

**Village of Brownville Town Board Meeting,
March 8, 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, Josh Russell, Terry Vice, Natisha Helmick. 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 Vice, seconded by Russell, to approve the February 8, 2021 regular meeting minutes. All yes votes. Helmick abstained. 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 moved the claims be paid as presented excepting the Berwick Oil claim because there is a credit with the company. Russell seconded. All yes votes. Motion carried.

Projects, Buildings and Equipment:

Water/Sewer Report: The report was given by Russell. A leak was recently fixed at the corner of Water and 4th Streets. One of the pumps from the lift station is being rebuilt.

Helmick moved the Village work with the Rural Water Association to conduct a water rate study. Russell seconded. All yes votes. Motion carried.

Fire Department: JD Gentert reported the Brownville Volunteer Fire Department needs to purchase a new skid and pump. Vice moved to authorize BVFD to purchase the needed equipment (skid, pump). Helmick seconded. All yes votes. Motion carried. Gentert also discussed the need to purchase a new fire truck.

Street Report: Hayes spoke with Mike Hall, Nemaha Co. Commissioner, about doing work and repairs on the Brownville streets. Reviewed bid for sealing streets. Vice discussed the need to slow traffic on Main Street, potentially a speed bump. Helmick mentioned investigating rumble bars. The MOB subcommittee is reviewing options and will provide feedback at an upcoming meeting. Solie will investigate Village insurance coverage related to speed bumps.

The Board discussed yellow pads on sidewalks that have come up at the edges. The Board decided to remove the yellow pads until they can be replaced permanently.

Old Business:

The Board discussed conducting a water rate study through the Rural Water Association. Helmick made a motion to conduct the study. Russell seconded. All yes votes. Motion carried.

Russell moved to reimburse Steve Woerth for supplies to paint crosswalks throughout the village up to \$500. Bindle seconded. Bindle, Helmick, Russell, Vice vote yes. Hayes voted no. Motion carried.

Additional discussion was held on repairing crosswalk lights on Hwy 136. Helmick moved the topic be tabled until the traffic study is completed later this year. Vice seconded. All yes votes. Motion carried.

The Board reviewed a request for the Village to purchase rock for the Whiskey Run Creek Trail. Vice moved the Board spend \$500 on new rock for the trail. Helmick seconded. Vice, Helmick, Bindle and Russell voted yes. Hayes abstained. Motion carried.

Solie reported all FEMA projects have been obligated for the Village. Work will begin soon on the Riverside Park.

New Business:

The Board discussed the need for a new truck, plow and sander. The topic was tabled until the Brownville Volunteer Fire Department (BVFD) learns more about purchasing a new fire truck.

The Board is seeking bids for mowing Village properties. The bid period will end March 14 with bids reviewed at a future meeting.

The Village, in conjunction with BVFD, decided to give out Easter egg baskets to children (12 and under) throughout the Village and surrounding area rather than hold an Easter egg hunt. Vice made a motion to pay Allison Hayes \$250 to purchase candy and supplies. Bindle seconded. All yes votes. Motion carried.

A letter was read from Jane Rohman regarding some grass torn up at Rohman Garden. The area will be repaired by volunteers.

The Board reviewed the current hourly rate paid to Village employees. Area towns and villages pay a higher hourly rate than the Village currently does. Vice made a motion to raise the hourly rate to \$18. Russell seconded. Russell, Bindle and Vice voted yes. Helmick voted no. Hayes abstained. Motion carried.

Vice made a motion to adjourn to executive session at 7:25 p.m. Helmick seconded. All yes votes. Motion carried.

Helmick moved the executive session open at 7:26 p.m. Vice seconded. All yes votes. Motion carried.

Vice made a motion that all replacement water meters are paid for by the property owners. Helmick is seconded. All yes votes. Motion carried.

Vice moved the executive session be adjourned at 7:29 p.m. Helmick seconded. All yes votes. Motion carried.

Adjournment:

Vice moved that the meeting be adjourned. Helmick seconded. All yes votes. Motion carried. Adjournment at 7:30 p.m.

Deborah Solie, clerk