

CITY OF BRAIDWOOD AGENDA
Regular Meeting, Tuesday, October 24, 2023 at 7:00pm

I. Call to Order

II. Pledge of Allegiance

III. Roll Call by City Clerk

Doug Money
Jim Mikel, Jr

Warren Wietting
Karen Hart

Dale Walsh

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, October 10, 2023 Regular Meeting

VI. REPORTS BY CITY OFFICIALS

A. Mayor

1. Appointment of Bret Goodwin as the Braidwood Chief of Police.
2. Motion for Resolution 23-6 to approve benefits to be provided to Braidwood Chief of Police Bret Goodwin.

B. Administrator

C. Clerk

1. Reschedule Braidwood Lions Candy Day to Friday October 27, 2023 from 3pm-6pm

D. Engineer

1. 2023 Salt Purchase Contract Award Recommendation

E. City Attorney

VII. REPORTS BY CITY COMMISSIONERS

A. Accounts and Finances

1. Approve Payment of Bills \$430,728.81
2. Approve Payroll \$110,304.10

B. Streets and Public Improvements

C. Public Buildings & Property

1. Approve 2023 Salt Purchase from Midwest Salt, LLC for \$156,000

D. Public Health & Safety

E. Planning & Zoning

VIII. OLD BUSINESS

IX. NEW BUSINESS

X. EXECUTIVE SESSION

A. Motion to go into executive session to discuss (i) the appointment, employment, compensation, discipline, performance, or dismissal of specific employees (5 ILCS 120/2 (c) (1)) and (ii) pending, probable, or imminent litigation against, affecting, or on behalf of the City (5 ILCS 120/2 (c) (11))

B. Motion to close executive session

XI. Next City Council Meeting is Tuesday, November 14, 2023 at 7:00pm

XII. ADJOURNMENT

Minutes of the Regular Meeting of the Braidwood City Council Tuesday, October 24, 2023
Braidwood City Hall 141 W. Main St., Braidwood, IL 60408

Call to Order: The Regular Meeting of the Braidwood City Council on September 24, 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 Clerk, the following members of the corporate authorities answered "Here" or "Present";

Elected Officials:

Present: Commissioner Wietting, Commissioner Walsh, and Mayor Hart

Absent: Commissioner Money

Appointed Officials:

Present: City Clerk Weaver, City Engineer Dave Weber and City Attorney Wellner

Absent: City Administrator Tony Altieri

Quorum: There being sufficient members of the corporate authorities in attendance to constitute a quorum, the meeting was declared in order.

Public Comment: Ricky Ortiz, 181 N. Division St: We just bought the house at 181 N Division St, new Braidwood residents, love the town, awesome, love Polk-a-dot. But our builder is a very bad builder. I want to make sure that this board is aware of what I have. A contractor showed up today and noted about \$75,000 - \$100,000 worth of damage in my brand-new house. I have an inspection report I would like to submit to you guys for you to review. I am free and open to questions my phone number is on the front. If you can review this, it's a lot of stuff, it looks like he basically built the house about three quarters professionally and the other twenty-five percent he just went off the walls crazy. I have trim that is bad, doors that are bad, deck is bad, master shower is horrible and a lot of stuff needs extensive repair or replacement before I can even use it. So, I just want to make you guys aware and hopefully do don't do anymore business with NuBlock Construction or Pro Winters. That is the gentleman that built the house. He only has those four properties there. We talked to 165 N Division and they have the same exact issues that he has not repaired in over 6 months. So, he is not a good builder, please do not do any more business with him. That's it, thank you.

Tim O'Brian 1021 W. Cermak Rd: I read an ad for a realtor who is selling some real estate over on Novy Road. His ad read that there is already an approved duplex complex on its way, going up, that someone should buy this and jump in on, everything going on. I was a little startled because to the best of my knowledge zoning hasn't met in a couple months and there has been a big scuttlebutt about the guy who wants to allegedly build housing projects over that way. So, curiosity came and I called him. Now, I have come to city hall a couple times, really like this town, and I stop by everywhere, I'm retired so I have nothing else to do. When I asked a couple questions at city hall, everyone was very professional, very kind, very polite said we can't talk about these issues, you have to talk to city council, you have to go through the freedom of information act or whatever you got to do. So, when I called the realtor yesterday,

he assured me that the deal was done, the project was going up. He even made a call to his girl at city hall. I started posting stuff on Facebook and made it become a controversy, he changed his ad really quick. So, the ad no longer talked about the duplex the he assured was going in and talked about being close to the new Jewel store. Even though I am a new resident some people may say sit down, we don't care about you, a lot of us have been here 40-50 years. My issue becomes this, I like this town but there seems to be a tremendous amount of secrecy. You come to a meeting, the board listens, you guys listen to everything everybody says, that's fantastic but nobody is allowed to say anything back. Nobody is allowed to answer a question even though everything could be 100% legit above the table, it gives a feeling that something inappropriate is going on. This town has an aura of secrecy in it right now, that I find unusually because I come from a town where everything is helter-skelter. If there is any question in what took place yesterday with the social media stuff and wondering, it's because I questioned the realtor. The realtor confirmed he has a girl at city hall who will tell him what's going on. When I ask what's going on at city hall, I was told nobody can talk and that makes you go, hmmm. What's this all about? If you would like to know the persons name, I will tell you later, privately.

