

CITY OF BRAIDWOOD AGENDA
Regular Meeting, Tuesday, February 23rd, 2021 @ 7:00pm

I. Call to Order

II. Pledge of Allegiance

III. Roll Call by City Clerk

James Mikel, Jr.

Doug Money

Wayne Saltzman

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 February 9th, 2021, 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

3. Ordinance 21-04 – An Ordinance Approving the First Amended Annual Budget and Appropriations for the City of Braidwood for the Fiscal Year Beginning May, 1 2020 and Ending April 30, 2021

B. Streets and Public Improvements

C. Public Buildings & Property

D. Public Health & Safety

E. Planning & Zoning

IX. OLD BUSINESS

A. Executive Session

X. NEW BUSINESS

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

XII. ADJOURNMENT

**Minutes of the Regular Meeting of the Braidwood City Council Tuesday, February 23rd, 2021
Braidwood City Hall 141 W. Main St., Braidwood, IL 60408**

Call to Order: The Regular Meeting of the Braidwood City Council on February 23rd, 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: Mayor Jones, Commissioner Mikel, Commissioner Money, Commissioner Saltzman, Commissioner Smith

Absent: None

Appointed Officials:

Present: Chief Lyons, City Administrator Altiery, 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: Greg Boyer addressed the council with regard to the purposed budget amendment. Boyer asked the Mayor why, when he appointed Tony Altiery, were the residents told the city did not have the money to do that. Boyer wanted an explanation do that and why the new budget amendment was necessary to hire new guys.

Commissioner Saltzman explained that when the fiscal year started off the city decided to balance the budget by cutting Fay's budget by \$150,000. That was agreed to by Commissioner Smith and Saltzman. We were going to work with the new council. There was some action in there (referring to the agreement) that if Fay needed help they could possibly get another person into the City and they'd be part of the water department. That idea got dissolved. So to answer Boyd's question, Saltzman said if we had the \$150,000 we wouldn't need to be here asking for an adjustment. We have moved some money around, it doesn't come from anyone else's budget, it comes from within his budget, and at the end of the year he should have a balanced budget. Commissioner Saltzman told Boyer, "I don't know who called you to be here." Boyer replied that no one called him, he's just involved in the city. Boyer said he wasn't at past meetings where the \$150,000 was originally moved but he heard this money was being moved to hire another person so he just had a question about it. Commissioner Saltzman sounded frustrated and said, "All we're going to do...is promote a part-timer to full time. That's all." Boyer replied that he must have missed the part where there was an application process for a full-timer. Boyer asked about the applications that went to Commissioner Smith's home. Commissioner Saltzman denied that applications were outside City Hall and stated he did not know where Boyer was getting his information. Commissioner Smith interjected and said there are no application at his home and he brought them to City Hall. The reason he had applications sent to his home is because he wanted to make sure he got them

since so much has fallen through the cracks. Smith continued that had the City Council stuck to what it promised, he wouldn't need to have this budget amendment. Commissioner Smith stated he was working 3 men short all day and all night with snow. Boyer and Smith talked over one another but Commissioner Smith maintained that his budget had been cut 3 times and no one else's was touched.

Commissioner Saltzman explained that all that is trying to be done is making a part-timer full time. That is it.

Andy Galatte addressed the Council and directed his comments directly to City Administrator Altiery. He stated that last meeting he came up and made a statement. Galatte said, "I don't know if you can't think fast or what, but you waited until the public session was closed and then you made your comments, which were lies. And when I said it was a lie, you said, 'Hey you in the peanut gallery (meaning the people in the back), shut up!' Well these peanut gallery people pay you \$90,000 plus. So you better get that through your head."

Ray McShane addressed the Council and directed his question to Commissioner Saltzman. McShane asked why money is being moved around in the Streets department when the department as a whole is already almost \$6000 in the red. Commissioner Saltzman asked, "~~Why~~ do you know that?" McShane stated its public information in the budget status report. *How*

City Clerk Adam Beaty read two emails regarding opposition to the budget amendment from Nicole Shores and Teresa Riney.

Approval of Minutes: Commissioner Saltzman made a motion, seconded by Commissioner Mikel, to approve meeting minutes from the February 9th, 2021 Regular Council Meeting. Motion carried with 5 ayes: 0 nays. (Saltzman, Smith, Money, Mikel, and Jones).

Mayor's Report: Mayor Jones thanked the city workers for taking care of the streets and sidewalk from the snow storm.

Administrator Report: Nothing to report.

City Clerk Report: City Clerk Beaty thanked the many citizens that use the community Facebook pages as a means to ask for and finding the help they need. The Clerk used the pages most recently to find help for his Dad who had a frozen pipe during the brutal cold snap, and to find a neighbor to help clear his driveway after all the snow. Beaty stated that we truly do live in a great small town with so many neighbors helping each other out. Whether it's looking for some help clearing around fire hydrants, or needing service recommendations, and even the Braidwood Buzz page to find local events and food specials. He continued that it's a great feeling seeing this community so invested in itself and helping those around the City. Aside from the occasional gossip and drama we see more people helping each other than anywhere else.

Secondly the Clerk addressed that gaming licenses have gone out and it was nice to see the Facebook posts from businesses showing residents with some good winnings and just enjoying themselves.

Third, the Clerk report the first FOIA report and reported the handling of 8 FOIAs for a total of 18 hours of work. FOIAs included:

- 1 - Asset Forfeiture Activity – Forwarded to the PD FOIA Officer
- 2 – General Fund Income and Expenditures – 2 hours

- 1 – Streets Department Work Complete Logs – 3 hours
- 1 – Quantity of Employment Applications received – 1 hour
- 2 – Meeting Minutes and Audio Recordings – 2 hours
- 1 – Request for all information pertaining to a property on Cermak – 10 hours

Commissioner Saltzman commended the City Clerk for doing a nice job.

Engineer Report: Nothing to report

Chief of Police: Nothing to report

City Attorney Report: Nothing to report

Accounts & Finance Report: Commissioner Saltzman made a motion, seconded by Commissioner Smith, to approve the Payment of Bills, in the amount of \$118,821.66 as identified in the Accounts Payable General Ledger dated February 10th, 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 \$85,026.96 as identified in the Payroll General Ledger dated February 9th, 2021. Motion carried with 5 ayes; 0 nays. (Saltzman, Smith, Money, and Jones).

Commissioner Saltzman moved to table the discussion and vote on the proposed budget amendment.

Streets & Public Improvement Report: Commissioner Smith reiterated that need to move the part-timer to full time and was disappointed that the council didn't stick to what it had promised.

Public Property Report: Commissioner Money thanked the city workers for their hard work keeping the streets clean of snow. Commissioner Money reported a lot maintenance on city equipment due to the cold but some of the repairs were pre-emptive so it saved the City about \$150,000.

Public Health & Safety Report: Commissioner Mikel reported between February 8th and 21st the police department made 2 arrests and handled 135 calls for service. And as of August 1st, 2021 the Braidwood Police Department will switch back over to WESCOM for call dispatching. It is a very welcomed move as it will eliminate the need to transfer fire calls from the county dispatch center to WESCOM when an ambulance or fire truck is needed.

Planning & Zoning Report: Nothing to report.

Old Business: None

New Business: None

Adjournment: Commissioner Saltzman made a motion, seconded by Commissioner Money, to adjourn the February 23rd, 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 March 9th, 2021 at 7:00pm.

Approved this 9th day of March, 2021.

Russ Jones

Mayor

Michelle F. [Signature]

City Clerk

