

City of Brownsville  
Minutes of October 7, 2020 Regular Monthly Meeting

The regular monthly meeting of the Brownsville City Council was called to order by Acting Mayor Rick Voshart at 7:00 PM with councilmembers Jeff LeJeune, Chelsey Leis and John Jangula present. Mayor Whitesitt was absent. Also present were Maureen Meiners, City Treasurer and Steve Schuldt, City Clerk. Guests in attendance were Jordan Gerard, Sonja Burkhart, Jacob Danielson, Tim Klug and Barb Hurley.

Minutes of the September 2, 2020 council meeting were read. Chelsey Leis moved, second by Jeff LeJeune and the motion passed to approve the minutes.

There was no floor correspondence.

Council discussed a nuisance violation at the corner of North 7<sup>th</sup> Street and Division Street due to an accumulation of farm machinery and other accumulated personal property. Rick Voshart commented that one piece of equipment had been moved from the property and suggested that the council wait another month before taking any action. Rick Voshart will continue to monitor the site.

Council discussed the updated ordinances for the city. Council by consensus decided to hold a public hearing to adopt the revised ordinances at the November 4, 2020 meeting.

7:15 pm: Rick Voshart convened a public hearing to hear a variance request brought by Sonja Burkhart. Council reviewed the request to construct a garage behind their house at 706 Main Street. Drawings of the proposed garage showing setbacks were presented. The proposed new garage plan requires a setback variance of 4' on the north property line permitting a 6' setback versus the ordinance required 10' setback from the city alley. The proposal requires a variance of 8' on the east property line allowing a 2' setback versus the ordinance required 10'. The property owner to the east has provided a written statement agreeing to the proposed setback which includes the 12" roof overhang being within the 2' variance. The new proposal requires a variance of 2' on the west property line allowing a setback of 8' versus the ordinance required 10'. There being no objections from the floor, Chelsey Leis moved, second by John Jangula and the motion passed to approve the building permit with variances as presented. Chelsey Leis moved, second by Jeff LeJeune and the motion passed to adjourn the public hearing at 7:20 pm.

A written report was provided by Casey Holzwarth as follows:

Casey Colsch's son, Alex, broke a window in the bathroom at the ballpark. He has written the city an apology letter and will pay for the damage. Road salt has been contracted through Compass Minerals for the coming year at \$70.00 per ton for 18 tons. Arrangements will be made with Denstad Trucking to haul the salt and sand for mixing later this month. Culverts have arrived for the 6<sup>th</sup> and Clay Street intersection and will be installed the week of October 12. Crack sealing on Marina Drive is completed and it is suggested that chip sealing be done in 2022. Mr. Holzwarth gave a reminder to the public to keep all trash out of compost and brush piles. There has been aluminum cans, plastic pots, plastic bags and other debris left at the brush site. Also, treated or painted lumber is not allowed at the site and lumber with nails is hazardous to city equipment.

There was nothing to report by the fire department.

Council reviewed advertising to fill the treasurer/office manager position to be vacated by Maureen Meiners on December 31. Ads are to be placed in the Caledonia Argus Houston County News and on the city's website.

Steve Schuldt reported that a 2021 budget should be ready for the November 4 council meeting.

Council members reviewed the claims payable list. Chelsey Leis moved, second by Jeff LeJeune and the motion passed to approve the claims.

At 7:37 pm, Jeff LeJeune moved, second by John Jangula and the motion passed to adjourn the meeting.

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Steve Schuldt, City Clerk

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Rick Voshart, Acting Mayor