Chris Earling, 180 N Mitchell St: This last weekend Wilmington had a Tunk 'N Treat in the downtown area, finally got back from a two-month job in St. Paul. So, the wife and I went out did a couple things this weekend and actually ran into a Braidwood resident, his name is Bill Burmaster. He had a booth set up there that he apparently is a part of the 4-H club. This threw a flashback, I apologized to him, I had honestly forgot about this. When you go to the fair you see the 4-H club all the time. It brought me back when I was talking to Bill when my kids were involved in it as well. It was a really fun club. I grabbed a pamphlet from Bill and I have his number so anybody's kids were interested in the 4-H club. Number one it's a great club from what I can remember when my kids were in it, they had a blast. Bill gave me the pamphlet here, there are things listed on here that apparently, they get involved in; career readiness, animal sciences, civic engagement, communications, computer science, geology, and here's a great one, leadership. Holy crap, we need a lot more of that. I don't have any grandkids, my nephews are still quite a bit younger, but for this particular club is Wesley's 4-H Hustlers, I'm sure anyone can google it. I know everybody is looking for something more for their kids to do here in town. So, I had to bring this up because I had honestly, completely forgot about it. At the fairs, I go to their booths, I check out the livestock and stuff like that. They do more than just livestock, apparently, they do more than livestock, a lot more than I remember from when my kids were doing it. If anybody out there is looking for something to do with their kids other than the boy scouts and girl scouts, obviously we know them. If somebody would like Bill's number, I have his number on the back of this. I don't want to just give out his number, or I can give you guys his number. I would really love if people could start bringing up the 4-H club a little bit more, give some attention to Bill over there. I know when my kids were doing this, they were having a ball, they got into junior high then, and it kind of went to the way side with them. This was a great club from what I can remember. I know it's been many, many years since they were in it, but it seems like it has changed a lot more since they have been in it. So, help pass this around.

Approval of Minutes: Commissioner Wietting made a motion, seconded by Commissioner Walsh, to approve meeting minutes from the October 10, 2023. Regular Council Meeting. Motion carried with 3 ayes: 0 nays; (Wietting, Walsh, and Hart)

Mayor's Report: Asked for a motion to appoint Bret Goodwin as the Braidwood Chief of Police. Commissioner Walsh made a motion, seconded by Commissioner Wietting to approve the mayor's appointment of Bret Goodwin as the Braidwood Chief of Police. Motion carried with 3 ayes: 0 nays; (Wietting, Walsh, and Hart) Bret Goodwin was sworn in by Mayor Hart in the appointment of Braidwood

Chief of Police. Mayor asked for a motion for Resolution 23-6 to approve benefits to be provided to Braidwood Chief of Police Bret Goodwin. Commissioner Walsh made a motion, seconded by Commissioner Wietting to approve Resolution 23-6 to approve benefits to be provided to Braidwood Chief of Police Bret Goodwin. Motion carried with 3 ayes: 0 nays; (Wietting, Walsh, and Hart)

I would also like to announce that Commissioner Jim Mikel has submitted his resignation from the council effective today. We will miss him, he was a good voice, but it was his choice to resign.

Administrator Report:

City Clerk Report: Will need a motion to approve to reschedule the Braidwood Lions Candy Day Street corner collection to October 27, 2023 from 3pm – 6pm because they were rained out on the previous date. Commissioner Walsh made a motion, seconded by Commissioner Wietting. Motion carried with 3 ayes: 0 nays; (Wietting, Walsh, and Hart)

Reminder the food pantry is open every Tuesday from 8am - 12pm and for the month of November they will be giving out turkey dinners.

On Sunday October 29, 2023 from 4pm – 6pm at the Ignite Christian Church which is at 1180 W. 1st St. will be hosting a Trunk or Treat and all ages are welcome. Also, at the Ignite Church on Saturday November 11, 2023 the Braidwood Nights of Columbus will be hosting a Veteran Day Breakfast from 8am – 11am. Tickets are \$5 donation with proceeds going to the Manteno Veterans Home.

Today I was informed that our Environmental garbage company, the pamphlets what were given out with the garbage cans, the recycle calendar was mixed up, so some of the weeks are off. I do have new schedules printed over on the table if you already know if you are A week or B week, the correct one is on the table. We also have it posted on our Facebook page, sorry for any miscommunications there, I was just notified of that today.

