

BROWN CITY COUNCIL PROCEEDINGS
FEBRUARY 24, 2025

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

PRESENT: Mayor: Julie Miller; Councilmembers: Robert Jacobson, Patricia Jacobson, Ross McIvor, Mark Vaerten, Neil Kohler, City Manager Charles Bennett, City Clerk Pamela Willer.

ABSENT: Eugene Navock.

GUESTS: County Commissioner Christine Lee, DPW Foreman Mike Vislosky, Denise Jones, Dan Jones, Tara Owens, BCPD Lieutenant Mark Perez, Sharon Tebo, Bill Muxlow, Sarah Muxlow, Angel Kreiner, Becky Vislosky.

PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE LED BY MAYOR JULIE MILLER.

ADDITIONS, CORRECTIONS AND DELETIONS TO AGENDA:

CORRECTION & APPROVAL OF MINUTES: CM-Patricia Jacobson to approve the Regular Council Meeting Minutes on February 10, 2025. Second by CM-Mark Vaerten. Motion Carried.

PAY BILLS: Motion by CM-Pat Jacobson to approve and pay the bills as presented. Second by CM-Neil Kohler. Motion Carried.

02/11/2025 TO 02/24/25.

Following Funds: General - \$6,965.98 (12576 – 12591), Payroll - 02/05/2025 / TO 02/18/2025, \$26,936.44 (11491 – 11503), Includes EFT Tri-County Bank - \$5,530.95, State of Michigan - \$2,045.61 (11504), Operating Engineers Dues - \$.00, Major Streets - \$1,667.08 (4191-4192), Local Street - \$1,642.09 (4451-4452), Sanitary Sewer - \$646.99 (4342 – 4343), Water - \$31,255.29 (3979 - 3985) , Arsenic – \$.00, Storm Sewer - \$.00, Lead & Copper – \$29,580.00 (171), Equipment - \$1,276.50 (1963).

PERSONAL APPEARANCES:

Denise Jones: Having concerns about water meters and provided information regarding the meters. Denise also wanted to correct that she has gotten 163 signatures stating homeowners who do not want the meters.

POLICE REPORT: None.

COMMISSIONER'S REPORT: None.

ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT OFFICE: Ethan Workman has been working with three agencies regarding a complete overhaul of the Master Plan. The current Master Plan was adopted in 2018 which means that it is 2 years past its lifespan of 5 years, which is set by the State.

**Motion by CM-Ross Mclvor to use Wade Trim at \$34,250.00 to work up the Master Plan.
Second by CM-Neil Kohler.**

Roll Call Vote:

**CM-Ross Mclvor -Yes, CM-Neil Kohler -Yes, CM-Robert Jacobson – Yes,
CM-Mark Vaerten -Yes, CM-Patricia Jacobson – Yes.**

**5 – Yays 1 – Absent 0 – Nays 0 – Abstaining
Motion Carried.**

City Manager Charles Bennett, BCPD Chief Shane McKibben, BCPD Officer Ron Smith and ED Ethan Workman had a meeting with Senator Peters’ office to discuss the process of applying for appropriation funds to move the police department into the building next door.

The EV charger in the policy garage has been installed.

New Email campaign on the city’s website.

ED Ethan Workman and Tim Heiden, Village Manager for Peck, attended a housing workshop put on by EMCOG at Saginaw Valley State University on 2/20.

SEE ATTACHED.

PUBLIC QUESTIONS & COMMENTS: (Anyone wishing to address the City Council concerning items not on the agenda may do so. When recognized by the Council, please state name and address for the record. Please direct all remarks to the whole City Council. The Council reserves the right to delay any action, if required, until such time as when they are fully informed on the matter.) Please note that Public Comments are limited to three (3) minutes unless an extension is approved by a majority of the Council.

