

CITY OF BRAIDWOOD AGENDA
Regular Meeting, Tuesday August 22, 2017 @ 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 Ordinances)

APPROVAL OF MINUTES – August 8, 2017 Regular Meeting

REPORTS BY CITY OFFICIALS

Mayor-

Administrator-

Clerk-Salvation Army Red Kettle Campaign, Monday-Saturday, November 1st - December 23rd
-Request for Pro Life Chain, Displaying Pro Life Poster, first Sunday in October on the 1st, 2:30-3:30,
At Intersections of Routes 113, 129 and 53

Engineer-

City Attorney-

REPORTS BY CITY COMMISSIONERS

Accounts and Finances -Payment of Bills
-Payroll Expenses

Streets & Public Improvements-

Public Property-

Public Health & Safety- Temporary Full Time Appointment of Officer Joe LaCost

Planning & Zoning-Recommendations

-July Meeting; Requested changing wording & cost in Sect. 22-142(b) from \$300 to \$500, Motioned to adjust to \$750

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, August 22, 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.

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, City Administrator Labriola and Chief Nick Ficarelo were present. City Engineer was absent.

Public Comment

Thomas Belcher, 392 W. 2nd St. addressed the council with a continuing battle he has with a neighbor at 261 N. Walker who won't cut their grass. They also park cars in their front yard and looks like a disaster. The biggest issue he has is they will not cut their lawn. He said code enforcer used to go there and it would get cut every once in a while. It has not been cut once this year and has filled out paperwork after paperwork to get it cut. The Mayor said someone will be sent over there tomorrow.

Dave Kierstein, 916 Anndon, here representing the residents of Townes of Braidwood regarding their water bills. Everyone has received their water bills and they're not happy with the increased amounts of their bills due to a supposed technical error in the billing that he heard about. They feel that the city should have sent everyone a letter prior to the bills going out stating that the bills would be increasing and the reasons why. He had signatures from majority of the residents in Townes of Braidwood and they're very upset. There are a lot of people in Townes that are on fixed incomes too. He read the letter that was affixed with the signatures of the residents.

Comm. Hutton then spoke about the new billing cycle as well as explaining why the increase in the sewer rate on the last set of bills.

Closed at 7:11pm.

Approval of Minutes

Comm. Hutton made a motion, seconded by Comm. Smith to approve the Regular Meeting Minutes of August 8, 2017. Motion approved 5 ayes, 0 nays, (Hutton, Smith, Hibler, Tessler & Mayor Vehrs).

REPORTS BY CITY OFFICIALS

Mayor

The Mayor reminded everyone that school is back in session so make sure to watch out for the buses and the children crossing the roads. Also asked everyone to remember to please slow down when the crossing guards are present for the safety of our children.

Administrator

Nothing to Report.

City Clerk

The clerk addressed her Agenda item, the request from the Salvation Army for their Red Kettle Campaign from November 1st- December 23rd from Monday-Saturday. Then asked for a motion to approve the Salvation Army's Annual request.

Comm. Smith made a motion to approve the Salvation Army's request for their Annual Red Kettle Drive, seconded by Comm. Hutton. Motion approved 5 ayes, 0 nays (Smith, Hutton, Hibler, Tessler & Mayor Vehrs).

The clerk then addressed the request from the Braidwood Knights of Columbus for their approval to host the "National Life Chain 2017". This event is a nationwide event that takes place annually on the first Sunday in October, known as "Respect Life Sunday". She said Braidwood has participated in this event for more than 25yrs. Participants will gather from 2:30-3:30 in a peaceful assembly to pray for a greater respect for human life in all of its stages.

Comm. Hibler made a motion to approve the National Life Chain on October 1st, seconded by Comm. Smith. Motion approved 5 ayes, 0 nays (Hibler, Smith, Hutton, Tessler & Mayor Vehrs).

The clerk addressed the flyer that was put on the table and given to all the council members in their packets, World Suicide Prevention Day, September 7th. The event is being hosted at the New Lenox Village Hall and is a free event and can register with the Safe Community Coordinator. The clerk also addressed the 2017 FOIA Log that was included in everyone's packet as well.

Engineer

Absent.

City Attorney

Nothing to Report at this time.

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 \$106,748.59, seconded by Comm. Hutton. Motion approved with 5 ayes, 0 nays (Hibler, Hutton, Smith, Tessler & Mayor Vehrs).

