

**CITY OF BRAIDWOOD AGENDA**  
**Regular Meeting, Tuesday June 13, 2017 @ 7:00pm**

Call to Order  
Pledge of Allegiance  
Roll Call  
Public Comment

**APPROVAL OF MINUTES** - May 23, 2017 Regular Meeting

**REPORTS BY CITY OFFICIALS**

**Mayor-**

**Administrator-**

**Clerk-**

**Engineer-**Approval of 2017 Water Treatment Plant Salt Purchase to Apparent Low Bidder  
-Approval of 2<sup>nd</sup> Pay Request from Len Cox for North Division Sanitary Sewer Extension  
-Approval of Change Order #1 & Final from Len Cox for North Division Sanitary Sewer Extension

**City Attorney-** Resolution 17-13, Authorizing Administrator to Execute Contract for Purchase of Electricity through the Northern Illinois Municipal Electric Collaborative Bid Process for Streetlights  
-Ordinance 17-6, Establishing the Prevailing Wage for the City of Braidwood

**REPORTS BY CITY COMMISSIONERS**

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

**Streets & Public Improvements-**

**Public Property-**

**Public Health & Safety-** Appoint & Swear In James Goode, PT Police Officer  
-Resolution 17-14, Authorizing Execution of a Contract to Purchase a Body Camera System from Axon Enterprise, Inc.  
-Discussion on a Police Cadet Program

**Planning & Zoning-**Recommendations on Jencon Fence Variance

**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, June 13, 2017**

**Call to Order**

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

**Pledge of Allegiance**

Mayor Vehrs asked everyone to please stand for the Pledge of Allegiance and asked Brian Hertz to lead the pledge.

**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, Chief Nick Ficarello, City Administrator Labriola and City Engineer were present.

**Public Comment**

Chris Earling, 204 E. 1<sup>st</sup> Street. Chris said he feels we now have things resolved. He's not sure why or how things happened the way they did, it was just a straight forward that you have to do this and have to do that. He said that he's not the owner of the house and why would he be paying mortgage on house if he's not the owner. He said it's a great thing now everyone is talking, met with Inspector Mike Sharp at the house. Mike gave Chris some suggestions for now and possibly in the future and said he actually learned a few things, said it's been a while since he's been in the building trades.

Closed at 7:04pm.

**Approval of Minutes**

Comm. Hutton made a motion, seconded by Comm. Hibler to approve the Regular Meeting Minutes of May 23, 2017. Mayor asked for further discussion. Motion approved 5 ayes, 0 nays, (Hutton, Hibler, Smith, Tessler & Mayor Vehrs).

**REPORTS BY CITY OFFICIALS**

**Mayor**

The Mayor asked everyone to check on their neighbors if you have some elderly people on the block with the high temperatures and make sure they don't need anything. If anyone would need assistance during this heat, the council room is open as a cooling center from 9-5pm. Anyone after 5pm arrangements will be made for them. The Mayor said he's been in this heat for the last 2 days with the Chief searching for the missing woman from Shadow Lakes and it's been miserable. The Chief's radio kept going off dispatching the ambulance for calls with the elderly in this heat, so please keep watch for any elderly that you know of.

The Mayor also thanked ComEd/Exelon for their fishing derby fundraiser. All the funds raised went to the Braidwood Area Healthy Community Coalition. Early Saturday morning there were 81 boats in the water, couple of teams to a boat and they helped raise \$51,000. They put out a nice meal for the fishermen after. The Mayor said he cannot thank ComEd/Exelon enough for raising \$51,000 in a day to come into our town to help the Coalition, what a great thing they've done for Braidwood.

The Mayor advised everyone that there is an elderly woman, Kim Gray of Shadow Lakes that's been missing since late Sunday night. She's 73 yrs. old, has early stages of dementia and flyers have been posted all around town and if anyone needs a flyer to come up after the meeting.

The Mayor also let everyone know that on Father's Day free bags of ice will be given away at Twice the Ice on Main St. to help everyone celebrate Father's Day. Anytime the blue light is flashing, ice will be dispensed free of charge. This promotion is being offered by the owner of Twice the Ice and also a resident of Braidwood, Joe Hudetz.

#### **Administrator**

Nothing to Report.

#### **City Clerk**

Nothing to Report.

