

**Village of Brownville Town Board Meeting,
December 13, 2021**

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

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

Motion by Helmick, seconded by Russell, to approve the November 8 regular meeting minutes. All yes votes. Motion carried.

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

The claims were reviewed. Russell moved the claims be paid as presented. Helmick seconded. All yes votes. Motion carried.

Projects, Buildings and Equipment:

Water/Sewer Report: Russell asked community members to inform him or Hayes of any leaks or problems with water as the weather changes. There was a water leak at Riverside Park, and a beaver hole at the sewer lagoons. Davis Plumbing was called to repair both issues.

Street Report: Hayes reported Constructors, Inc. fixed ripples in the asphalt and oiled the street. The Board is waiting for the County to complete work on clearing ditches throughout the Village.

Riverside Park: Vice provided an update from a recent meeting with NEMA, and what are allowed expenses for the berm project.

Town Hall Repairs: Thrasher will be in Brownville on December 14 to evaluate the back wall and provide an estimate for repairs.

Old Business:

The Board discussed alley access north of Whiskey Run Creek between 3rd and 4th streets. Davis Plumbing clearing the hole in the alley and the Village will use rip rap to fill it. The Board reviewed the surveyor's findings and determined they would help clear the alley to provide access to community members. They will be discussions with the Village engineer on next steps for erosion control and access.

New Business:

Helmick presented on behalf of the Walnut Grove Cemetery board and asked for permission to place signs in the Village's right of way – specifically at the corner of 7th and Main streets. The Board agreed a sign would be allowed in the right of way, but recommended the winery be contacted for their approval. The signs will be professionally installed. Hayes indicated there is a water line in the area.

Solie asked the Board for approval for the Brownville Volunteer Fire Department to provide mutual aid. Helmick moved the BVFD should provide mutual aid to communities and rural areas outside of the Brownville village limits. Russell seconded. All yes votes. Motion carried.

Jim Murphy asked the Board to consider paving 7th Street north of Main Street. The Board said the cost was prohibitive at this point but they would ask the county for speed limit signs and asphalt chips for the road. The Board discussed the responsibility of county versus village for the street. Helmick said she would investigate and report to the Board.

Wayne Brandenburger presented funding opportunities for the riverfront project on behalf of the Merriwether Lewis Foundation. He asked the Board to approve a letter of intent for funding due January 15, 2022. Helmick moved to approve the letter and send it to the Nebraska Department of Economic Development. Russell seconded. All yes votes. Motion carried.

The Board discussed the new Floodplain Ordinance and the related permitting requirements. Helmick moved to adopt Village of Brownville, Nemaha County, Nebraska Ordinance No. 2021-12-13 Zoning Overlay District Floodplain Management Ordinance. Russell seconded. All yes votes. Motion carried.

Helmick moved to adopt the Resolution for Joining the National Flood Insurance Program Resolution No. 2021-12-13. Russell seconded. All yes votes. Motion carried.

Helmick moved to reappoint Deborah Solie as the Village's clerk and treasurer. Vice seconded. All yes votes. Motion carried.

The Board discussed whether to move funds from the Keno savings account to CDs. Helmick discussed waiting to see if interest rates will rise. The Board asked Solie to do additional investigation on options. The topic was tabled.

Heather Pemberton, CPA presented the audit waiver to the Board. Helmick moved to approve the audit waiver as presented. Russell seconded. All yes votes. Motion carried.

Pemberton provided an engagement letter, which included scope of work and related costs, with the Village of Brownville. Helmick moved to accept the letter as presented and retain Pemberton's services. Russell seconded. All yes votes. Motion carried.

Public Comment:

The floor was opened for public comment from the community. Comments were made regarding transferring the need for a water study

Adjournment:

Vice moved that the meeting be adjourned. Helmick seconded. All yes votes. Motion carried. Adjournment at 7:42 p.m.

Deborah Solie, clerk