

**Village of Brownville Town Board Meeting,
February 14, 2022**

The regular meeting was called to order at 6:30 p.m. Chairman Marty Hayes pointed out the posting of the Open Meetings Act.

Board members present: Terry Vice, Josh Russell and Natisha Helmick. Bailey Bindle was absent. Also present, Deborah Solie, clerk.

Hayes moved to excuse Bindle from the Board meeting. Vice seconded. All yes votes. Motion carried.

Motion by Helmick, seconded by Russell, to approve the agenda as handed out. All yes votes. Motion carried.

Motion by Helmick, seconded by Russell, to approve the January 10 regular meeting minutes and January 14 special meeting minutes. All yes votes. Motion carried.

The financial report was reviewed. Helmick moved the financial report be accepted as handed out. Russell seconded. All yes votes. Motion carried.

The claims were reviewed. Helmick questioned a line item related to payment to Bradley Electric and the meter installed at the Village Hall. Helmick moved the claims be paid as presented with follow up to the Auburn Board of Public Works to ask for repayment of the meter. Russell seconded. All yes votes. Motion carried. Claims submitted by board member Terry Vice were reviewed. Helmick moved to approve Vice's claims. Russell seconded. Helmick voted yes, Russell - yes, Hayes – yes, Vice – abstain. Motion carried. Claims submitted by board member Marty Hayes were reviewed. Helmick moved to approve Hayes' claims. Russell seconded. Helmick voted yes, Russell – yes, Vice – yes, Hayes – abstain. Motion carried.

Projects, Buildings and Equipment:

Water/Sewer Report: Russell presented a draft contract between the Village of Brownville and Rural Water District 1. The terms stay the same with the Rural Water District assuming calibration, and the cost per gallon would raise to \$4.22 per 1,000 gallons in August 2022 to match the rates of other Rural Water District clients. Russell will meet with Village attorney, Kelly Werts, to review. The contract was tabled. The Board also reported a leak was identified behind the Main Street shops and a second leak in the park. The leak behind the shops was repaired, but the park leak could not be identified. The water was shut off to this line and will be repaired in spring. The Board discussed whether Dave Hunter (Auburn Board of Public Works) should be invited to attend the next Board meeting or Board members visit his office. It was decided to invite Hunter to the next Board meeting in March.

Street Report: The Board reported repairs were needed at 4th and Main streets. The Board reviewed a bid to tear out the concrete and repair the area from Jim Smith for \$2,100. Helmick moved to approve Smith's bid for the street repairs. Russell seconded. All yes votes.

Town Hall Repairs: Thrasher completed the Town Hall foundation work at the end of January 2021. Grant Wessels sealed the cracks behind the building. The Board discussed the need to seek bids for painting and repairs of the exterior and interior.

Old Business:

The Board revisited holding a Brownville clean up days in April. Helmick discussed working with American Recycling to hold a weekend clean up day for appliances, brush, trash. Helmick moved to hold a clean-up weekend April 22-24. Russell seconded. All yes votes.

Solie presented on behalf of the Brownville Volunteer Fire Department. To purchase pagers for the fire department, the quote received by the clerk was \$410 per pager. Helmick moved to approve purchasing up to 10 pagers for the fire department. Russell seconded. Helmick voted yes, Russell – yes, Hayes – yes, Vice – no. Motion carried.

New Business:

The Board reviewed a note and contract regarding the radio transmitter tower near the Brownville water tower. Helmick and Russell will review the contract with Werts (attorney).

The Board discussed the Easter egg hunt, held annually the Saturday before Easter. Due to the increase in chocolate prices, the Board discussed seeking donations to offset candy costs and approving and increase in funds for the candy. Helmick moved to spend \$350 for Easter Candy including top prizes with matching funds requested from the Brownville Volunteer Fire Department. Russell seconded. All yes votes. Motion carried.

Solie shared upcoming training opportunities for the required treasurer training for the clerk. Both opportunists cost approximately \$400. Helmick moved to approve the cost for Solie to attend one of the conferences (her choice). Russell seconded. All yes votes. Motion carried.

Steve Woerth presented an estimate to trim a tree that impacts BHS property and the Village Hall. He asked to split the cost of the trimming with the Village. Helmick said she would solicit additional estimates. The topic was tabled until March.

Woerth presented the results from a recent survey of Brownville community members. He mailed 80+ surveys and had 57 adults respond. The Clerk will house survey results in her office for community members interested in reviewing the results summary.

Woerth provided a Merchants of Brownville subcommittee report. He discussed a meeting he had with Pinpoint to bring fiber internet to Brownville (the cost would be approximately \$35,000/mile). They will continue to look at options to partner with Pinpoint.

Solie presented a building permit for a new storage shed for the Brownville Village Theatre. Vice moved to approve the permit. Helmick seconded. All yes votes. Motion carried.