#### **Engineer**

Brian Hertz addressed three Agenda items. First was the bid letting from May 22<sup>nd</sup> for the Water Treatment Plant Salt Purchase of 1,000 tons. MG2A is recommending the low bid be accepted at \$106,600 with Compass Minerals.

Comm. Hutton made a motion to accept the low bid of \$106,600 from Compass Minerals for the Plants Salt Purchase, seconded by Comm. Tessler. Motion approved 5 ayes, 0 nays (Hutton, Tessler, Hibler, Smith & Mayor Vehrs).

Second item is a Change Order #1 for North Division St. Sanitary Sewer Extension project. Works been completed out there so we have a Change Order to balance the quantities and close the project out eventually. The original contract amount was \$75,000. There was some additional pavement restoration that was done and a little more seeding than expected. The additional cost on the project is \$11,724 for a total contracted amount of \$86,724.00.

Comm. Hutton made a motion to pay the North Division St. Sanitary Sewer Extension Change Order #1 and Final at an additional cost of \$11,724.00 to Len Cox & Sons, seconded by Comm. Tessler. Motion approved 5 ayes, 0 nays (Hutton, Tessler, Hibler, Smith & Mayor Vehrs).

Last Agenda item, the same project, North Division St. Sanitary Sewer Extension, second invoice with Len Cox & Sons. The invoice amount is \$29,378.00 with the Change Order approved last, some of those items are included. MG2A is recommending payment of the full amount of \$29,378.00 leaving a retainage to be paid after some TV Inspection work needing to be completed on the sanitary sewer pipe.

Comm. Hutton made a motion to pay Len Cox & Sons the 2<sup>nd</sup> Pay Request invoiced in the amount of \$29,378.00 with retainage yet to be paid, seconded by Comm. Tessler. Motion approved 5 ayes, 0 nays (Hutton, Tessler, Hibler, Smith & Mayor Vehrs).

#### **City Attorney**

Atty. Kopman addressed his two Agenda items. The first is Resolution 17-13 Authorizing City Administrator to enter into a Contract for the Purchase of Electricity through the Northern Illinois Municipal Electric Collaborative Bid Process. This request that came from this agency through which the city gets it through an aggregate provider. In years past they haven't had the ability to negotiate that down and now they're under the belief they can do that. This is something has to be acted upon pretty quickly when it does happen. So they have asked all of the participating municipalities in Northern Illinois to sign off on a resolution, giving the Administrator the ability to sign whatever agreement they reach. This provides a lower cost of electricity for street lights.

Atty. Kopman made the recommendation to council to pass this resolution, whatever the Administrator signs with NIMEC will be binding on the city. We will bring Agreement back to the council once agreed upon and signed.

Comm. Smith made a motion to approve Resolution 17-3 with NIMEC Authorizing the Administrator to Execute a Contract to Purchase Electricity, seconded by Comm. Hutton. Motion approved 5 ayes, 0 nays (Smith, Hutton, Tessler, Hibler & Mayor Vehrs).

Atty. Kopman addressed Agenda item, Ordinance 17-6, Establishing the Prevailing Wage Rate for the City of Braidwood. Municipalities are required by law to adopt minimum wage and this year

the State is ahead of the game. These rates are what have been put out by the State and asking that the city adopt this Ordinance establishing the Prevailing Wage Rate.

Comm. Smith made a motion to adopt Ordinance 17-6 Establishing the Prevailing Wage for the city, seconded by Comm. Tessler. Motion approved 5 ayes, 0 nays (Smith, 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 \$243,017, seconded by Comm. Smith. Motion approved with 5 ayes, 0 nays (Hibler, Smith, Hutton, Tessler & Mayor Vehrs).

Comm. Hibler made a motion to pay the Payroll Expenses due in the amount of \$90,185.42 seconded by Comm. Smith. Motion approved 5 ayes, 0 nays (Hibler, Smith, Hutton, Tessler & Mayor Vehrs).

### **Streets & Public Improvements**

Comm. Smith commented that he's about half way through his term and was reading everything he promised he would do while in office. He said he has done everything he could and hasn't backed down on what he promised. He's run into some hard time but continues to keep trying to complete what he said he was going to do and will not back down when it comes to what he promised to the taxpayers. He said things may get hard; he's been boxed into a corner but will keep on going and will not back down.

