

**Village of Brownville Town Board Special Meeting,
June 22, 2022**

The special meeting was called to order at 6:31 p.m. Chairman Marty Hayes pointed out the posting of the Open Meetings Act.

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

Helmick moved to excuse Bailey Bindle from the meeting since she could not attend due to illness. Russell seconded. All yes votes. Motion carried.

Chairman Hayes asked Vice-Chairman Russell to run the meeting because he had laryngitis.

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

Motion by Vice, seconded by Helmick, to approve the May 9 meeting minutes. All yes votes. Motion carried.

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

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

Projects, Buildings and Equipment:

Water/Sewer Report: The water contract review was tabled until the Board receives feedback from the Village attorney. Russell shared the Nebraska Rural Water Association sent technicians to Brownville to check for leaks. The NeRWA checked all metallic pipes, but many of the pipes in Brownville are PVC and undetectable by their equipment. Hayes moved to give a donation of NeRWA of \$300 for their assistance identifying leaks. Helmick seconded. All yes votes. Motion carried. The Board continued discussion of the water rate study provided by NeRWA. Helmick moved to leave the flat rate at \$16 and raise the cost per 1,000 gallons to \$.70. Russell seconded. All yes votes. Motion carried. John Lauber community member asked how to get water back to the Merriwether Lewis. Russell reported there was a leak on the line that serviced the Merriwether Lewis and so it had been shut down. Continued discussion revolved around the location of the Merriwether Lewis meter, with Russell asking Lauber to show him the meter location in the park.

Street Report: The Board is waiting on the County to install a tube for drainage under the 3rd Street alley, south of Main Street. Helmick is working with the Vaceks on the alley and possible backflow impacting their property. The brush concern from the community will be addressed at a later point. The Board discussed abandoning the alley, but decided they were not ready to do so yet. Helmick reported the Village is waiting on Constructors to bring the asphalt chips to Brownville for 7th Street. There will be no fee for the chips, delivery or spreading, but the Village is dependent on Constructors schedule. Russell moved to deny a community

member request for reimbursement for dust suppression measures they took on 7th street. Helmick seconded. All yes votes. Motion carried. Solie reported the CDBG-PW grant received by the town is on hold while the culvert percentage size increase is calculated and a process is completed through the US Army Corps of Engineers.

Town Hall Repairs: The Board discussed adding automatic locks to the front doors of the Town Hall to close the bathrooms to the public during the overnight hours. Helmick has contacted A-1 Locksmith from Nebraska City. The topic was tabled until 2 to 3 options are available for the Board to review.

Riverside Park: The Village is seeking permits to do work in the floodplain for Riverside Park from the Village of Brownville and Nemaha County.

Old Business:

Helmick reported the dog ordinance is still under review by the Village attorney. The topic was tabled until the August meeting. Helmick reported the zoning ordinances are under review by the Village attorney. The topic was tabled until the June meeting.

The Board reviewed the request to close streets around 8th street. The requestor was not present due to covid, and the Board decided not to alter their previous decision to keep the streets open.

New Business:

The CDBG-Tourism grant agenda item was tabled until a representative could be present.

The Board discussed clean up following a storm that impacted several trees. Clean up was mostly complete, but the Board still needed to coordinate removal of a tree across from the wood dump and limbs down near Main and 7th streets.

The Board reviewed a bid to paint and repair railings and light posts provided by Montee Barbee. Vice moved to accept the estimate. Helmick seconded. All yes votes. Motion carried. The Board discussed the need to repair a handrail that is loose and potentially asking Jamie Smith for his assistance.

Bob Sailors brought forward his concern that the Village tractor was not parked inside the maintenance building for three or more weeks and was hailed on during a recent storm. He also expressed a concern that Village Theatre props were being temporarily stored in the maintenance building and asked the Board to not store personal items (community or organization) in the building. Hayes said the tractor had not been parked in the maintenance building because he has been struggling with the heavy garage door. He has asked for bids to put in a new door or door opener. The Board said they thought it was important to support local organizations in need, and the props are only stored temporarily while the theatre's storage building is being constructed.

The Board discussed sending a letter to community members outlining property owner responsibilities. The clerk was asked to draft a letter for Board review at a later meeting.

The Blue Rivers invoice for support was tabled to allow the Clerk time to gather additional information.

Solie presented to the Board, on behalf of the Brownville Freedom Celebration, asking for a renewal of their annual sponsorship toward fireworks on the 4th of July. Vice moved to provide \$350 for fireworks. Russell seconded. All yes votes. Motion passed.

Adjournment:

Vice moved that the meeting be adjourned. Helmick seconded. All yes votes. Motion carried. Adjournment at 7:55 p.m.

Deborah Solie, clerk