

CITY OF BRAIDWOOD AGENDA
Regular Meeting, Tuesday March 22, 2016 @ 7:00pm

Call to Order
Pledge of Allegiance
Roll Call
Public Comment

APPROVAL OF MINUTES - March 8, 2016 Regular Meeting

REPORTS BY CITY OFFICIALS

Mayor-

Administrator-

Clerk- RCHS Cheerleaders Car Wash, Sat. July 16th 10-2pm, Rain Date July 23rd 10-2pm

Engineer- 2016 Water Treatment Plant Salt Purchase Recommendation

City Attorney-

REPORTS BY CITY COMMISSIONERS

Accounts and Finances -Payment of Bills
-Payroll

Streets and Public Improvements -

Public Buildings & Property-

Public Health & Safety-

Planning & Zoning -

Executive Session- Discuss personnel, pending and/or imminent litigation, collective bargaining/labor relations or land acquisition
-Actions to be taken following Executive Session:

Old Business

New Business

Adjournment

CITY OF BRAIDWOOD
City Council Regular Meeting Minutes
Tuesday, March 22, 2016

Call to Order

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

Pledge of Allegiance

Mayor Vehrs asked everyone to please stand for 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 Bryan Kopman, City Administrator Andy Galatte, Chief Nick Ficarello and City Clerk Sue Grygiel were present. City Engineer was absent.

Public Comment

Robert Snedeker-108 S. Walker, Had a question and hoped could answer for him. He spoke about a FOIA he filed on 3/8/16 for water & sewer bill at 146 E. Main St. for period of 3/1/13-2/29/16. The reply he received was that his request couldn't be filled because owner does not have a water & sewer bill, known as MJS Communications. He questioned why they didn't have a water & sewer bill. Atty. Kopman questioned Robert Snedeker if he has or plans to file an appeal with the Public Access Counsel? The attorney said if he hasn't filed an appeal the city council can answer, if has filed an appeal then he recommends they don't answer his question. The attorney asked him to read bottom of letter with regards to time line of appeal, which he said states 60 calendar days in which to appeal. Snedeker said he's accepting the response in the letter. At this point Snedeker asked the mayor to answer his question. The mayor then turned to Comm. Hutton and asked him to answer as this is way before the mayor's term when they went into business. Snedeker then handed out something with regards to state statues and zoning codes to council members.

Bill Rulien, Would not give his address and also stated he's not giving one and said we could look it up ourselves. Also stated that it's not required by law to give your address. The attorney said by city ordinance it's required. This government claims to be transparent and open and just had some suggestions the council might want to work on; city's awful website that doesn't even post all the bills that were paid, the check register which are no longer on there. Also it's hard to find for most folks on the website the Agenda, also explain the rules on what you're discussing like last meeting the credit card policy and how you're going to protect us from credit card abuse and we'd all like to know how that works.

Josh Bolatto-812 W. Main St, Assistant ESDA Coordinator for Braidwood. Wanted to thank the council for ESDA, and the cooperation, support they have received from the city, the police department, various departments and their employees. We appreciate it very much since he and Mike Pemble have taken over coordination of the ESDA Program last July. Their progress since then has been very substantial; there are 7 members on their team, who are completely volunteer, acquired 2 vehicles to be used for ESDA services, have some equipment and are still in process of acquiring more. Thanked the council once more for their support, especially Chief Ficarello and his officers. ESDA is very much an integral part of our community with emergency response system; they supplement police services for wires down, traffic control as well as the Fire Department for various responses also. They have several other individuals that are interested in becoming a member of ESDA which they will pursue as well. They work with other agencies around the area; recently the Coal City Police Department with traffic control and the State Police at the scene of an accident. It's great to have a working relationship with the entities police, fire and ESDA.

Jim Hutton, Commissioner, going to meet with property owners, talk with Jeff Serena and will have a report for the next meeting.

Public Comment closed at 7:08pm.