### **Public Property**

Comm. Hutton gave the Plant Crews Report. Then gave the Outside Crews Report. They had 164 locates, 53 Shut-Off Tags and 8 Water Shut-Off. On Monday & Tuesday Tagged 58 houses for shut-off for delinquent bills. On the 20<sup>th</sup> homes that haven't paid will be shut off. We have to stop the bleeding and unfortunately it happens. The commissioner talked today with Phil Gibson, the Engineer on the State Highway project at Rte. 129 & Division St. and he said that since State doesn't have a budget in Springfield, at the end of June the project may stop until some funds are approved.

### **Public Health & Safety**

Comm. Tessler gave the stats that the Chief provided from 5/23-6/12/17, with total calls for service 432, quite substantial, higher than our report a couple of weeks ago, and it is for 3 weeks. Referencing back to weeks of 4/25-5/8 that had 274 calls and add a week into it adds another 158. This tells you that they're extremely busy. May 26<sup>th</sup> the Officers did a roadside safety check with 235 vehicles passing through the checkpoint, 175 vehicles were checked, 8 Ordinance Violations/Citations were issued, 2 State Citations were issued and 1 Warrant Arrest was issued. The Police Department has had some inquiries about burglaries. In the last couple of years 2014 we had 24 and in 2016 had 10. In 2014 theft was 62 and 2016 theft was at 56, so another decrease which is good. Robberies we had 2 in 2014 and in 2016 they were solved. The commissioner said progress is happening which is very good.

At this point the Chief gave an update on the search for the missing Shadow Lakes woman that's scheduled for tomorrow. Anyone interested in helping he asked to meet here tomorrow at 9:00am. Anyone with an available boat, hopefully will get permission from Shadow Lakes and would like to search the waters as much as possible. We also have a cadaver dog coming down and an active scent search dog coming down from Des Plaines, Illinois. Today we put about 20 volunteers into the field and to cover just about every inch of Shadow Lakes. If anyone not available until later afternoon we'll be going out again at 4:00pm with a secondary search party. The Mayor also asked the Chief to thank our pilot for spending over 2hrs. The Chief said our pilot is a Part-Time Braidwood Police Officer who owns a helicopter, who donated his fuel in this search and wanted to

donate his time but Chief said he needed to be paid for something. He was searching with high powered binoculars from the air in hopes to locate any trace of our missing woman. Comm. Tessler thanked all the volunteers for assisting and the community coming together and under this unfortunate circumstance.

Comm. Tessler then addressed his first Agenda item, the Appointment and Swearing In of Part-Time Officer James Goode. James is currently in the Marine Corp Reserves and assigned to the Intelligence Unit. His active duty service time has included time spent in Afghanistan and Iraq. James comes highly recommended from his Marine Corp Officer.

Comm. Tessler made a motion to appoint James Goode as a Part-Time Officer, seconded by Comm. Hibler. Motion approved 5 ayes, 0 nays (Tessler, Hibler, Hutton, Smith & Mayor Vehrs). At this point the City Clerk swore in James Goode as Part-Time Officer.

Comm. Tessler then addressed Resolution 17-14, which he discussed several meetings ago with the purchasing of body cameras from Axon Enterprises Inc. The commissioner read some important facts about the body cameras. The total cost which is stated in the Resolution is \$62,226.76 which will be paid for over the next 5 yrs. The first year will be \$18,104.50, second- fifth year will be the same, \$11,014.50. Second and fourth years will have free equipment upgrade.

Comm. Tessler made a motion to approve Resolution 17-14, Authorizing Execution of a Contract to Purchase a Body Camera System from Axon, total amount of \$62,226.76, seconded by Comm. Hutton. Motion approved 5 ayes, 0 nays (Tessler, Hutton, Hibler, Smith & Mayor Vehrs).

Comm. Tessler said he knows we have a Planning & Zoning issue that he'd like to have discussed first and his Agenda item regarding the Police Cadet Program he'd like to discuss under New Business.