Engineer Report: On Friday October 13 we received bids for water treatment plant 2023 salt purchase, this for the water softening for the city. We received two bids, one was from Cargill Corporation and the second was Midwest Salt, LLC. One of the bids, Cargill, did not follow the proper bidding format nor did they provide a proposal guaranty. So, the only qualified bidder was Midwest Salt in the amount of \$156 per ton or up to 1,000 tons which is up to \$156,000. That is approximately \$10 a ton more than it was last year and Midwest Salt is our current provider for the water treatment plant. This is across the board increase that we are all experiencing, so it is in line. We would recommend awarding the contract to Midwest Salt, LLC for up to \$156,000. Commissioner Wietting made a motion, seconded by Commissioner Walsh to approve the bid to Midwest Salt, LLC for \$156,000. Motion carried with 3 ayes: 0 nays; (Wietting, Walsh, and Hart)

City Attorney Report:

Accounts & Finance Report: Commissioner Money was absent; Before I make a motion, I would like to comment, the bill is substantially higher than usual, the annual insurance premium for the city is RMA Risk in the amount of \$239,953.06, also the CMAP dues for \$12,000, and the paving was complete at our sludge building and the police shooting range for a total of \$39,183.00. That is why this number is so much greater than usual. Commissioner Wietting made a motion, seconded by Commissioner Walsh, to approve the Payment of Bills, in the amount of \$430,728.81 as identified in the Accounts Payable General Ledger dated October 24, 2023. Motion carried with 3 ayes: 0 nays. (Wietting, Walsh, and Hart) Another brief announcement about the approval of payroll, \$21,975.48 went to our good chief that retired, that is

why payroll was up. Commissioner Wietting then made a Motion, seconded by Commissioner Walsh, to Approve Payroll Expenses, in the amount of \$110,304.10 as identified in the Payroll General Ledger dated October 10, 2023. Motion carried with 3 ayes; 0 nays. (Wietting, Walsh, and Hart).

Streets & Public Improvement Report: If anyone knows anybody from the Townes of Braidwood, we need a contact for the HOA, we need their trees cut back that are in parkways, there is not enough room for the plows to get through this winter. They need to cut the trees back; they take care of their own landscaping there. We need a contact otherwise their streets will not get plowed to the curb this winter. If you have a new home or are putting in trees do not plant trees 16ft from the street on either boarder of your house. It's too close to the street, you will be responsible for the trimming of the trees, there is no way the city could incur that cost. Even if you sell your home the people who move in have to incur that cost even though they didn't plant the tree. Please do not plant trees close to the road. We have seen a few of them and some younger trees that are around town.

Public Property Report:

Public Health & Safety Report: Chief Goodwin reported the summary of the activity from October 10th to October 22nd; there were a total of 170 calls for service, there were 3 subjects arrested and the total arrest charges were 7. There were approximately 17 traffic stops that generated several citations in warnings and P-tickets. Something of note, since the beginning of September to now there have been 19 P-tickets issued for truck traffic; 9 in the month of September and 10 thus far in October.

Mayor Hart: I had asked Chief if he could pull out some of those tickets for me because it was a request from constituents about the number of tickets and if we could report on them and he graciously did that.

Planning & Zoning Report: Our next meeting will be November 6 at 7pm. Commissioner Walsh: George could you maybe answer Mr. O'Brian's concern about that property? Mr. Koczek: Not at the moment, I would have to research it. The 56 acres that is for sale? I took a quick look at it but didn't go into depth with it. Mr. O'Brian: It was more the allegation that the property adjacent had already been approved by zoning and construction could start soon. Dave Weber: Dale, if I could say that I have not seen any plans what so ever. I do recall, maybe a year ago, a very, very rough concept was proposed but at that time, I think they were just throwing out ideas to what could be approved. But I have seen no official plans what so ever. Commissioner Walsh: Nothing has been brought to the zoning board concerning that? Mr. O'Brian: Just so you know, I ask a lot of questions, and a realtor is nothing more than a salesman.

Old Business:

New Business: Commissioner Walsh: Back to Mr. O'Brian, it would be a good idea if you could attend November 28th, we are having our 3rd Town Hall. It was originally for the city administrator but people come in and ask any of us questions. If you could make it at 6 o'clock November 28th and our meeting will follow at 7 o'clock. Ron Wilczak: Are you aware of the CMAP open house that is to be scheduled that day from 6 o'clock. Commissioner Walsh: Yes, we contacted them and told them about it, they are going to change the day.

Adjournment: Commissioner Wietting made a motion, seconded by Commissioner Walsh, to adjourn the October 24, 2023 regular meeting of the Braidwood City Council. Motion carried with 3 ayes: 0 nays. (Wietting, Walsh, and Hart) The next regular meeting of the Council will be held Tuesday, November 14, 2023 at 7:00pm

Approved this 14 Day of November, 2023.

James E. Hart Mayor

Sarah M. Weaver City Clerk

