

CITY OF BRAIDWOOD AGENDA
Regular Meeting, Tuesday, January 26th, 2021 @ 7:00pm

I. Call to Order

II. Pledge of Allegiance

III. Roll Call by City Clerk

James Mikel, Jr.
Wayne Saltzman

Doug Money
Fay Smith

Robert Jones

IV. Public Comment: State your full name and spell your last name. Section 2-34 of the Braidwood Code of Ordinances imposes a three (3) minute limit for each person during public comment.

VI. APPROVAL OF MINUTES

A. Approve Minutes of the January 12th, 2020, Regular Meeting

VII. REPORTS BY CITY OFFICIALS

A. Mayor

B. Administrator

B. Clerk

D. Engineer

E. City Attorney

VIII. REPORTS BY CITY COMMISSIONERS

A. Accounts and Finances

- 1. Approve the Payment of Bills**
- 2. Approve Payroll**

B. Streets and Public Improvements

C. Public Buildings & Property

D. Public Health & Safety

- 1. Approve an Ordinance Authorizing the Execution of an Intergovernmental Agreement between the County of Will and the City of Braidwood to Provide the City of Braidwood Communications System Access to Will County's 800 MHZ County Wide Radio System.**

E. Planning & Zoning

IX. OLD BUSINESS

X. NEW BUSINESS

XI. Next Regular City Council Meeting is Tuesday, February 9th, 2021 at 7:00pm

XII. ADJOURNMENT

**Minutes of the Regular Meeting of the Braidwood City Council Tuesday, January 26th, 2021
Braidwood City Hall 141 W. Main St., Braidwood, IL 60408**

***Note*: Audio recording encountered an error prior to 7:12:29 pm. Recording, therefore, only picked up from 7:12:30 pm to 7:23 pm (Adjournment).**

Call to Order: The Regular Meeting of the Braidwood City Council on January 26th, 2021 was called to order at 7:00 p.m., by Mayor Jones in the Council Chambers of the Braidwood City Hall.

Pledge of Allegiance: Mayor Jones requested all rise for the Pledge of Allegiance.

Roll Call: Upon Roll Call by the Clerk, the following members of the corporate authorities answered "Here" or "Present";

Elected Officials:

Present: Commissioner Saltzman, Commissioner Smith, Commissioner Money, Commissioner Mikel, and Mayor Jones

Absent:

Appointed Officials:

Present: Chief Lyons, City Administrator Altiery, City Engineer Weber, City Attorney Wellner, City Clerk Adam Beaty

Absent:

Quorum: There being sufficient members of the corporate authorities in attendance to constitute a quorum, the meeting was declared in order.

Public Comment: Mike Guinta addressed the council to discuss the completion of a contract with regard to Ordinance 18-14 which authorized the city to sell the balance of the lots in the Towns of Braidwood subdivision. Guinta stated, again, requested a meeting with City Officials to hopefully come to some agreement on the contract previously mentioned at the meeting on January 12th, 2021. Guinta said no one from the City contacted him to continue to the process. He requested a meeting as soon as possible.

Special Recognition: Commissioner Money presented and award to City Employee George Weaver for going above beyond his call of duty to assist a resident who was locked out of her home with toddler locked inside. With Weaver's assistance and aid by the Braidwood Police Department, they were able to gain entry into the home and the toddler was found to be safe and unharmed. Applause for a job well done. Excellent work Mr. Weaver!

Approval of Minutes: City Clerk Beaty informed the council of a typo on the Agenda which showed Minutes to be approved were dated for 2020 instead of 2021. Commissioner Saltzman made a motion, seconded by Commissioner Money, to approve meeting minutes from the January 12th, 2021 Regular Council Meeting. Motion carried with 5 ayes: 0 nays. (Saltzman, Smith, Money, Mikel, and Jones).

Mayor's Report: Nothing to report

Administrator Report: City Administrator, Altiery stated several talks with prospective businesses were going well and he hoped to have plans to go before the planning and zoning board within the next month. Altiery also expressed his willingness to set a meeting with Guinta. However, due to the guidelines provided by the Open Meetings Act (OMA), he would meet with Guinta for some dates and discuss with city officials on an individual basis. No more than 3 city officials can meet and discuss public business without first calling for a special meeting.

City Clerk Report: City Clerk Beaty stated a new sign-up sheet would be on the table with the Agendas for residents to sign up to have meeting materials sent to them electronically if they wished. This was in an effort to reduce paper and supply costs to the City. Previously, meeting materials readied for the residents went untouched and therefore ended up being thrown away. Secondly, Beaty urged residents to sign up for automatic bill pay for their water bills through the City's website. He further discouraged the use of the third-party website Doxo.com. While he could not tell residents NOT to use the service, since they do send checks on the resident's behalf, the City's portal has no additional fees. Finally, Beaty stated the Clerk's office is seeming much cleaner and less cluttered. Business Licenses not picked up were sent via US Mail. Additionally, Gaming Licenses would be complete within the next week along with the city stickers that must be on each machine in the establishment.

Engineer Report: Nothing to report

Chief of Police: See Old Business

City Attorney Report: City Attorney Wellner gave an update on the relaxation of COVID restrictions.

Accounts & Finance Report: Commissioner Saltzman made a motion, seconded by Commissioner Smith, to approve the Payment of Bills, in the amount of \$50,241.90 as identified in the Accounts Payable General Ledger dated January 26th, 2021. Motion carried with 5 ayes: 0 nays. (Saltzman, Smith, Money, Mikel and Jones).