### **Planning & Zoning Board Report**

Zoning Board Chairman Michelle Serena addressed the council with a Public Hearing that was held back on April 3, 2017 for a Variance for a chain link & aluminum fence by Lynn Jencon and Gloria DeLong at 315 E. Janet Drive. They were asking for the Variance because they wanted two types of fencing. The Zoning Board had a lot of discussion on this as you can tell in their Recommendations because there was a lot of talk between the city attorney and their attorney. This was tabled from the first meeting and moved to another meeting. After further discussion at their request a motion was made by the Zoning Board to request for the Variance for the chain link & aluminum fence. There were 2 ayes, 5 nays, 0 absent, 0 abstain and the motion was denied by the Board. This goes towards our Sec. 23-14 Fencing code, and last year Ordinance 16-10 made a change to the section regarding fencing. The Board's main concern was they didn't want this type of request to set a precedence on fences in Braidwood again which had been a recurring issue in the past with the Board. Also a concern was on their quote from the Fencing Company it specifically states that the homeowner was responsible for getting the building permit which was contracted with the company in July and they didn't start the fence until September with a time lag there. So this was the stance the Zoning Board took at that time. Comm. Tessler said he drove past the residence before the meeting and yes it looks good however it does break ordinances and rules we have. He said he respects the fact that the Board feels the need to not be setting precedence and respects that whole heartedly. Commissioner spoke with the Mayor prior to the meeting and asked him to take it from here.

The Zoning Board Chair advised the next Zoning Board meeting is on July 3<sup>rd</sup>; this is a redo Variance on the Gad Property that had been discussed with the council at the last council meeting. They have come in and have redone their Application for Variance. She tried to go out from what was recommended and was steered back to what was recommended by the city council. Gad's are trying to get a taller fence. The Board had a Public Hearing on June 5<sup>th</sup> for the request of that homeowner and those recommendations will be on the July 11<sup>th</sup> meeting.

Mayor Vehrs asked Lynn Jencon, Gloria DeLong and their attorney to come up to the microphone.

As you've heard from the Zoning Chair her Boards concerns and they are quite some concerns. He said in Braidwood we do not allow two different types of fencing on a property. The Mayor said he also drove by their home and yes it is an improvement to the property and that's what we like to see its residents making improvements.

The Mayor said might have been oversight on your permit, may have been company you were working with, we really don't know. The Mayor did say he wants to put this to rest tonight and his suggestion is that we enforce a fine of \$750. You keep the fences in the ground, but the city is not going to set precedence regarding the use of two types of fencing in town and that is why we are going to fine you the \$750.

Comm. Hutton made a motion to grant Jencon & DeLong the Fence Variance as requested despite the findings of the Planning & Zoning Board with the stipulation that the homeowner be fined \$750 for violation of the Ordinance, seconded by Comm. Smith. Motion approved 5 ayes, 0 nays (Hutton, Smith, Hibler, Tessler & Mayor Vehrs).

### **Closed Session**

No Closed Session was requested.

### **Old Business**

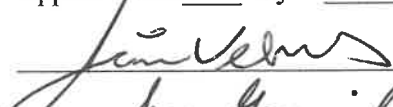
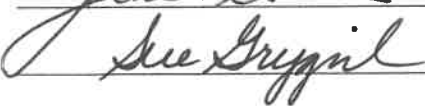
Nothing to Report.

### **New Business**

Comm. Tessler turned over the discussion of the Police Cadet Program to the Chief. After conversing with the Mayor and Commissioner Tessler, we'd like to start a mentoring program with two young adults to join a Police Cadet Program. These cadets could be used to supervise our community service workers as we're starting to defer some of the fines for some young people in our town into community service work. These cadets can also be utilized as Booking Officers, handle walk in reports, used as a second Officer to supplement transportation of prisoners to Will County Jail and supplement Code Enforcement Officer while learning police procedure and practice. This will give the cadet a chance to be mentored by Police Officers and Chief believes it will be a valuable experience. Once a Resolution is passed we will hire cadets between the ages of 18 and 21 ½. At age 21 ½ they will have to test for the Braidwood Police Dept. or move on and test with a different agency. Chief believes the additional cost would be a salary range of around \$10-\$12 per hour and on a Part-Time basis. To be a Police Cadet they have to be enrolled at one of the local community colleges in a study of criminal justice or law enforcement.

### **Adjournment**

Comm. Tessler made motion to adjourn the Regular Meeting at 7:40pm, seconded by Comm. Smith. Motion approved with 5 ayes, 0 nays (Tessler, Smith, Hutton, Hibler & Mayor Vehrs). Meeting adjourned.

Approved this 27<sup>th</sup> day of June 2017  
 Mayor  
 City Clerk

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

