

CITY OF BRAIDWOOD AGENDA
Regular Meeting, Tuesday, December 8th, 2020 @ 7:00pm

I. Call to Order

II. Pledge of Allegiance

III. Roll Call by City Clerk **Charles Hart** **Doug Money**
 Wayne Saltzman **Fay Smith**
 Robert Jones

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.

VI. APPROVAL OF MINUTES

A. Approve Minutes of the November 24, 2020, Regular Meeting

VII. REPORTS BY CITY OFFICIALS

A. Mayor

1. Approve an Appointment for Commissioner of Public Health and Safety

B. Administrator

C. Clerk

D. Engineer

E. City Attorney

VIII. REPORTS BY CITY COMMISSIONERS

A. Accounts and Finances

1. Approve the Payment of Bills

2. Approve Payroll

B. Streets and Public Improvements

C. Public Buildings & Property

D. Public Health & Safety

E. Planning & Zoning

IX. OLD BUSINESS

X. NEW BUSINESS

XI. Next Regular City Council Meeting is Tuesday, December 22nd, 2020 at 7:00pm

XII. ADJOURNMENT

**Minutes of the Regular Meeting of the Braidwood City Council Tuesday, December 08th, 2020
Braidwood City Hall 141 W. Main St., Braidwood, IL 60408**

Call to Order: The Regular Meeting of the Braidwood City Council on December 8th, 2020 was called to order at 7:00 p.m., by Mayor Jones in the Council Chambers of the Braidwood City Hall.

Pledge of Allegiance: Mayor Jones 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 Saltzman, Commissioner Smith, Commissioner Money
and Mayor Jones

Absent: Commissioner of Public Health and Safety (Vacant)

Appointed Officials:

Present: Chief Lyons, City Administrator Altiery, City Attorney Wellner, and City Clerk Fisher

Absent: City Engineer Dave Weber

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

Public Comment: Charles Galbraith thanked Commissioner Smith for his accessibility. He stated he was unhappy with the Mayor and his time spent in City Hall as well as the police department's inability to "solve a crime."

Joseph Byers thanked the council for doing their jobs as well the police chief for a job well done throughout town.

Karen Hart thanked the council for their assistance and compassion following the passing of her husband, Commissioner Hart.

Nicole Shores asked Commissioner Smith about his email address and if he attends to it since she submitted multiple FOIAs. She asked why Smith hired an attorney to change ordinances. She thanked Smith for the road signs but commented she should not have had to fight so long and hard for them. Shores urged the council to vote against any appointment of persons previously on the council, especially any with personal connections to the previous administration. Fresh faces are needed.

Adam Beaty asked for a round of applause for Karen Hart for sharing Commissioner Hart with the City of Braidwood. Beaty stated he ran alongside Charlie and they fought hard to be a part of the council. Applause followed.

Approval of Minutes: Commissioner Saltzman made a motion, seconded by Commissioner Money, to approve meeting minutes from the November 24th, 2020 Regular Council Meeting. Motion carried with 3 ayes (Saltzman, Smith, Jones): 0 nays: 1 abstention (Money).

Mayor's Report: Mayor Jones asked Bill Hanley to explain the city's annual audit for the fiscal year ended on April 30th, 2020.

Mayor Jones asked for motions to approve an appointment to the office of Commissioner of Public Health Safety, vacated by the passing of Commissioner Hart.

- Commissioner Money, made a motion, seconded by Jones, to appoint James "Moose" Mikel Jr.

Discussion of Mikel followed. Mikel commented his desire to serve the city and continue to make Braidwood a nice city for his family to live and remain. City Attorney Wellner explained the need for an appointment until the seat can be filled via special election in April of 2021. The specially elected Commissioner would serve the remainder of the term, approximately 2 years, until the seat was up for regular election in 2023. Motion to appoint Mikel failed 2 ayes (Money, Jones): 2 nays (Saltzman, Smith).

- Commissioner Money made a motion, seconded by Jones, to appoint Raymond McShane Jr.

Discussion of McShane followed. McShane was noted as community involved. McShane is the reason the fire hydrants in town were given a fresh coat of paint among other contributions to the city. McShane stated he would like the opportunity to work with the council to continue to push Braidwood forward. Motion to appoint McShane failed 2 ayes (Money, Jones): 2 nays (Saltzman, Smith).