Comm. Hibler made a motion to pay the Payroll Expenses due in the amount of \$98,395.56 seconded by Comm. Smith. Motion approved 5 ayes, 0 nays (Hibler, Smith, Hutton, Tessler & Mayor Vehrs).

Streets & Public Improvements

Comm. Smith said he hasn't seen grow as fast in August as it has. The commissioner said this is the time of year for vacations; a lot of his guys have a lot of time to take so this is why they're running behind time in getting things done. He will be doing everything to get caught up as soon as vacations are done and he said he's doing the best he can with what he has. The equipment is down so bad and in such a need for a lift truck but not sure where the money's going to come from. Not sure where we can get a lift truck that is affordable. All we can do is the best we can.

Public Property

Comm. Hutton reiterated what Comm. Smith said about a lift truck. They've checked out Western Auto on Coal City Road but don't have one that would suit both purposes. Comm. Hutton said he checked out a dealer by the Iowa border that has a couple now but they're \$60,000 a piece which Comm. Smith also said was one of the downfalls-the price. We'd have to find something that we can make payments on over possibly a 3yr. period. Comm. Hutton read the Outside Crew Report then gave the Plant Crew Report. The guys have been flow testing the hydrants to help decrease our ISO Rating down another half percent which looks very favorable now.

Public Health & Safety

Comm. Tessler gave the stats that the Chief provided from 8/8-8/22/17, with total calls for service 287. The commissioner then addressed his Agenda item regarding the Temporary Appointment of Officer Joe La Cost.

Comm. Tessler made a motion to appoint Joe LaCost as Temporary Full-Time employment, seconded by Comm. Hutton. The Chief advised that due to scheduling and operating with only (2) Sergeants he realized that more supervision is needed on the night shift and we have (2) Officers currently in the Academy. The Chief wants to utilize Joe for 4 months in this position and this is considered an emergency appointment which allows him to work this position for 4 months at a time. Motion approved 5 ayes, 0 nays (Tessler, Hutton, Hibler, Smith and Mayor Vehrs).

Planning & Zoning Board Report

Zoning Chair Serena addressed the council on their July 3rd Zoning Meeting. During the meeting the Building Dept. had asked them to research and consider changing Section 22-142 of the city code. It currently states that buildings and structures or improvements that are erected or constructed at a cost of less than \$300 for labor & materials at current contractor prices, no permit shall be required. This wording in the code was done back in 1994 and of course prices have gone up. Also the previous administration verbally changed it to \$500 and there is no documentation to prove that. So they're asking the Zoning Board to document this increase to \$500. During the board's discussion, the question was is the increase to \$500 even enough. Some of the board said let's make it a \$1,000 and others said it was too much. So the decision and the recommendation of the board is to consider \$750 for the value of the project, therefore asking counsel to prepare an Ordinance to satisfy the issue the Building Dept. is having with this Section. Atty. Kopman said he will prepare an Ordinance for the next council meeting. The Zoning Boards next meeting is September 11th and also holding a Public Hearing that day also.

Closed Session

Comm. Hutton made a motion to go into Closed Session to discuss Personnel only, seconded by Comm. Smith at 7:24pm. Motion approved 5 ayes, 0 nays (Hutton, Smith, Hibler, Tessler & Mayor Vehrs).

Comm. Hutton made a motion to Reconvene the Regular Meeting at 7:32pm, seconded by Comm. Smith. Motion approved 5 ayes, 0 nays (Hutton, Smith, Hibler, Tessler & Mayor Vehrs).

There was no action taken following Closed Session.

Old Business

Nothing to Report.

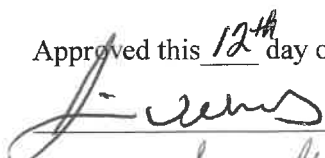
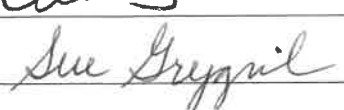
New Business

Nothing to Report.

Adjournment

Comm. Tessler made motion to adjourn the Regular Meeting at 7:34pm, seconded by Comm. Smith. Motion approved with 5 ayes, 0 nays (Tessler, Hutton, Hibler, Smith & Mayor Vehrs). Meeting adjourned.

Approved this 12th day of September 2017

 Mayor
 City Clerk

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