Approval of Minutes

The minutes for the March 8, 2016 Regular Meeting were approved as read. Motion made by Comm. Hutton, seconded by Comm. Hibler. Mayor Vehrs asked for discussion. Motion approved with 5 ayes, 0 nays, (Hutton, Hibler, Tessler, Smith & Mayor Vehrs).

REPORTS BY CITY COMMISSIONERS

Mayor Vehrs commented that over the weekend had our 2nd Grand Opening for Family Dollar. The mayor thanked the American Legion for coming out, Commissioner Hutton and Angie, City Clerk Sue Grygiel and some other city officials that were there. The mayor wished Family Dollar Good Luck.

The mayor then addressed the High Speed Rail and reconstruction of the railroad crossings. They are planning to start on Division Street on April 4th, Center Street start date is April 11th, both of which are contingent on receiving the IDOT Permits and they hope to get them within this week. After both Division and Center are fully completed they are going to close Main St. Division Street being done first so to have the right amount of radius procedures for our Fire Trucks to cross, Center Street doesn't allow for that radius. When Main Street is closed Division Street will be our main thorough fare. The time frame is 28-35 days per crossing, hopefully done sooner and gets our town back to normal. Detour traffic will be routed out to Coal City Road, they're not going to put up temporary lighting as the Mayor had requested, and they denied the Mayor's proposal.

Administrator

Andy mentioned that even though he was on Vacation last week he kept on working. He was in communication with the gentlemen from the Veteran's Museum and it looks like he will be in town sometime in May to take a look at the downtown property which is 2.6 acres. Andy has had the property appraised and it's available at city hall if anyone would like to view it. Andy is also looking for two more members to be on the Aquatic Committee who would be working on the feasibility study. Looking into logistics if it will work in Braidwood and how it would be funded. He asked that if anyone knew of someone that may be interested either pro or con to please submit their name, phone number or come into city hall. Andy advised that he had 2 meetings today and may have a user for the vacant Shepherd of Peace Church, won't disclose who that is right now as they're still trying to tie up the land, definitely a positive for the city. Andy is also reaching out to Holiday Express for an aquatic center next to their hotel, and at another Holiday Express location recently an aquatic center was built so he is reaching out to them. Andy has had a reply back from Cracker Barrel and at this time they do not want to look into Braidwood because of the social media reports. He is trying to get a letter from Cracker Barrel stating that reason.

City Clerk

The only agenda item the clerk had was a request from the Reed Custer High School Cheerleaders to hold their Annual Car Wash in the Municipal Lot across from the Police Department. They are requesting Saturday, July 16th from 10-2pm, with a Rain Date of July 23rd, 10-2pm. The clerk asked the council to consider a motion to approve the RCHS Cheerleader as requested.

A motion was made by Comm. Smith, seconded by Comm. Hutton to approve the Cheerleaders Car Wash on July 16th. Mayor asked for discussion. Motion approved 5 ayes, 0 nays (Smith, Hutton, Hibler, Tessler and Mayor Vehrs).

Engineer

Brian Hertz addressed his agenda item regarding the 2016 Water Treatment Plant Salt Purchase that we recently had. There were two bids opened on March 15th in city hall. One of the bids was from Compass Minerals which was the low bid in the amount of \$107,950.00. The other bid was from Cargill Salt total bid amount \$109,000. The low bid is pretty much in line with what the city is currently spending on salt. His recommendation is to accept the low bid from Compass Minerals for purchase and delivery on an as-needed basis in the amount of \$107,950.00.

A motion was made by Comm. Hutton, seconded by Comm. Tessler to accept the bid with Compass Minerals. Mayor asked for discussion. Motion approved 5 ayes, 0 nays (Hutton, Tessler, Hibler, Smith & Mayor Vehrs).

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 \$101,122.52 seconded by Comm. Smith. Mayor asked for discussion.

