

CITY OF BRAIDWOOD AGENDA
REGULAR MEETING
Tuesday February 26, 2019 @ 7:00pm

Call to Order

Pledge of Allegiance

Roll Call

Public Comment (Comments are limited to no more than 3 minutes per Sect. 2-34(b) of the City's Code of Ord.)

APPROVAL OF MINUTES -Minutes of February 12, 2019

REPORTS BY CITY OFFICIALS

Mayor-Approve Immaculate Conception Parish's request for a Religious Procession Saturday May 4,
4:00-4:30 with the International Pilgrim Virgin State of Our Lady of Fatima down Main St.

Administrator-

Clerk-

Engineer-

City Attorney-

REPORTS BY CITY COMMISSIONERS

Accounts and Finances-Approve Payment of Bills
-Approve Payroll Expenses

Streets & Public Improvements-

Public Property-

Public Health & Safety

Planning & Zoning- Recommendations from Public Hearings/Regular Meeting on December 10, 2018.
1-Public Hearing Request for 6' fence on corner lot w/setback variance for 30' to 9',
267 Partridge Run Dr.
2-Public Hearing for Guinta Property on Rte. 53, Request to Rezone from B2-I2

Closed Session-Discuss Personnel, Pending and/or Imminent Litigation, Collective Bargaining/Labor Relations, Land Acquisition or Review of Closed Session Minutes.
-Actions to be taken following Closed Session

Old Business

New Business

Adjournment

CITY OF BRAIDWOOD
Regular City Council Meeting Minutes
Tuesday, February 26, 2019

Call to Order

Mayor Vehrs called the meeting to order at 7:00pm.

Pledge of Allegiance

Mayor Vehrs asked the Comm. Hibler to lead us in the Pledge of Allegiance.

Roll Call

Elected Officials present: Commissioner Hibler, Commissioner Hutton, Commissioner Smith, Commissioner Tessler and Mayor Vehrs were present.

Appointed officials present: City Attorney Kopman, City Clerk Sue Grygiel and Chief Ficarello were present. City Administrator Don Labriola and City Engineer Todd Gereaux were absent.

Public Comment

Opened at 7:00pm.

Andy Galatte, 508 N. Washington. Andy said it's going to take more than (2) minutes to comment and asked for the extra time. His first question was to Comm. Hutton asking him if he's in charge of Public Property & Buildings correct? The commissioner replied correct. Andy then asked him where he got the authority for the last 10 months to do things on water bills-like wave fees, discount fees, eliminate fees? Comm. Hutton replied I have nothing to do with that. Andy said no Mr. Hutton, you are telling me that this Internal Investigation he was holding in his hand from May 21, 2018 is wrong. In the Investigation everyone had said that you commissioner gave them directions to turn people's water on or off. Basic accounting adjustments you made. You also allowed for credits on late fees when people paid or not paid. You reduced sewer water charges. You also started a special payment arrangement for some people but not for all the people in town. You also told a certain person how to do the billing for the water department, which you denied in your statement. In the Investigation it said you denied responsibility related to sewer, water billing. This internal investigation was done by the city attorney and your name was mentioned by each person interviewed about the sewer billing that you told them to do. Not the Mayor, nor Elena made all the decisions but you did. Comm. Hutton asked about a rebuttal and Andy said did I ask you for a rebuttal? Andy said there is no rebuttal because there is no city ordinance that allows this. He told him that he also violated a state statute that states it's unlawful for a public utility to grant free service or furnish services at a lower price or rate to any person or otherwise determined in the matter of rate service between residents and municipality. Any person violating such privilege is a Class A Misdemeanor which has been committed here. Andy said he had no right as he is not the commissioner of that department.

Closed at 7:04pm.

Approval of Minutes

Comm. Hibler made a motion to approve the Regular Minutes of February 12, 2019, seconded by Comm. Smith. Motion approved 5 ayes, 0 nays (Hibler, Smith, Hutton, Tessler & Mayor Vehrs).

REPORTS BY CITY OFFICIALS

Mayor

The Mayor addressed his Agenda item regarding the request by the Immaculate Conception Parish for a Religious Procession Saturday, May 4th from 4:00-4:30 with the International Pilgrim Virgin State of Our Lady of Fatima, this procession would go down Main Street. They will be lining up at the KC Hall then going down Main St. to the Catholic Church.

The Mayor then asked for a motion for the Religious Procession on May 4th from 4:00-4:30pm. Comm. Hibler made the motion to approve the request by the Immaculate Conception Parish for this Religious Procession on May 4th, seconded by Comm. Tessler. Motion approved 5 ayes, 0 nays (Hibler, Tessler, Hutton, Smith & Mayor Vehrs).

Mayor Vehrs also advised everyone on that same day is the Annual Red Carpet Corridor and at Godley Park a fishing contest, "Fishing for a Cure" by Exelon.