Commissioner Saltzman then made a Motion, seconded by Commissioner Smith, to Approve Payroll Expenses, in the amount of \$80,291.27 as identified in the Payroll General Ledger dated January 19th, 2021. Motion carried with 5 ayes; 0 nays. (Saltzman, Smith, Money, and Jones)

Commissioner Saltzman urged residents to utilize the food pantry. He said he's heard many people, who do in fact need help, are often too selfless and proud. He said it doesn't matter if you come to the pantry in an Escalade or a Ford Model T. Let's take advantage of what our Community has to offer. The food pantry has so much stuff. For example, the pantry received 100 cases of Tennessee Pride Sausage Rolls. But attendance continues to be low. Don't be shy. Only 10 families utilized the pantry most recently.

Streets & Public Improvement Report: Commissioner Smith stated the city crews did as good a job as their equipment allowed them to in order to clear the snow from the latest storm. They were prepared for a big storm and got a little disappointed.

Public Property Report: Commissioner Money reported crews did 17 locates, 73 shut off tags, 2 sewer inspections, 2 sewer tap, 2 water taps, 6 new meter installs, 50 meter reads, 10 shut offs, 3 buffalo box repairs, 5 new MXU installs, the crews don't plow the snow and routine truck maintenance. At the water plants the crew fixed 4 water valve riser boxes. Both generators were serviced and load tested. A drive unit went out at the Clarifier. Gear box was sent out and the Clarifier was replaced. The older one is back on the shelf after it was repaired. Crews finished their reports. Over in the Oak Ridge area a new high water alarm float was put in. The floats were adjusted at Pheasant Run. UV bulbs were replaced and the tube were cleaned out which is a routine winter project.

Public Health & Safety Report: Commissioner Mikel made a motion, seconded by Commissioner Saltzman, to approve Ordinance #21-01 Authorizing the Execution of an Intergovernmental Agreement between the County of Will and the City of Braidwood to Provide the City of Braidwood Communications System Access to Will County's 800 MHZ County Wide Radio System. City Attorney Wellner provided a brief explanation of the ordinance as was explained at the previous City Council Meeting. The ordinance allows Braidwood's ESDA (Emergency Services and Disaster Agency) and other Braidwood entities like the Police Department to access to Will County's radio system until 2027. There are no fees involved or monthly fees. No compensation for access. The City must purchase, when needed, equipment that is compatible with the system, and complete a training program. Additionally, the City can retreat from the agreement with 6-months written notice. The motion carried with 5 ayes: 0 nays (Saltzman, Smith, Money, Mikel, and Jones.)

Planning & Zoning Report: Nothing to report.

Old Business: Police Chief Lyons addressed a FOIA received the previous week regarding the Braidwood Police Department's Drug Overdose Calls for Service. It has been said around town the city has not handled its drug problem in the two years Lyons has been Chief. Chief Lyons stated he met with the Braidwood Fire Chief to discuss the city's status with regard to drug overdose calls. Since March of 2019 up to and including November 21, 2020, police and fire responded to 29 possible drug overdose calls. Chief Lyons said that sounds like a lot but looked further in to the cases and explained the calls in summary. The first call from March of 2019 was for a 7-year-old who may have overdosed on vitamins. Two months later another call for a subject who took too much prescribed medication. Then another month a later a possible heroin overdose. Then in June of 2019, another possible overdose of prescription medication. On July 25, 2019, a 70 year-old male took too many pain pills. Then at the of July another possible heroin overdose. In September of 2019 a female subject took a "dab" of GHB¹. Later in the month another possible heroin overdose. Narcan was administered in that case. On the same day, a subject who had been drinking was possibly going through some withdrawals. On the 27th of September, there was a suicide attempt on insulin. On the 28th, another subject possibly overdosed on prescription medication while the subject was tired. In October, another possible overdose on prescription medication. In summary, out of 29 calls 12 or 13 were possible heroin overdoses. Lyons explained when they receive a drug tip, they contact a task force that specializes in drug investigations. So instead of someone from another town coming to Braidwood and we make the arrest, we contact the task force and they make the arrest before they even get to Braidwood. The job is still getting done and the police department is consistently doing its job. Lyons finished by saying that he encouraged his own son to buy a house here in Braidwood, it's a safe community, and a great place to live.

New Business: None

Adjournment: Commissioner Saltzman made a motion, seconded by Commissioner Money, to adjourn the January 12th, 2021 regular meeting of the Braidwood City Council. Motion carried with 5 ayes: 0 nays (Saltzman, Smith, Money, Mikel and Jones). The next regular meeting of the Council will be held February 9th, 2021 at 7:00pm.

¹ Gamma Hydroxybutyrate (C₄H₈O₃) is a central nervous system (CNS) depressant that is commonly referred to as a "club drug" or "date rape" drug. GHB is abused by teens and young adults at bars, parties, clubs and "raves" (all night dance parties), and is often placed in alcoholic beverages. Euphoria, increased sex drive, and tranquility are reported positive effects of GHB abuse. Negative effects may include sweating, loss of consciousness, nausea, hallucinations, amnesia, and coma, among other side effects. (Source: [Drugs.com/illicit/ghb.html](https://www.drugs.com/illicit/ghb.html))

Approved this 9th day of February, 2021.

Wayne T. Salzman

Mayor / Mayor Pro Tempore

Adrian R. F.

City Clerk

