

**Village of Brownville Town Board Meeting,
July 12, 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 Russell, to approve the agenda as handed out. All yes votes. Motion carried.

Motion by Helmick, seconded by Bindle, to approve the June 14, 2021 regular meeting minutes. All yes votes. Motion carried.

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

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

Projects, Buildings and Equipment:

Water/Sewer Report: The report was given by Russell. The sewer pump is scheduled to be installed in July. There was a leak and problem at the water tower. BPW was able to fix the leak with a new valve. The Board discussed which entity owns the main water meter for the Village of Brownville. Russell is going to verify. The Board also reiterated the need for a water rate study with the increase price for water from Rural Water (\$1 per 1,000 gallons).

Street Report: Vice met with Ryan Conn to discuss options for the drainage area at the corner of 5th and Main streets. Conn recommended a railing for safety and suggested there may be challenges with the culvert. Mike Hall and Don Wamsley with Nemaha County will be in Brownville to review areas needing repair including the culvert at 5th and Main streets. Vice moved a railing is installed on both sides of 5th Street (east and west sides) and north of Main Street. Helmick seconded. All yes votes. Motion carried.

The Board discussed the street budget and the need to keep cars off plastic drainage tubes throughout Main Street. Repairs to 6th Street are scheduled for later this year.

Riverside Park: No report. Randel Smith mowed the park prior to Brownville's Freedom Celebration.

Old Business:

The Board discussed continued interest in new Christmas decorations for Brownville. A catalog has been ordered. The topic was tabled until the August meeting.

New Business:

T. Vice discussed repairs to the top of the Town Hall façade. He received a bid from Zach Vice Construction for \$1,100 with 50% paid up front due to the cost of materials. The Board asked that Z. Vice also clean the gutters. T. Vice made a motion to approve the bid and ask Z. Vice for bids for gutter cleaning and screening. Helmick seconded. All yes votes. Motion carried.

The Capital Square picnic benches agenda item was tabled until the August meeting.

The Board reviewed the new renewal options and resolution for insurance through LARM. Helmick moved to approved Resolution # 7-12-21 renewing the Village's insurance contract through LARM. Russell seconded. All yes votes. Motion carried.

Russell raised the question of clearing trees from the recent storm. Most of the trees are located in the cemetery and the cemetery board will clear those.

The Board reviewed a request to provide an additional \$200 toward paint for the crosswalks project. Vice moved to deny the request. Helmick seconded. All yes votes. Motion carried.

New locks and a new door knob were installed in the Town Hall. The Board decided to provide keys to individuals who assist with cleaning the Town Hall. All other keys will be provided to Village Board members to open and close the Hall for events.

The Board reviewed funds from the American Rescue Plan and how they may be used. The Board decided to focus on sewer and drainage needs. The Clerk was directed to investigate options.

The Board discussed a claim from Windstream for damages at the corner of 5th and Main streets. Witnesses say the area was not marked by Windstream, though there was a One Call submitted prior to digging. Helmick moved to deny the claim. Bindle seconded. All yes votes. Motion carried.

Public Comment:

The floor was opened for public comment from the community. No comments were made.

At 7:16 p.m. Helmick moved to adjourn to executive session to discuss personnel and wages. Vice seconded. All yes votes. Motion carried.

Executive Session:

Vice moved the Board close the executive session at 7:23 p.m.. Helmick seconded. All yes votes. Motion carried.

During executive session, it was decided to pay a local contractor \$15 per hour; raise the pay of the Village Clerk to \$750 per month; raise the pay of Village hourly workers to \$25 per hour; and increase the pay of the Board Chairman to \$75 per month and Board members monthly pay to \$50.

Adjournment:

Vice moved that the meeting be adjourned. Russell seconded. All yes votes. Motion carried. Adjournment at 7:27 p.m.

Deborah Solie, clerk