COMMENTS:

Resident from 6776 Walter Street discussing a drainage problem on this street. He also has concerns for a fire hydrant that is almost covered with dirt on the corner. CM Lents, Water and Sewer Committee Chairman will look at this drainage problem and report back to the Council.

PERSONAL APPEARANCES: None scheduled.

DPW REPORT:

No report available for review.

OLD BUSINESS:

1. Bullock Project – essentially completed
2. Arsenic Abatement – Treatment Plant must be fully operational by 2-1-08.

- a. Bond Issues – Bond sale completed May 14; funds available June 5. Manager met with Chase Bank representative and provided requested documents.
- b. Construction – Scheduled to begin June 4.

Motion by CM Lents, second by CM McIvor, to direct the Mayor and City Clerk to sign Notice To Proceed paperwork for Booms Construction, Inc. to begin construction on Water Treatment Facility. Motion carried.

City Manager discussed fees for Rowe Engineering associated with the bid documents for the water treatment facility. Further discussion regarding the most recent invoice for \$1,862.50.

Motion by CM Lee, second by CM Lents, to pay the bill to Rowe Engineering for \$1,862.50 for the work that has already been completed. Motion carried.

RFP will be issued for inspection and material testing for the water treatment facility. City Manager will discuss bids with CM Lents as soon as they are available since work will begin soon.

Motion by CM Lee, second by CM Miller, to approve the payment of bills in the amount of \$23,429.00 associated with the new water treatment facility, and forward them to Sanilac County for disbursement. Motion carried.

PETITIONS AND COMMUNICATIONS:

Motion by CM Brown, second by CM Lents, to accept the pre-application building permit for 4120 Second Street to construct a 16' x 24' deck. Motion carried.

Motion by CM Brown, second by CM Lents, to accept the pre-application building permit for 4082 Main Street to construct a 10' x 15' covered/screened deck. Motion carried.

Motion by CM Brown, second by CM Lents, to accept the pre-application building permit for 4050/4060 First Street to construct a drainage ditch. Discussion that some vegetation will need to be installed for erosion purposes. Motion carried.

PUBLIC HEARING: None scheduled.

ORDINANCES: None scheduled.

RESOLUTIONS: None scheduled.

MANAGER'S REPORT:

1. **Well #3 Overhaul:** The well shaft was inspected by video camera on May 15th. The well is in good shape with the exception of some iron scaling in the upper half of the shaft. The well is 330' deep and a copy of the tape will be available for viewing at City Hall. The City received a report concerning the status of the pump motor and shaft late

Friday. A copy is attached (blue). The original estimate in January was \$23,490. The current estimate is \$31,398. The reasons for the additional cost are included in the letter. How does the City Council wish to proceed?

Motion by CM Lents, second by CM Brown, to authorize work to pump motor and shaft on Well # 3 by Layne-Northern. Motion carried.

- 2. DPW Supervisor:** The City received a note from Dr. Brengel stating, "Dave Kinney must remain off work due to worsening of his lung condition we hope he will be able to return to work 6/4/07." A copy of the note is attached.

CM Lents questioned if all necessary water testing etc. can stay on schedule due to DPW Supervisor's absence. All tests will remain on schedule, Phil is licensed to conduct appropriate tests required.

- 3. Hydrant Flushing:** The flushing of City hydrants will commence on Monday, May 21st. Notices have been placed in the *Banner*. Residents are advised to avoid washing white and light colored clothing next week.
- 4. Phase II Sewer System Inspection:** The Requests For Proposals were mailed to the attached list of companies. A copy was also sent to the Michigan Construction News and posted on the City's website. An ad was placed in the May 23 *Sanilac County News*.
- 5. Railroad Storm Water Culvert:** Coordination with the Sanilac County Drain Commissioner resulted in the replacement of the storm water drain under the railroad tracks behind the school being scheduled for July. The City is responsible for purchasing the culvert, the railroad will remove and replace the tracks and ballast, and Sanilac County will pay for the engineering and actual installation of the culvert. The City is working with the school to gain access to the work site.
- 6. Michigan Agricultural Commodities:** MAC has requested a tax exemption for the two steel grain storage bins they plan to build in Brown City. Does the City Council wish to approve this request?

Council consensus that numbers need to be reviewed before a decision can be made.

- 7. Nextel Tower:** The letter requested by Nextel stating that there were no issues with the "potential to adversely affect historic properties" was mailed on May 15th.
- 8. Brown City Days:** The Festival Commission has scheduled two special meetings, May 29 and June 4 to iron out any final issues before Brown City Days begins on June 7th. The meetings are at 6:30 PM in the City Library if you wish to attend or volunteer your time.
- 9. Notice for Grass Mowing:** Notices have began being sent to property owners regarding grass that is in need of mowing because it exceeds the 8" maximum.

10. **Junk Car Complaints:** Various complaints have been received regarding junk cars. Chief Smith has begun investigation into these situations and will issue citations as needed.

ATTORNEY'S REPORT:

Minor issues were noticed that would require changes when the Council wishes to discuss Council Rules of Procedure.

TREASURER'S REPORT: None.

COMMITTEE REPORTS:

- 1 Police- None.
- 2 Water & Sewer – None.
- 3 Tax & Finance – None.
- 4 Streets & Sidewalks – None.
- 5 Buildings & Grounds – None.
- 6 Personnel – review of Personnel Committee Meeting Minutes.

Council consensus that City Manager discuss proposed health care coverage changes with all employees affected.

Motion by CM McIvor, second by CM Lee, to authorize Union contracted raises for Phil Bartle and Henry Owens. Also to approve 25¢ per hour raises, retroactive to the beginning of the fiscal year (April 1st), for Lucy Coulson, Ron Smith, Phyllis Niehaus, and Dave VanCura. Motion carried.

GENERAL CONCERNS OF THE COUNCIL:

CM Miller requested the DPW report information that has not been received for March and April. DPW Supervisor will submit when he returns to work.

CM Lee stated that Chief Smith participated with her Girl Scout troop and assisted with them receiving their safety badge.

Discussion regarding the status of Brown City Lanes. Discussion regarding condemnation process as well.

MAYOR'S REPORT:

1. Mayor Exchange – Columbiaville: apparently on schedule.
2. City Council Rules of Procedure: Remains under study by Council members.

PUBLIC QUESTIONS AND COMMENTS:

City resident requested police duty times on Friday and Saturday. Questions if side streets are patrolled. He also questioned the use of fireworks.

Marlene Wood questioned the pros and cons of locking the park at night. She has concerns for vandalism and she lives near the park and sees a large amount of traffic through the park at night. The park used to be locked each night and re-opened each morning. Clint will investigate getting this done again on a regular basis.

Marlene Wood also has concerns for boat ramps which have been dropped off and how they will be handled. Park Board will be in charge of these boat ramps. She also questioned the completion of the drainage tube work that has been started. Phil Bartle intends to complete as soon as his schedule allows.

Motion by CM Miller, second by CM Lee, to adjourn at 7:55 p.m. Motion carried.

Respectfully submitted,

Kelly Pavel
City Clerk