

City of Brownsville
Minutes of February 3, 2021 Regular Monthly Meeting

The regular monthly meeting of the Brownsville City Council was called to order by Mayor Allen Whitesitt at 7:00 pm. Councilmembers Jeff LeJeune, Tim Klug, Jacob Danielson and John Jangula were present. Also present were Jenna Knight, City Treasurer, and Steve Schuldt, City Clerk. Guests in attendance were Jordan Gerard and Jim Hakes.

Minutes of the January 6, 2021 council meeting were reviewed. Jacob Danielson moved, second by Jeff LeJeune and the motion passed to approve the minutes as presented.

Mayor Whitesitt opened the meeting for floor correspondence from guests in attendance. Jim Hakes remarked that train operators were at times too heavy with their warning horns. Sometimes operating the horn continuously while passing through the city rather than just prior to crossings. He suggested that warning lights be placed at railroad crossings to warn of approaching trains and do away with blowing the horn. Mayor Whitesitt will contact someone from the railroad to discuss the matter.

In old business, council discussed a proposal from Website Design Group from Winona, MN to replace the current website provider, Fire Website Hosting from Woodbury Heights, NJ. Website Design Group's proposal was for a one-time payment of \$2,500.00, plus \$50.00 per month for premium WordPress hosting with training. The Fire Website Hosting proposal called for a one-time payment of \$5,000.00 including WordPress with updates and hosting for one year. 8 hours of training would also be provided. Following discussion, John Jangula moved, second by Tim Klug and the motion passed to approve the Vision Design Group proposal.

Council discussed a request by Louie Properties, LLC for a reduction in garbage collection charges at their eightplex apartments. They currently pay for and provide a dumpster for tenants in lieu of individual collection by Richard's Sanitation. Jacob Danielson moved, second by John Jangula and the motion passed to reduce the monthly fee to \$3.50 per month for each apartment. The \$3.50 monthly fee is a Houston County solid waste charge.

Council discussed cleaning at the Community Center currently provided by Morgan's Cleaning of Caledonia. It has been suggested that cleaning could be taken care of by part time employee, John Holzwarth. Council also took into consideration that the community Center is expected to become busier following pandemic restrictions and John may not be able to provide adequate cleaning in addition to his other duties. Council agreed by consensus to discuss the matter with John Holzwarth and possibly negotiate reduced services with Morgan's Cleaning prior to a decision.

Council discussed membership to the Minnesota Rural Water Association. The association provides information, equipment and services to rural communities which have been used by the city. Tim Klug moved, second by Jacob Danielson and the motion passed to approve membership at a cost of \$325.00 per year.

Council discussed meeting with a representative from Davy Engineering to consider storm drainage and run-off solutions. Mayor Whitesitt will contact Davy Engineering to set up a meeting.

There were no reports from the fire department.

Council discussed the Summer Recreation Program for 2021. Jacob Danielson moved, second by Tim Klug to offer the program. Mayor Whitesitt will prepare ads for staffing.

Council considered contracting with Driftless Vector Control for 2021 to control mosquito infestation in the city. John Jangula moved, second by Jeff LeJeune and the motion passed with one councilmember dissenting.

Council considered rental of the community center during the pandemic. Council agreed by consensus to allow rental of the center provided state guidelines are followed to prevent the spread of COVID-19.

Council reviewed claims payable. Jeff LeJeune moved, second by Jacob Danielson and the motion passed to approve all claims.

There being no further business, Jacob Danielson moved, second by Tim Klug and the motion passed to adjourn at 8:04 pm.

Steve Schuldt, City Clerk

Allen Whitesitt, Mayor