

CITY OF BRAIDWOOD AGENDA
Regular Meeting, Tuesday, June 13, 2023 at 7:00pm

I. Call to Order

II. Pledge of Allegiance

III. Roll Call by City Clerk

Karen Hart
James Mikel

Dale Walsh
Doug Money

Warren Wietting

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.

V. APPROVAL OF MINUTES

A. Approve Minutes of the Tuesday, May 23, 2023 Regular Meeting

VI. REPORTS BY CITY OFFICIALS

A. Mayor

1. Motion to Approve an Ordinance Authorizing the City of Braidwood to enter into and for the Mayor to execute an engagement letter with Mahoney, Silverman and Cross for municipal corporation counsel

B. City Administrator

C. Clerk

D. Engineer

E. City Attorney

VII. REPORTS BY CITY COMMISSIONERS

A. Accounts and Finances

1. Approve Payment of Bills
2. Approve Payroll
3. Approval of designated signatories for City bank accounts

B. Streets and Public Improvements

1. Motion to approve the purchase of a Grass Hopper lawn mower from Sistek Sales for \$19,800
2. Motion to approve the Commissioner Walsh to seek and hire 2 part-time summer employees for grass cutting
3. Motion to approve memorial street signs to be installed at E. Reed Street and Comet Dr. for "Jack & Karen Bunting Memorial Drive"

C. Public Buildings & Property

D. Public Health & Safety

E. Planning & Zoning

1. Announcement – July Zoning meeting will be held on July 10, 2023 at 7:00pm (Moved from July 3rd - Holiday)

VIII. OLD BUSINESS

IX. NEW BUSINESS

X. EXECUTIVE SESSION

XI. Next City Council Meeting is Tuesday, June 27, 2023 at 7:00pm

XII. ADJOURNMENT



Minutes of the Regular Meeting of the Braidwood City Council Tuesday June 13, 2023

Braidwood City Hall 141 W. Main St., Braidwood, IL 60408

Call to Order: The Regular Meeting of the Braidwood City Council on June 13, 2023 was called to order at 7:00 p.m., by Mayor Hart in the Council Chambers of the Braidwood City Hall.

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

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

Elected Officials:

Present: Commissioner Money, Commissioner Wietting, Commissioner Walsh, Commissioner Mikel, and Mayor Hart.

Absent:

Appointed Officials:

Present: City Administrator Altiery, Temporary City Clerk Weaver, Chief Lyons, City Engineer Weber, and City Attorney Wellner

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 Tomasek: 195 N. Front St,& 284 Fossil Ridge Rd; wanted to report his comparison and pros and cons to a commissioner form of government to an aldermanic form. Over the year he has spoke with a few people about it. The pros of a commissioner form is the accountability, the direct line to the departments. The form itself, the structure itself describes what the city does. All you need to do is look at the department titles, example: finance, public property, health and safety/ police, and streets and public improvements then you know. That's what he has seen with that. Now look the for aldermanic sides of things, confirms complete geographical information. Places like Shadow Lakes might have an alderman other places in the city not represented here might have representation. So there are good things with both forms. But the conclusion is the form of government we choose is not relevent, what is relevent is the character of the people we have running it, and people here behind us and the residents. Because that is what matters, the value and character is what we should be looking for. All of our residents are on the same team and should be moving in the same direction. Personal animosity has no place in business or government. Public form of debate and discussion are essential in what we do. To illistrare a little bit if you get a chance to look at the constitutions of China and Russia and North Korea. You will see they contain a lot of the same principles that are in our constitution, a lot of previsions are very similar. But you can say China, Russia, and North Korea are not very desirable places to live because those in charge. We fought for our freedom. So in the sense, the form of governement doesn't mean anything and he hopes that we don't spend time and money on the advantages and disadvantages of the commissioner and aldermanic form of government. In his opionion it will not be worth the time. Everyone on the council is of good character and do what you are doing is a pure public service and you are not doing it for the

money. Mayor put out there, "looking for suggestions, what can we do?", he only has one, he would like to see a more comprehensive budgetary report. At the meeting discuss on, here are with the budget and if we are on track with it. If we could have the general and the enterprise side and have it posted in the paper and show how strong financially we are would be a good thing.

Cliff Batchelor: 292 E Partridge Run Dr; Has a concern, sorry; because he travels for work and was not able to get here sooner. On April 22, was getting gas at Casey's to leave for work and watched a train stopped for 52 mins and what caught his eye was an ambulance stuck at the light trying to cross the tracks. He drove to other intersections to cross and an ambulance was at all intersections trying to cross. I know there is nothing Braidwood can do about the trains, but if a house comes up for sale, can be used for an ambulatory center, and a place for an officer and a paramedic to hang out on that side. His worry is that is where all the kids are at the high school. If they can't cross the tracks to get to the other side of town we need something on that side. What if an ambulance gets through and can't come back to get to Morris or 55. I would pay an extra \$10 with everybody to buy a house and pay taxes to have someone sit on each side of the tracks so everybody can be taken care of. I know trains can be up to 140 cars by law. But something needs to be done about both sides of the track.

