

**Village of Brownville Town Board Meeting,
November 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, 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 Bindle, to approve the October 11 regular 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. Russell moved the claims be paid as presented. Helmick seconded. All yes votes. Motion carried.

Projects, Buildings and Equipment:

Water/Sewer Report: Russell reported the Village will need to renew their contract with the Rural Water Association District 1. He also said the tower was running over and did not automatically shut off. Auburn Board of Public Works fixed the problem. Helmick reported the taxes charged for water usage has changed and the Board is investigating how that will impact Brownville residents. The Board discussed inviting Dave Hunter, General Manager with the Auburn Board of Public Works to an upcoming meeting to discuss questions about the contract between Brownville and BPW..

Street Report: Hayes reported Constructors, Inc. will be in Brownville to fix ripples in the asphalt in November. The Board is waiting for the County to complete work on clearing ditches throughout the Village.

Town Hall Repairs: The Board reported Conn could not complete the work repairing the Town Hall foundation. The Board is waiting on a bid from Jim Smith and Thrasher. Hayes discussed selling the old sewer tanks and equipment in the Town Hall basement.

Old Business:

The Board discussed alley access north of Whiskey Run Creek between 3rd and 4th streets. Tom Vacek shared additional erosion has occurred in the alley creating a larger hole. He suggested tearing out branches and filling the hole in with rip rap. The Board has hired a surveyor to

provide a report on the alley boundaries. The County has also been asked to assist with removing debris and clearing drainage ditches.

New Business:

The Board discussed the stone structure constructed at 403 Main Street located in the Village's right of way along Main Street. Helmick moved to leave the structure as constructed with any liability associated with the structure the responsibility of the home owner. Russell seconded. Bindle voted yes, Russell voted yes, Helmick voted yes, Vice abstained, and Hayes voted no. Motion carried.

The Board reviewed the recent Halloween event and discussed the larger than anticipated attendance.

The Merchants of Brownville subcommittee asked the Board if they would support the committee researching the possibility of speed bumps for Main Street. There was some interest from the Board, but most wanted to investigate other ways to slow traffic. The subcommittee will be fundraising next year for a radar sign. The subcommittee presented a list of street signs that need to be replaced throughout the town. Vice moved to replace the street signs as suggested by the subcommittee. Russell seconded. All yes votes. Motion carried.

Steve Woerth, president of Brownville Historical Society, presented a check of \$788 to the Village for allowing street and Village Hall use during the spring and fall flea markets. The Board discussed ways to ensure the landowners property is respected by vendors and attendees, and the importance of allowing sufficient space for rescue equipment and vehicles to drive down Main Street. Woerth said he would present these ideas and concerns with the BHS Board.

Helmick shared plans for a drive-up Santa event sponsored by the Village board on December 11. She also encouraged local businesses and homes to decorate and "light up Brownville" for the holidays.

The Board thanked community volunteers for planting 10 trees throughout the Village, but requested one tree near the corner of 6th and Main streets be moved farther from the water line.

Zach Fergus, landscape architect with Lamp Rynearson, presented on the Riverfront Project with the Merriwether Lewis. He reviewed steps taken to date including working with stakeholders and the public to determine the best concept design for the area. Next steps include an online survey for public input and pursue additional funding.

Hayes moved to appoint Evan B. Wickersham from JEO Consulting Group, Inc as our Street Superintendent. Helmick seconded. All yes votes. Motion carried.

Helmick moved to adopt the resolution for the signing of the year-end certification of city street superintendent 2021. Bindle seconded. All yes votes. Motion carried.

Hayes moved to appoint JEO Consulting Group, Inc as the Village Engineer for the Village of Brownville. Russell seconded. Vice abstained, Hayes voted yes, Russell voted yes, Bindle voted yes, Helmick voted yes. Motion carried.

Helmick discussed adding a Brownville Clean Up Day to the Village calendar. She presented costs to the board and discussed possible days. The Board tabled the topic until spring.

Public Comment:

The floor was opened for public comment from the community. Comments were made regarding transferring Keno funds from savings to certificates of deposit.

Adjournment:

Helmick moved that the meeting be adjourned. Vice seconded. All yes votes. Motion carried. Adjournment at 8:10 p.m.

Deborah Solie, clerk