

**Village of Brownville Town Board Meeting,
December 12, 2022**

The 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, Natisha Helmick, Bailey Bindle. Also present, Kristy Mertes, clerk. Josh Russell was absent.

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

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

The clerk administered the Oath of Office for Martin Hayes and Natisha Helmick. The board elected officers. Helmick moved to nominate Marty Hayes for chairman. Vice seconded it. All yes votes with Hayes abstaining. Motion carried. Helmick moved to nominate Vice as Vice Chairman. Bindle seconded. All yes votes with Vice abstaining. Motion carried. Helmick moved to nominate Vice as Street Commissioner with other board members supporting. Bindle seconded. All yes votes with Vice abstaining. Motion carried. Vice moved to nominate Helmick as water/sewer commissioner. Bindle seconded. All yes votes with Helmick abstaining. Motion carried. Helmick moved to nominate Russell for Recreation/Park Commissioner. Bindle seconded. All yes voted. Motion carried.

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

Agenda rules discussed and to be signed in January.

The claims were reviewed. Helmick moved the claims be paid as presented. Vice seconded. All yes votes. Motion carried. Claims submitted by board member Marty Hayes were reviewed. Vice moved to approve Hayes' claims. Helmick seconded. Helmick voted yes, Vice – yes, Bindle – yes, Hayes – abstain. Motion carried. Claims submitted by Helmick were reviewed. Vice moved to approve Helmick's claims. Bindle seconded. Helmick abstained, Vice – yes, Hayes – yes, Bindle – yes. Motion carried. Claims submitted by Vice were reviewed. Bindle moved to approve Vice's claims. Helmick seconded. Helmick voted yes, Vice – abstained, Hayes – yes, Bindle – yes. Motion carried.

Heather Pemberton presented an audit waiver for consideration by the board. Helmick moved to approve the audit waiver. Bindle seconded. All yes votes. Motion carried.

Projects, Buildings and Equipment:

Water/Sewer Report: Helmick reported the lagoons are drained down for winter. Rural water is staying up to date with water usage. Vice moved to approve waster water classes/certification for Helmick. Bindle seconded. All yes voted. Motion carried. Helmick reported the board received a letter on October 31st from the State of Nebraska notifying them the Village does not have a licensed water or sewer operator. Aaron Davis will be the water/sewer operator. Auburn BPW does not have a contract on file. The rural water agreement is on hold.

Paul Fish shared concerns he has regarding the water/sewer system. He shared that radio read water meters and transmitters purchased by the village should last for 30 years. He also reviewed the responsibilities of the water/sewer operator and asked the board to confirm Davis's qualifications. He also discussed water testing, safeguarding the well and asked the board to sign the contract with BPW.

Helmick moved to purchased locks for the water tower house and gates. Vice seconded. All yes votes. Motion carried.

Street Report: The board discussed the light at second street. Helmick reported it was not put in the right location and will cost \$400 plus labor to move it plus tree trimming.

Helmick reported that BPW removed trees at the park but did not clean up the area. When contacted they said it would cost \$50 an hour per person and \$50 per hour for the wood chipper. Helmick contacted the state and was advised that BPW should clean up at no cost.

The board discussed the need for a street sign at 6th and Nemaha Streets. The chairman directed the clerk to purchase the needed sign.

Rock is needed for the alley north of Roman Garden. The county will take care of it.

Riverside Park Repairs: Vice reported the picnic shelters have been constructed. He is waiting for cement to be poured and bids for grass to be done.

Old Business:

The board discussed purchasing a new mower to mow the park. Vice is seeking costs but anticipates the cost to be \$14, 000 to \$15,000 with a 20 percent discount. Topic was tabled until next month.

New Business:

Helmick moved to appoint Evan B. Wickersham from JEO Consulting Group, Inc. as our Street Superintendent. Bindle seconded it. All yes votes. Motion carried. Helmick moved to appoint JEO Consulting Group, Inc. as the 2023 Village Engineer. Bindle seconded. All yes votes. Motion carried.

Steve Woerth from BHS clarified the Villages payment portion for tree trimming. BHS will reimburse the village for over payment.

The board tabled discussion of franchisee agreement until January meeting.

Helmick asked for community volunteer. Community members asked for additional information on volunteer opportunities.

Adjournment:

Vice moved to adjourn at 8:03 p.m. Helmick seconded. All yes votes. Motion carried.

Kristy Mertes, clerk