

DRAFT

BROWN CITY COUNCIL PROCEEDINGS
MAY 27, 2025

MEETING CALLED TO ORDER BY MAYOR JULIE MILLER AT 5:00 P.M.

PRESENT:

Mayor Julie Miller, Councilmembers: Robert Jacobson, Neil Kohler, Ross McIvor, Eugene Navock, and Mark Vaerten, City Clerk Sara Muxlow, City Manager Charles Bennett.

ABSENT:

Patricia Jacobson

GUESTS:

Connor Burgess, Angel Kreiner, Bill Muxlow, Tara Owens, Denise Jones, Dan Jones, Kevin Miller, Jamie Bird, Liz Rayba, Della Sharpe, Ireland Wharff

PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE LED BY MAYOR JULIE MILLER

Mayor Miller presented proclamations honoring students from Brown City Community Schools. Connor Burgess, Valedictorian for the high school class of 2025, commending him for his outstanding scholastic performance and academic excellence. Representing band students Della Sharpe and Ireland Wharff. Congratulating the junior high and high school bands for their excellence and dedication. Accompanied by band director Liz Rayba.

ADDITIONS, CORRECTIONS, AND DELETIONS TO AGENDA: Non

CORRECTIONS & APPROVAL OF MINUTES:

Motion by CM Navock, Second by CM Kohler to approve minutes as written for May 12, 2025. MOTION CARRIED.

PAY BILLS:

Motion by CM Kohler, Second by CM Vaerten to pay the bills in the following funds:

General- 37,709.26 (12709-12731)

Major Streets- 1,428.50 (4197-4198)

Local Streets- 2,537.50 (4456-4457)

Sanitary Sewer- 5,409.62 (4370-4373)

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Water- 16,167.82 (4028-4036)

Lead and Copper- 11,656.01 (180-183)

Equipment- 18,658.64 (1984-1986)

Park and Recreation- 1,618.71 (3122-3125)

MOTION CARRIED.

PUBLIC HEARING: None

ORDINANCES: None

RESOLUTIONS: None

PUBLIC QUESTIONS AND COMMENTS: None

PERSONAL APPEARANCES:

Casey Johnson from the Sanilac County News to talk about the Banner. The Banner currently resides in the Lapeer County Press but will be moving to the Sanilac County News. The launch date is June 4, 2025. She gave a description of some of the topics that would be moved into the portion of the Sanilac County News and what would stay in the Banner. She asked that the word be spread of the changes to the Banner so the public is aware of what's happening. CM Kohler said thank you. He sees a benefit to having the Banner in the Sanilac County News.

PERMITS: None

OLD BUSINESS:

Fire Authority- Water and Sewer Committee meeting scheduled for May 30th at 9am to discuss the Fire Authority Water Bill.

Park Lease- Building and Grounds Committee meeting changed to June 4th at 4:30.

CHICKENS:

Manager Bennett reached out to different communities with chickens. The communities that responded all have permits. Some do inspections and others don't. Sandusky and Brooklyn have not had any issues and most people follow the ordinances. Fenton has had a mix of positive and negative experiences. Manager Bennett feels like we should have some kind of inspection process and asked if the council wants him to move forward with drafting something. No one responded, Mayor Miller said we'll come back to that.

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NEW BUSINESS:

City Credit Card- UPS is only going to accept credit cards. Checks and ACH payments are going to be charged \$25. With the city credit card, members won't have to use their personal cards and wait to be reimbursed. CM Kohler asked if there's a reason they haven't had these before or whether it's been brought up before. Mayor Miller said it has been brought up before. Manager Bennett said he doesn't know the history for them. CM Kohler doesn't see an issue with them. Manager Bennett said Tri-County Bank has a program they can get into. Mayor Miller asked what the limit amount should be on the card. The agreement was \$1000.

Motion CM Vaerten, Second by CM Kohler to allow the City to get a Credit Card from Tri-County Bank with a \$1000 limit.

