

City of Brownsville
Minutes of June 1, 2022 Regular Monthly Council Meeting

The regular monthly meeting of the Brownsville City Council was called to order by Mayor Allen Whitesitt at 7:00 pm. Councilmembers present were Jeff LeJeune, Tim Klug and Jacob Danielson. Also present: Steve Schuldt, City Clerk, Jenna Knight, City Treasurer and Sam Boma, City Maintenance. Guests in attendance were Craig Moorhead (Caledonia Argus), Frank Dvorak, Pam Walhovd, Kathy Phillips, Joanne Kletzke, Nicole Ranzenberger, Barb Hurley, Andrew Marnach, Sara Serres, David Hey, Kathryn Sexauer, Mike Klauke, Randy Krueger, Shirley Koepke, Jane Wohlwend, Michael & Victoria Sparks, Mike Puetz and Victor Brott.

Minutes of the May 4, 2022 council meeting and May 4, 2022 LBAE meeting were reviewed. Jacob Danielson moved, second by Jeff LeJeune and the motion passed to approve the minutes.

Old Business: David Hey updated council on his plans to enroll his wooded property into a conservation easement. He no longer intends to keep a portion of the property for a future building site and asserts that a city easement will no longer be of value to the community. Minnesota Land Trust is encouraging the easement be vacated but there has been no formal request submitted by it. Mayor Whitesitt will confer with attorney Roverud for advise on the matter and report at the July meeting.

Mayor Whitesitt read a portion of a letter from County Engineer, Bryan Pogodzinski regarding a request by Shawn Colsch to install a driveway with culvert at his property at the intersection of Cork Hollow Dr and County Road 3 west of the city: "Prior to allowing the driveway culvert to be extended and inlet added within County right-of-way to connect to the culvert under Cork Hollow Dr., I would require a letter from the city stating the City of Brownsville will be maintaining the entire system, or a copy of an approved agreement detailing maintenance responsibilities." Mayor Whitesitt informed council that the existing Cork Hollow culvert will be cleaned and inspected prior to accepting responsibility for maintenance.

Mayor Whitesitt updated council regarding garbage/recycling service to the Lee mobile home park. According to Attorney Roverud the city is authorized to charge for garbage services at the mobile home park whether the service is used or not.

Council was updated regarding garbage rate changes due to use of totes and the recent addition of a fuel surcharge. Jacob Danielson moved, second by Jeff LeJeune and the motion passed to set the monthly garbage and recycling fee at \$19.75 including fuel surcharge.

Mayor Whitesitt updated council regarding a cease-and-desist order issued to Andrew Krenzke. Andrew Marnach, a neighboring landowner, questioned why he didn't receive a notice regarding the building permit issued to Krenzke. He stated that there is erosion occurring on the hill above the property and a conservation district should be established and the property monitored for further erosion. He also felt the proposed building permit didn't meet setback requirements, including a shoreline setback. Also, building on a site exceeding 15% grade should not be permitted. Another guest questioned if a building permit can be transferred to which it was assumed that it cannot. Mr. Marnach suggested reviewing the Houston County zoning ordinance for reference. He also suggested that the building permit be paused. No action was taken.

Mayor Whitesitt updated council regarding installation of a culvert to divert stormwater to the river. Several residents from the Harbor Lights neighborhood expressed their objections to the project due to pollution entering the proposed discharge site and possible erosion. Randy Krueger suggested that the city contact Minnesota DNR and Corps of Engineers to determine if the project would be allowed. No action was taken.

Sam Boma informed council that a water leak at the Manor had been repaired and a new water heater has been installed at the recreation park concession building. He also stated that he has passed the Type 4 Biosolid

Sewer operator's test. Barb Hurley suggested that additional rip-rap and seeding be added at a recently repaired section of Cork Hollow Road. She also noted that the blacktop is breaking up on the road due to heavy trucks.

Council was informed that the Freightliner firetruck is now in service. Fire personnel are also wondering if the council is willing to borrow money to purchase a different pumper truck. No action was taken.

Council recognized the resignation of John Jangula from the council. Mayor Whitesitt suggested appointing a replacement at the July meeting to fulfill the remaining term.

Council was informed of a request to hold farmer's markets on July 17 and September 18. Council agreed by consensus to allow the events.

Council discussed the Judd Bowman building permit issued in May for a second story addition and whether the city is obligated to uphold the Harbor Lights covenants. Council agreed by consensus that the covenant committee is responsible for enforcement of its own building code.

Council discussed the condition of the post office floor. Additional information is to be obtained regarding repair or replacement of the flooring.

Council reviewed a request to install solar panels on a house roof at 906 Brook Street. Council agreed by consensus that the installation didn't require a building permit or variance.

Jeff LeJeune informed council of restorations to the horseshoe pits and tennis court by the Lions club.

Council reviewed a building permit request from Aaron Grams to construct a 40' X 30' X 12' pole shed. Jacob Danielson moved, second by Tim Klug and the motion passed to approve the permit.

Council considered a request by Zion Church to host a music in the park event at the ballpark. Council agreed by consensus to not charge for the ballpark or if in the event of rain, a charge of \$25.00 for the community center.

Tim Klug informed council that he had met with Houston County Highway Department personnel to discuss realigning the intersection of State Highway 26 and Houston County Highway 3. No determinations were made.

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

There being no further business, Allen Whitesitt Moved, second by Jacob Danielson and the motion passed to adjourn at 9: 21 pm.



Steve Schuldt, City Clerk



Allen Whitesitt, Mayor