

**BROWN CITY COUNCIL PROCEEDINGS
JANUARY 12, 2009**

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

Pledge of Allegiance led by Mayor Carpenter.

PRESENT: Mayor Laura Carpenter, Councilmembers: Pat Jacobson, Julie Miller, Ross Mclvor, Mike Lents, Christine Lee. City Manager Clint Holmes, City Attorney Gregory Stremers, City Clerk Kelly Pavel.

ABSENT: Councilmember Ken Brown.

ADDITIONS, CORRECTIONS AND DELETIONS TO AGENDA: None.

CORRECTION & APPROVAL OF MINUTES:

Motion by CM Miller, second by CM Jacobson, to accept the Regular Meeting Minutes of 12-22-08 as presented. Motion carried.

PAY BILLS:

Motion by CM Lee, second by CM Mclvor, to pay the bills in the following funds: General - \$12,216.46, Payroll - \$17,016.38, Major Street - \$213.02, Local Street - \$213.02, Sanitary Sewer - \$1,200.00, Water Fund - \$28,570.64, Storm Sewer - \$150.00, Equipment - \$1,662.24. Motion carried.

PERSONAL APPEARANCES: Mr. Al Teryek & neighbors, Parkside Drive.

Residents of Parkside Drive discussed their concerns and disapproval of the City no longer plowing snow from their street. Liability situation was discussed as well. Consensus that further investigation by legal and City Manager will take place to find a workable solution.

Motion by CM Lents, second by CM Lee, to continue plowing Parkside Drive until a resolution to the situation is determined. ROLL CALL VOTE: Jacobson-yes, Miller-yes, Mclvor-yes, Lents-yes, Lee-yes, Brown-absent. Motion carried.

PUBLIC QUESTIONS & COMMENTS: None.

POLICE REPORT: Written report reviewed. No questions or comments.

UNFINISHED BUSINESS: None.

PETITIONS & COMMUNICATIONS: None.

PUBLIC HEARING: None scheduled.

ORDINANCES: None scheduled.

RESOLUTIONS: None scheduled.

MANAGER'S REPORT:

1. **Phase III Sewer Rehabilitation Project:** Michigan Pipe Inspection continues work on grouting the mains for Phase III of the Sewer Rehabilitation Project. Lincoln, Wood and Maple Streets are completed and the project continues.
2. **Mapleview Estates Water Meter:** On January 7th, the water meter was installed. The job is essentially complete except for final smoothing of the surface dirt and planting of grass in the spring. The first bill will be mailed to Mapleview on April 1st.
3. **Brown City Fire Authority:** The Fire Authority had their regular meeting on January 6th. The primary focus of the meeting was a review of the proposed 2009-2010 Budget. The budget saw an overall decrease of about \$21,000 since the mortgage on the building has paid off in 2008. The discussion then turned to identifying how to pay for a replacement pumper truck since the current vehicle is over 20-years old. The decision by the Board was to have members ask their Township Boards and the City Council to approve an increase of the current charge of \$100 per section to \$200 per section, with the money dedicated to paying for the new fire truck. A decision as to when the truck will actually be ordered has not yet been made. The City of Brown City is counted as 25 sections for a proposed increase of \$2,500. If approved, this will still result in a cost saving for the City over last year of about \$300. **REQUIRES MOTION.** Council consensus to table this item for discussion at a later date.
4. **2009 Agreement with Sanilac County:** The City received a copy of the Agreement for Data Base Management/Printing Services for 2009 summer and winter taxes. A copy of the Agreement is enclosed (green). Each of the 18 categories goes up a penny and the hourly rate increases by \$1.01. The overall cost increase for the City is estimated at less than \$100. **REQUIRES MOTION and SIGNATURE.**

Motion by CM McIvor, second by CM Lents, to accept the 2009 agreement with Sanilac County Data Base Management/Printing Services. Motion carried.

5. **City Property Taxes:** A couple of residents have been in to complain because even though the value of houses is decreasing in the United States, and especially in Michigan and Brown City, their taxes did not go down in 2008. The City Assessor was directed to put together a short memo explaining that property values will be decreased about 29% for the 2009 tax year (gold) and how that is determined. The City's property tax revenues will decrease about \$20,000 overall. Reductions (if any) for individual property owners will vary.
6. **City Hall Safe:** The City received estimates on a range of fireproof storage safes. The staff reviewed each and decided on one that is 64" tall, 30.5" wide, and 25.5" deep. The cost with delivery is \$2,448. Plan to move the old safe to DPW for fireproof records storage. Recommend approval. **REQUIRES MOTION.**

Motion by CM Miller, second by CM Lee to purchase a new fireproof storage safe for City Hall at the price of \$2,448.00 which includes delivery. Motion carried.

7. **City Hall Computer:** The City has a couple of old (1999) and unneeded computers sitting on a shelf. A local business operator requested to buy one of these machines. All information was deleted from the hard drive except for the Windows 98 operating system and some generic programs (Word, Excel, etc.). Propose selling the computer for \$20. Sale does not include monitor, keyboard, mouse, etc. Is there any objection from the City Council? Council consensus to sell for \$20.00.
8. **Bullet Resistant Vests:** The three vests have arrived and been issued to our police officers. Reimbursement for half the cost will be requested from the U.S. Department of Justice.

ATTORNEY'S REPORT: None.

TREASURER'S REPORT: Written report reviewed. No questions or comments.

COMMITTEE REPORTS:

1. Police (Miller) – none.
2. Water and Sewer (Lents) – none.
3. Tax and Finance (Lee) – none.
4. Streets and Sidewalks (Jacobson) – CM Jacobson suggests that snow piled on Main Street possibly be deposited some place else as it seems to be causing a sight barrier in some areas of town. City Manager will coordinate with the DPW Foreman to try and determine an alternate way to plow snow on Main Street.
5. Building and Grounds (Brown) – none.
6. Personnel (Mclvor) – none.

GENERAL CONCERNS OF THE COUNCIL: None.

MAYOR'S REPORT:

1. 2009 City Council Priorities Worksheets – Please return to the City Manager at the next meeting (Jan 26th)

PUBLIC QUESTIONS & COMMENTS: None

Respectfully submitted:

Kelly Pavel
City Clerk