ROLL CALL VOTE: CM Robert Jacobson -YES, CM Neil Kohler -YES, CM Ross McIvor -YES, CM Eugene Navock -YES, CM Mark Vaerten -YES

5- Yays 0- Nays 1- Absent 0- Abstain MOTION CARRIED

FESTIVAL: Gino doesn't want to be a liaison to the festival and is requesting to be relieved of that position. Looking for someone to take over.

FIREWORKS PERMIT: Motion by CM Eugene Navock to approve the fireworks permit Second by CM Ross McIvor. MOTION CARRIED

CLERKS REPORT: None

DPW REPORT: None

MANAGERS REPORT:

Would like feedback on the condition of the DPW work trucks and what to do next. Whether to purchase a new or used pickup or purchase a new toolbox for a currently owned pickup. CM Vaerten asked about undercoating the trucks. CM Kohler asked if they were pricing new or used trucks and if there's any grants to help with the purchase. Not certain that we necessarily need it to be new. Asking for multiple quotes. Manager Bennett said the quote is for a new gas truck but is not opposed to a used vehicle. He's looking for a municipal loan and will work on getting multiple quotes.

Ethan Workman: Is working with the fire department and is in a program to get his EMS certification. Since he is in class, he is going from full time to part time.

Lift Station: Everything is going smoothly and they are hoping to be done with the underground portion by the 4th of July.

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Water Services: A resident on Maple Street with water shut off and locking cap installed, broke the locking cap and turned their water back on. A charge of Malicious Destruction of Property was sent to the Prosecutor's Office. Mayor Miller asked when the locking cap was installed and when it was assumed broken. Manager Bennett said two months ago it was installed and assumed to be broken at the same time.

City Hall Window: Updated with e-glass and looks great. You can't feel breezes or hear road noises. The grant also replaces water heaters that were installed in the DPW and in City hall. The DPW replaced a 50 gallon with a 6 gallon and it was discussed to insulate the DPW garage with any grant money that's left.

They've received the refund on the police car. Hopefully the police car will be in commission for Brown City Days.

Spring Clean Up: GFL will do the annual spring clean up on Thursday June 12th with the regular garbage pick up.

MAYOR'S REPORT:

Was at Marlette for the Lisa McClain roundtable. Manager Bennett said Lisa McClain is trying to get more grant money for local communities for storm sewers and drains.

Many Thank You's to the people who came together to make the Memorial Day Parade a success.

Addressed concern for the Veteran grave sites that have not been attended to. Manager Bennett said he would get a hold of Veteran affairs to see what kind of help there is for this situation.

The Dinner after the parade was a success.

COMMITTEE REPORTS:

1. Building and Grounds (Navock)- Change the meeting to June 4th at 4:30.
2. Personnel (P. Jacobson)- Everyone is Praying for Pat's healing.
3. Streets and Sidewalks (Vaerten)- None
4. Tax and Finance (Kohler)- None
5. Water and Sewer (B. Jacobson)- Tomorrow they will be ready to tie into the existing lift station.
6. Police (McIvor)- None

COUNCIL QUESTIONS AND COMMENTS:

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CM Kohler, thanks to everyone who came together to get the park ready for Brown City Days and hopes the weather cooperates. Get well soon, Pat.

CM Vaerten, thanks for everyone making the Memorial Day Parade great. Thanks to the Capac FFA for donating the flowers.

CM McIvor, thanks to Julie and Tara and had the picnic tables painted and planted flowers. There's chicken dinner tickets for sale, and tickets for the tractor pull and bump and run.

Mayor Miller, huge thank you to Kevin Miller and Ross McIvor for moving the picnic tables at the park. The scouts painted picnic tables, pavilions and planted flowers at the park. There's another work meeting Sunday at 9 am to get it ready for Brown City Days.

Tara Owens, asked about submitting some questions that she has concerns about. Would like to know whether the Mayor can vote or not. It says conflicting information in different places in the charter. Mayor Miller suggests she resubmit her questions.

ADJOURNMENT:

Motion by CM Vaerten, Second by CM B. Jacobson to Adjourn the May 27, 2025

Meeting of the City Council at 5:46 P.M.

MOTION CARRIED.

Respectfully Submitted,

Sara Muxlow
City Clerk