Sharon Tebo stated her concern about the Marihuana Dispensary. Sharon feels it sends a bad message for families and also thinks the residents of Brown City should get to vote if they want the dispensary or not. Neil Kohler said the Brown City Community Schools should not get involved with City plans.

County Commissioner Christine Lee asked if Council backs the County to do a letter of support for Senator Peters’ Appropriations Bill. Council approves the County to write the letter of support.

James Groat: No parking signs on East Main Street. James asked that the no parking signs on East Main Street be reversed. CM-Ross Mclvor made a motion that the No Parking Signs be removed from Joe Biel’s to Treve’s, and all signs be removed on the South side of East Main. Second by CM-Robert Jacobson.

Roll Call Vote:

**CM - Ross Mclvor – Yes CM – Neil Kohler CM – Robert Jacobson
CM -Mark Vaerten – Yes CM – Patricia Jacobson**

5 – Yays 1 – Absent 0 – Nays 0 – Abstaining
Motion Carried.

ORDINANCES: None.

OLD BUSINESS:

Park Mowing: RFP for Park Mowing has been posted publicly with no bids being submitted at this time.

Training: Greg Guetschow is a Senior Advisor with Michigan Municipal League, he will conduct a training for Council, office staff, or any other board members that want to attend on March 10, 2025. The training will be at 4:30 PM until approximately 5:45 PM. This will be scheduled as a working meeting.

NEW BUSINESS:

Brown City Community Park Association: association member Jared McPhail dropped off a letter explaining that the Association is looking to see if out of the organizations left on the original by-laws, which groups are interested in maintaining to be a member in the association. **Motion by CM-Mark Vaerten to resume membership on the Brown City Community Park Association. Second by CM-Ross Mclvor.**

Roll Call Vote:

CM-Ross Mclvor – Yes CM-Neil Kohler – Yes CM-Robert Jacobson – Yes
CM-Mark Vaerten – Yes CM-Patricia Jacobson- Yes

5 – Yays 1 – Absent 0 – Nays 0 – Abstaining
Motion Carried.

MANAGER’S REPORT:

DPW Foreman Mike Vislosky will be off due to surgery until March 6, 2025.

State Marihuana Dispensary Revenue Share: The 2024 State revenue share for towns with a dispensary is \$58,228.66. This revenue has gone up every year. This total does not include the annual permit fee that a town can charge a dispensary.

POLICE STATION: None.

MAYOR’S REPORT:

Memorial Day Parade: Contact Julie Miller if you want to put something in parade. Proclamation for Steve Murray, owner of D&N, for donating the property for the new lift station project.

DPW REPORT: REPORT ATTACHED

COMMITTEE REPORT’S:

1. **Building and Grounds (Navock): Absent.**

2. **Personnel (P.Jacobson): Personnel Meeting with DPW Union Representative on February 25, 2025 at 10 AM at City Hall.**
3. **Streets and Sidewalks (Vaerten): None.**
4. **Tax and Finance (Kohler): Meeting February 27, 2025 at 4:30 PM.**
5. **Water & Sewer (R.Jacobson): None.**
6. **Police & Park (McIvor): Park Meeting 2/25/25 at 7:00PM.**

PETITIONS & COMMUNICATIONS: None.

ATTORNEY'S REPORT: None.

TREASURER'S REPORT: None.

CLERK'S REPORT: None.

GENERAL CONCERNS OF THE COUNCIL:

CM Ross McIvor stated that a resident complained to him about Council telling her that she could not have live chickens within the City limits per our City Ordinance. Questioned why another residence currently is keeping live chickens. City Manager Charles Bennett will investigate and report back.

DPW is doing a good with the snow removal.

CLOSED SESSION: None Scheduled.

ADJOURNMENT:

Motion by CM-Neil Kohler to Adjourn the February 24, 2025, Regular Meeting of the City Council at 6:49 PM. Second by CM-Robert Jacobson. Motion Carried.

Respectfully Submitted,

Pamela Willer
City Clerk