- Commissioner Saltzman made a motion, seconded by Smith to appoint Andrew Galatte.

No discussion. Motion to appoint Galatte failed 2 ayes (Saltzman, Smith): 2 nays (Money, Jones).

There being no agreement to fulfill a vacancy, required by law (5 ILCS 120/2(c)(3)), Commissioner Money made a motion, seconded by Jones, to go into Executive Session at 7:30 pm to discuss the selection of a person to fill a vacancy of public office pursuant to the above-mentioned statute.

Commissioner Smith requested that only elected officers be admitted to the executive session. Commissioner Saltzman agreed but also requested City Attorney Wellner be present for legal counsel. Motion to enter Executive Session failed 2 ayes (Money, Jones): 2 nays (Saltzman, Jones).

In accordance with the rules and within the guidelines of state statute following 3 three rounds of voting with no agreement, Mayor Jones exercised his authority to appoint James "Moose" Mikel Jr., to the office of Commissioner of Public Health and Safety.

Commissioner Saltzman argued the Mayor did not have the right to make the appointment.

City Clerk Fisher administered the Oath of Office to Mikel who assumed the post.

Mayor reported the great turn out for the Christmas Parade.

Administrator Report: Altieri reported the acquisition of new insurance premiums in light of the COVID-19 litigation nationwide and how premiums are understandably up.

City Clerk Report: Nothing to report

Engineer Report: Nothing to report

Chief of Police: See Public Health & Safety Report

City Attorney Report: Wellner discussed the Tax Levy Ordinance meeting to be held on Monday, December 28th, 2020.

Accounts & Finance Report: Commissioner Saltzman made a motion, seconded by Commissioner Smith, to approve the Payment of Bills, in the amount of \$126,656.32 as identified in the Accounts Payable General Ledger dated December 8th, 2020. Motion carried with 4 ayes: 0 nays. (Saltzman, Smith, Money, and Jones). Commissioner Saltzman then made a Motion, seconded by Commissioner Smith, to Approve Payroll Expenses, in the amount of \$132,820.81 as identified in the Payroll General Ledger dated December 7th, 2020. Motion carried with 4 ayes; 0 nays. (Saltzman, Smith, Money, and Jones) Commissioner Saltzman then made general comments about the Food Pantry having lower turnout than expected, and parade comments.

Streets & Public Improvement Report: Commissioner Smith discussed roadside clean up and on-going work on equipment. He stated he is need of help but cannot hire another person due to budget cuts.

Public Property Report: Commissioner Money reported 23 water line locates, 1 sewer inspection, 1 water repair, 1 fire hydrant repair, 2 new meter installs, 4 meter repairs, 11 meter reads, 3 water shut-offs, 1 buffalo box repair, 91 MXU installs.

Public Health & Safety Report: Chief Lyons reported 5 arrests between November 23 and December 6, 2020, as well as 122 calls for service. Lyons also discussed, since called out by a citizen, the differences between the previous administration and now as far as crime numbers were concerned. He cited that from June 1, 2017 to November 25, 2018 the police department had 8,726 calls for service. In the same time frame of a year and half under Chief Lyon's leadership the police department handled 6,766 calls for service. Previously the police department had 874 reports versus the most recent of 729. There were 44 thefts reports versus 36 and 27 Burglaries versus 20. There were previously 18 full-time officers there are now 10. In summary calls for service are down 22%, reports are down 16%, thefts are down 18.18%, burglaries 25.93%, and the department as operated on almost \$1 million less. Former Mayor Vehrs did meet with Chief Lyons and apologized for calling out Braidwood officers for lack of duty. Lyons also reminded the citizens about the up coming Shop with a Cop.

Planning & Zoning Report: Nothing to report.

Old Business: None

New Business: None

Adjournment: Commissioner Money made a motion, seconded by Commissioner Saltzman, to adjourn the December 8th, 2020 regular meeting of the Braidwood City Council. Motion carried with 4 ayes: 0 nays (Saltzman, Smith, Money and Jones). The next regular meeting of the Council will be held December 22nd, 2020 at 7:00pm

Approved this 22nd day of December 2020.



Mayor

City Clerk