Comm. Tessler commented that what he's going to say is nobody else's problem but his own, but he's a very extremely busy man. It makes it harder for Comm. Tessler to vote yes and approve finances when an appointment has to be made to look at the attorney bills and have chaperones be there. He said he finds that extremely disrespectful to us commissioners, that we can't take them out of building because of information leaking to others. The mayor explained the reason being that there is attorney, client privileged information, and we still have two cases pending information. The mayor stressed we are trying to protect these individuals. The mayor said he trusts everyone, he trusts all the commissioners. The mayor said he will have city clerk make copies of attorney bills.

Motion approved with 5 ayes, 0 nays (Hibler, Smith, Hutton, Tessler & Mayor Vehrs).

Comm. Hibler advised that we have one additional payment going out from the Federal Seizure Fund. A charge of \$500 for consulting on computer upgrades, body camera's and long term data storage for the police department. Comm. Hibler made a motion that we pay the bill in the amount of \$500 to Jacqueline Falbo Consulting, seconded by Comm. Tessler. Mayor asked for discussion. Motion approved 5 ayes, 0 nays (Hibler, Tessler, Hutton, Smith & Mayor Vehrs).

Comm. Hibler made a motion to pay the Payroll Expenses due in the amount of \$82,087.32 seconded by Comm. Hutton. Mayor asked for discussion. Motion approved 5 ayes, 0 nays (Hibler, Hutton, Smith, Tessler & Mayor Vehrs).

Streets & Public Improvements

Comm. Smith said he had recently driven down 6th St., which he was very surprised to see what it looked like. He said it looked like a junk yard, they have it straightened up now but he wished he had taken pictures before and after. They are working on getting ditches cleaned and they have a lot to do. Lot of its bottles and garbage. They have plenty of work, nobody can say they have nothing to do and they are getting things done in his department without any argument and he's very proud of it.

Public Buildings & Property

Comm. Hutton gave his maintenance report for the last 2 weeks. Took water samples and they all passed. Sensus was here and held class on meter reads for the handle held meter reader. They also have 4 hydrants that need to get repaired before hydrant flushing, once it dries up and Vac truck can get down there to them.

Public Health & Safety

Comm. Tessler read the Chief's Arrests Report for the weeks of 3/8-3/21/16 and according to his report the guys have been busy as usual. Eric gave update from the Chief that we are continuing negotiations, meetings, talks and still moving ahead with a new dispatch center, new PSAP location being offered by the Sheriff's department. The entities meeting about this new dispatch center would be Braidwood, Lincolnway Dispatch, Eastcom Dispatch, Sheriff's Office, Will County Government, ETSB Board and Romeoville Police. It's looking good, been a lot of work. Eric said there are 4 or 5 of us that sit on committees for this change and it's looking promising.

Planning & Zoning Board Report

Nothing to Report.

Executive Session

A motion was made by Comm. Tessler to go into Executive Session to discuss personnel, pending and/or imminent litigation, seconded by Comm. Hutton at 7:35pm. Andy Galatte, City Administrator was asked in

for the beginning of the executive session. Motion Approved 5 ayes, 0 nays (Tessler, Hutton, Hibler, Smith & Mayor Vehrs).

A motion was made by Comm. Smith, seconded by Comm. Hutton to Reconvene our Regular Session at 8:09pm. Motion approved 5 ayes, 0 nays (Smith, Hutton, Hibler, Tessler & Mayor Vehrs).

Mayor Vehrs advised that there will be no action taken following Executive Session.

Old Business

Comm. Tessler had comment that the Auditor progress hopefully we will have something here in the next day or two. The attorney will be talking to a possible prospect for us and there may have to be a special meeting so that we can get this audit of bills in question started.

New Business

Nothing to Report

Adjournment

Comm. Tessler made motion to adjourn the regular meeting, seconded by Comm. Smith. Motion approved with 5 ayes, 0 nays (Tessler, Smith, Hutton, Hibler & Mayor Vehrs). Meeting adjourned.

Approved this 12th day of April 2016.

James Owens Mayor

Sue Grogan City Clerk