Administrator

Absent.

City Clerk

Nothing to Report.

Engineer

Absent.

City Attorney

Nothing to Report

REPORTS BY CITY COMMISSIONERS

Accounts & Finances

Comm. Hibler made a motion to pay the total bills due on our Check Register in the amount of \$118,108.59, seconded by Comm. Smith. Motion approved with 5 ayes, 0 nays (Hibler, Smith, Hutton, Tessler & Mayor Vehrs).

Comm. Hibler made a motion to approve the Payroll Expenses in the amount of \$133,515.59 and includes \$2,484.13 that will be reimbursed by the Braidwood Healthy Coalition, seconded by Comm. Smith. Motion approved 5 ayes, 0 nays (Hibler, Smith, Hutton, Tessler & Mayor Vehrs).

Streets & Public Improvements

Comm. Smith said he didn't have too much to say but has a lot on his mind. He's had several people calling him about the city's finance problems. Comm. Smith said he's speaking for himself that he's stayed within his budget and has worked hard to save the taxpayers money. At the end of last year he said he turned money in that he didn't use in his budget. He also stated that when some things came to a vote before the council he always asked can your budget take it. He said he wants to keep his nose out of others budgets so he's unaware of what has gone on in other departments with their budgets, that's why he can only speak of his budget. Comm. Smith said he like our little town and would like to see it bring itself back up.

Public Property

Comm. Hutton gave the Plant Crews report followed by the Outside Crews Report.

Public Health & Safety

Comm. Tessler gave his numbers report provided by the Chief for the period from 2/11/19- 2/26/19. Their total calls for service for this period were 215.

Planning & Zoning

Zoning Chair Michelle Serena approached the council with (2) Recommendations. The first is from their December 10, 2018 Zoning Meeting for Steve & Barb Zier at 267 Partridge Run Drive.

They held a Public Hearing requesting a 6' fence on a corner lot with a setback variance from 30' to 9'. The Zoning Board recommends that the city council approve their request. The Zoning Boards vote was approved with 4 ayes, 1 absent and 2 abstained. In the council's packets there a pictures of property, fence. They had put in an in ground pool behind their house, they currently have a shed that was built on concrete so it can't be moved. They're wanting to include this shed inside the fence line. This house is on a cul-de-sac so it has very little traffic and with all this it just makes sense to the Zoning Board to approve this recommendation.

The second recommendation is also from the December 10, 2018 Zoning Meeting. This is for the Guinta property at Route 53 and is requested to Rezone from B2 to I2. The Zoning Board held its meeting and makes the recommendation to the city council to approve the request to Rezone the Parcel from B2 to I2. The Zoning Boards vote was approved with 5 ayes, 2 absent. Mr. Guinta was not at this meeting he had a prior commitment. Since he was unable to be at this meeting he didn't supply the Zoning Board with a Site Plan to review, but they will need to see his Site Plan.

Comm. Tessler made a motion to accept the Zoning recommendation for a 6' fence on a corner lot with a setback variance for 30' to 9' for Steve and Barb Zier, seconded by Comm. Smith. Motion approved 5 ayes, 0 nays (Tessler, Smith, Hibler, Hutton & Mayor Vehrs).

Comm. Hutton addressed the Guinta property, requested by the city attorney, made a motion to remand the Guinta Property on Route 53, the Rezoning Application go back to the Zoning Board for consideration of a Site Plan as required by Section 23-92 and 23-138 of the city's Code of Ordinances, seconded by Comm. Tessler. Motion approved 5 ayes, 0 nays (Hutton, Tessler, Hibler, Smith & Mayor Vehrs). Zoning Chair Serena told Mayor Vehrs that this Site Plan could be reviewed at the April Zoning Board Meeting.

Closed Session

No Closed Session requested.

Old Business

Mayor Vehrs apologized that he didn't bring this up at the beginning of the meeting. He said we've a few deaths in our town. One of them was related to Donna Geiss who works in our Building Department, who lost her brother Allen Keith originally from Braidwood. The other recent death was Dave Bunting, a Contractor in the city and a lifelong resident of Braidwood. The Mayor asked everyone to keep these families in their prayers.

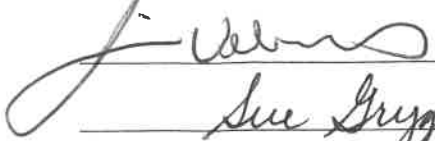
New Business

Nothing to Report.

Adjournment

Comm. Tessler made motion to adjourn the Regular Meeting at 7:17pm, seconded by Comm. Hutton. Motion approved with 5 ayes, 0 nays (Tessler, Hutton, Smith, Hibler & Mayor Vehrs).

Approved this 12 day of March 2019

 Mayor
 City Clerk

AYES: 5
NAYS: 0
ABSENT: 0
ABSTAIN: 0

