

BROWN CITY COUNCIL PROCEEDINGS
June 9, 2025

MEETING CALLED TO ORDER BY MAYOR JULIE MILLER AT 6:00 P.M.

PRESENT:

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

ABSENT:

None

GUESTS:

Becky Vislosky, Tara Owens, Dan Wedlake, Michelle Cisilino, Gary Douglas, Lt. Perez, Chief McKibben, Katherine Allen, Bill Muxlow, Chris Lee, Mike Vislosky.

PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE LED BY MAYOR JULIE MILLER

ADDITIONS, CORRECTIONS, AND DELETIONS TO AGENDA: Change meeting called to order from 5:00 to 6:00. Add under committee reports #6 Police and park.

CORRECTIONS & APPROVAL OF MINUTES:

Motion by CM P. Jacobson, Second by CM McIvor to approve minutes as written for May 27, 2025. MOTION CARRIED.

PAY BILLS:

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

General- 42,942.74 (12732-12759)

Major Streets- 39,169.81 (4199-4201)

Local Streets- 39,169.79 (4458-4460)

Sanitary Sewer- 3,384.22 (4375-4379)

Water- 20,055.90 (4038-4048)

Lead and Copper- 17,400.00 (184)

Storm Sewer- 238.00 (1399-1400)

Equipment- 98.79 (1987-1988)

Park and Recreation- 4,644.00 (3126-3131)
MOTION CARRIED.

PUBLIC HEARING: None

ORDINANCES: None

RESOLUTIONS:

Samantha Mariuz, Sanilac County Brownfield Consultant, and Tim Heiden, Sanilac County Brownfield Board Chairman, joined the meeting via teams to discuss the redevelopment of Maple Valley Estates. The Sanilac County Brownfield Redevelopment Authority (SBRA) approved the plan on May 22nd, and there will be a public hearing for a final approval on July 1st.

The Maple Valley Estates plan includes 70 properties with the intent of half being purchasable properties and half being rental properties depending on the demand, with 11 of the rental properties income restricted.

They will make sure the development will look like a new development with modular homes on a foundation. The tax increase of the new homes will go to the SBRA as a reimbursement for the project. It will take till 2050 in the plan for full reimbursement.

The intent is to bring the existing infrastructure up to code so the Sanilac County Road Commission will take over maintaining the roads in the development.

Dan Wedlake- 7291 Maple Valley Road- Questioned whether they had built a project like this before and what it looked like in 5 years time, and if the development includes what is already developed right now or attached piece of land.

The response was adding 25 more units in the first 2 years and completing the total of 70 units within the 3 years. They will be modular homes and not manufactured, with municipal utilities, and attached garages. The project only includes the existing developed portion of the property.

Motion by CM Kohler, Second by CM Vaerten to approve 25-06 - Resolution of Understanding to Utilize the Sanilac County Brownfield Redevelopment Authority for the Maple Valley Estates Redevelopment Project.

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

6- Yes, 0- No, 0- Absent, 0- Abstain MOTION CARRIED

Motion by CM B. Jacobson, Second by CM Navock to approve 25-07 - Resolution Concurring with the Provisions of a Brownfield Plan Adopted by the Sanilac County Brownfield Redevelopment Authority for the Maple Valley Estates Redevelopment Project.

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

6- YES, 0- NO, 0- Absent, 0- Abstain MOTION CARRIED

PUBLIC QUESTIONS AND COMMENTS:

Gary Douglas, 4278 Wood Street- asking about the petition for allowing chickens in the city limits of Brown City. Asks if the residents can do anything to move the process along.

Mayor Miller said there wasn't anything further than the sample ordinances.

City Manager Bennett was waiting for council to make a motion to move ahead with drafting an ordinance.

CM McIvor said that the City has always said no to anyone wanting chickens inside City limits of Brown City and believes it should stay that way.

Mayor Miller asked if they wanted to make a motion on the chickens and Council said not at this time.

PERSONAL APPEARANCES: None

PERMITS: None

OLD BUSINESS: None

NEW BUSINESS: None

MANAGERS REPORT:

Police Station Grant: The City did not receive the grant for the new police station. Looking for a possible WRAP grant to use towards a new police station.

Storm Sewer: Brown City's sewer-storm sewer infrastructure upgrade was chosen as 1 of 15 of Chairwoman Lisa McClain submissions for the year 2026. This is the first step, next it goes to the House Appropriations Committee.

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

Festival: Great weekend and Thank You to the festival committee.

MAYOR'S REPORT:

1. Next year is the Sesquicentennial. Questioned if we have it the same time as Brown City Days June 11-14 2026. Homecoming usually held in July.
2. Letters thanking Colin Hurley and Robert Browning for working on the Rocket for Memorial day.
3. Thank you to the Brown City Days Festival Committee- Jamie, Kevin, Tara, Jason, and Troy. Thank you to Brown City Rotary, Chris Lee, Wanda Grifka, Brown City Police, Cam and Shirley Keesler, Missionary Church, Pastor Mike and Pastor Dave, Sheriff Posse- Jared Stull, Ross Mclvor, Kevin Miller, Jacob and Austin for removing a tree from the park, DPW, B.C. Fire Department, Nathan Muxlow, Scouts, City for donations towards the fireworks, Bob Armstrong, Carl's Septic, Chicken dinner, and Tractor TTPA.
4. Looking to change the name of the Beer tent to the Beer Building.

COMMITTEE REPORTS:

1. Building and Grounds (Navock)- Would like to make 1 committee for the park.
2. Personnel (P. Jacobson)- None
3. Streets and Sidewalks (Vaerten)- None
4. Tax and Finance (Kohler)- None
5. Water and Sewer (B. Jacobson)- The City has to charge a water bill to the Brown City Area Fire Authority and will be averaged annually, minus Aspire Health's portion.
6. Police and Park (Mclvor)- None

COUNCIL QUESTIONS AND COMMENTS:

CM Kohler- Great job on the success of Brown City days. The new EV police car looks great.

Chief McKibben- The new police car will be good for the town.

CM Mclvor- Brown City days is bigger and better every year and was a success.

Mayor Miller- Reports fun games during the festival.

Chris Lee- Nothing to add to her report.

City Manager- Looking to get estimates to get the house on Main Street cleaned out.

ADJOURNMENT:

Motion by CM Vaerten, Second by CM P. Jacobson to Adjourn the June 9, 2025

Meeting of the City Council at 6:46 P.M.

MOTION CARRIED.

Respectfully Submitted,

Sara Muxlow

City Clerk