Approval of Minutes: Mayor Hart is asking for a motion to approve the minutes from May 23, 2023, regular Council Meeting. Attorney Wellner made a comment about making the motion with a typographical error to a name to made with the motion. Commissioner Walsh made a motion, seconded by Commissioner Wietting. Motion carried with 5 ayes: 0 nays. (Money, Wietting, Walsh, Mikel, and Hart)

Mayor's Report: Mayor Hart is asking for a motion to Approve an Ordinance Authorizing the City of Braidwood to enter into and for the Mayor to execute an engagement letter with Mahoney, Silverman, and Cross for municipal corporation counsel. Commissioner Money made the motion, seconded by Commissioner Wietting. Motion carried with 5 ayes: 0 nays. (Money, Wietting, Walsh, Mikel, and Hart)

Mayor Hart asked the City Attorney if she could say something about the City Clerk position, which he responded, absolutely. As you know we have been without a city clerk and we have been advertising for a city clerk, hopefully by the next meeting she will be able to appoint. We have had a good response and have been interviewing, so hopefully by the next council meeting we can appoint.

Accounts and Finance: Commissioner Money made a motion for the payment of bills in the amount of \$179,009.87, seconded by Commissioner Mikel. Motion carried with 5 ayes, 0 nays. (Money, Wietting, Walsh, Mikel, and Hart) Commissioner Money made a motion to approve payroll in the amount of \$88,721.97, seconded by Commissioner Mikel. Motion carried with 5 ayes, 0 nays (Money, Wietting, Walsh, Mikel, and Hart) Commissioner Money made a motion to approve Doug Money, Karen Hart, and Tony Altieri as designated signatories for all City bank accounts, seconded by Commissioner Wietting. Motion carried with 5 ayes, 0 nays (Money, Wietting, Walsh, Mikel, and Hart)

Streets and Public Improvements: Inform that a lawnmower was purchased from Sistek Sales for \$19,800.00, since we are a municipality we received a discount from \$25,500.000. Any purchase under \$30,000.00 does not need to have alternate bids. \$12,300 came from the administration line item and \$7,500 came from TIF money. Commissioner Walsh made a motion to approve the purchase of a Grass Hopper lawn mower from Sistek Sales for \$19,800, seconded by Commissioner Wietting. Motion carried with 5 ayes, 0 nays. (Money, Wietting, Walsh, Mikel, and Hart). Spoke about hiring part time grass cutters to help free up the streets crew to work on other issues. Mayor Hart wanted to confirm that hiring the two part time help is still within the budget,

Commissioner Walsh said yes. Commissioner Walsh made a motion to seek and hire 2 part-time summer employees for grass cutting, seconded by Commissioner Mikel. Motion carried with 5 ayes, 0 nayses. (Money, Wietting, Walsh, Mikel, and Hart) Commissioner Walsh made a motion to approve a memorial street sign to be installed at E. Reed Street and Comet Dr for Jack & Karen Bunting for "Jack & Karen Bunting Memorial Drive", seconded by Commissioner Wietting. Motion carried with 5 ayes, 0 nayses (Money, Wietting, Walsh, Mikel, and Hart) Commissioner Walsh also spoke with Tony Altiery about open questions and answers Town Hall type meetings. We have 3 scheduled town hall Q & A with Mr. Altiery that will not be streamed online, you want to ask questions, you need to come in or email Commissioner Walsh at dwalsh@braidwood.us and he will ask the questions for you. The dates are the second council meetings of the month at 6:00 p.m. July 25th, September 26th, and November 28th, all Tuesdays, second meetings of the month at city council chambers at 6:00 p.m. Mayor Hart asking if we can put those dates on-line or website. Commissioner Walsh said he will have flyers put out and will remind at each meeting as well.

Public Buildings & Property: Commissioner Wietting likes the idea of the town hall meeting being set up. Gives people from town to come in and ask questions and we can give answers and find answers. This is what this council is trying to do, trying to involve the community and get input. Thank you to Dale for putting this together.

Public Health & Safety: Police report from May 23 to June 11, total subjects arrested are 5 and total arrest charges are 8 and total 301 calls for service. Officer Dave Coronelli has submitted in writing his intention to retire as a Full-Time Police Officer for the Braidwood Police Department in May of next year. It takes about 9 months for an officer to complete their academy and field training. We have a spot secured at the Suburban Law Enforcement Academy at the end of August. We do not want to be left shorthanded so we are moving forward with a hire. That hire will come from the recommendation of The Police and Fire Board. The Grundy County Pro-Active Unit arrested 3 individual from a traffic stop on Interstate 55 on Thursday June 1st. A 19 year old, 21 year old, and 24 year old. Their charges were misdemeanor for cannabis, controlled substance and a unlawful use of a weapon. During the stop there was multiple drugs and guns located in the vehicle. The Grundy County ProActive Unit has officers from the Braidwood Police Department. Chief Lyons' financial packet has not been done yet. I have asked him to get the salaries from area Police Departments with a population comparable to Braidwood. Rockdale: Population 2,000; Elwood: Population 2,200; Peotone: Population 4,100; Wilmington: Population 5,600; Coal City: Population 5,700; Braidwood: Population 6,100. We are working on that have that that next.

Planning and Zoning: Next zoning meeting is July 10, 2023 at 7:00 p.m. moved from July 3 because of the Holiday.

New Business: Mayor stated not new business, but want everyone to be aware. Mayor Hart is on staff at the Coal City Methodist Church as the parish nurse. At the church there is a medical closet, at the closet they have wheelchairs, bath benches, along with many other items. They are loaned out free of cost to anybody who would like them, keep them as long as needed, and return when done. Or if you have some equipment at your home no longer needed, the church would accept those items. These are bought items not covered by insurance, to please let others know of this service.

The next council meeting will be June 27, 2023 at 7:00 p.m.

Adjournment: Commissioner Mikel made the motion to adjourn, seconded by Commissioner Walsh. Motion carried with 5 ayes, 0 nayses (Money, Wietting, Walsh, Mikel, and Hart)

Approved this 27th day of June, 2023.

Karen Hart Mayor

Comptroller City Clerk

