

**Village of Brownville Town Board Meeting,
March 14, 2022**

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

Helmick moved to excuse Bindle from the Board meeting. Russell seconded. All yes votes. Motion carried.

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

Motion by Helmick, seconded by Russell, to approve the February 14 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. Vice moved the claims be paid as presented. Helmick 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, Russell - yes, Vice - yes, Hayes - abstain. Motion carried. Claims submitted by board member Josh Russell were reviewed. Vice moved to approve Russell's claims. Helmick seconded. Helmick voted yes, Russell - abstain, Vice - yes, Hayes - yes. Motion carried. Claims submitted by board member Terry Vice were reviewed. Helmick moved to approve Vice's claims. Russell seconded. Helmick voted yes, Russell - yes, Vice - abstain, Hayes - yes. Motion carried.

Projects, Buildings and Equipment:

Water/Sewer Report: Russell and Helmick have scheduled a meeting with Village attorney, Kelly Werts on March 17 to review a draft contract between the Village of Brownville and Rural Water District 1. The terms stay the same with the Rural Water District assuming calibration, and the cost per gallon would raise to \$4.22 per 1,000 gallons in August 2022 to match the rates of other Rural Water District clients. The contract was tabled.

Dave Hunter and Alan Slater presented to the Village Board and answered questions regarding lights at Riverside Park, street light repairs, mileage for trips to Brownville for repairs, state lagoon requirements and the water tower alarm. Hunter said increased bills for BPW labor are due to increase labor costs. BPW calculates these costs annually and Hunter said the spreadsheet will be shared with the Village Board. Slater is the point of contact for the Village, but Hunter makes all financial decisions.

Street Report: Contractors will be in Brownville at the end of April to repave and widen the cemetery road. The Village Board will ask for bids for street repairs when they are in town.

Town Hall Repairs: No bids have been received for repairs. The topic is tabled.

Riverside Park: Woerth discussed the importance of the park to attract tourists and young people to Brownville. He emphasized that Brownville is dependent on tourism and suggested the Clerk's hours be increased to allow for time to develop tourism, oversee parks and recreation and report to the Board.

The Board discussed the FEMA project for a berm to protect Riverside Park. The project, as defined by FEMA, was determined by the Board to be insufficient to protect the park and could cause problems with flooding along the creeks. Vice moved to approve the berm, Hayes seconded. All voted no. Motion failed. Vice discussed the current FEMA projects and projected expenses (FEMA covers 90% of expenses). Projects include Parks, Recreational Facilities and Other Items (projected cost \$111,055.65), Debris Removal (projected cost \$389,874.79), Roads and Bridges (projected cost \$22,292.94) and Water Control Facilities (projected cost \$447,272.30).

Old Business:

The cell tower contract was tabled until Helmick and Russell can review with Werts (attorney).

The review of bids to trim trees impacting both the Town Hall and Brownville Historical Society property was tabled until another bid could be received.

Solie shared the U.S. Treasury had issued a final rule regarding American Rescue Plan funds received by municipalities. The rule will take effect on April 1, 2022 and the Board will review uses for the funds again at a future meeting.

Jim Murphy followed up on his request to slow traffic on 7th street and dust suppression. Hayes shared he was looking for asphalt chips to assist with dust suppression and had spoken with the County. The Board decided to purchase children at play signs to put around Murphy's home and put-up speed limit signs. Murphy requested to be on the April agenda to ensure these actions were completed.

New Business:

Bob and Jake Sailors asked the Village to put in a water meter on new property they are purchasing within the Brownville village limits. Helmick moved to have the Village purchase the water meter for the property and Sailors will pay for the water pit. Russell seconded. All yes votes. Motion carried.

Helmick reviewed the Village dog ordinance following a dog attacking another dog complaint. Helmick drafted a new ordinance for the Village Board to review, which followed updated state statues and included dangerous breeds. The Board decided to table the topic until it could be reviewed with Werts (attorney).

The Board reviewed a request by a community member to install a trailer where one had previously burned. The zoning ordinances state that no trailer can be installed in Brownville unless the property

has been zoned for a trailer park. Russell moved to allow a trailer in the residential lot. The motion was not seconded. The motion died. The Board decided to have the community member contact the clerk to start a request for an exception to the zoning ordinance, which would be reviewed at a later date.

Helmick discussed the need to focus on current grants rather than seek additional grants at this time. Community members can still bring grant opportunities to the Board, but it will prioritize current grants.

The Board decided to publish mowing bids in the paper, with bids to be reviewed at the April meeting.

Adjournment:

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

Deborah Solie, clerk