

CITY OF BRAIDWOOD
Minutes
City Council Regular Meeting
Tuesday, February 25, 2014
City Council Chambers

Call to Order

Mayor Rulien called the meeting to order at 7:00 P.M.

Pledge of Allegiance

The Pledge of Allegiance was recited by everyone present.

Roll Call

Elected Officials present: Mayor Bill Rulien, Commissioner of Public Property Jim Hutton, Commissioner of Streets and Public Improvements Danny Graf, Commissioner of Public Health and Safety Eric Tessler, and Commissioner of Accounts and Finances Elena Hibler.

Appointed officials present: City Administrator Rich Girot, City Attorney Scott Pyles, City Engineer Howard Hamilton and City Clerk Lisa Glisson.

Public Comment

Jim Vehrs – 160 S. Cook Street, Mr. Vehrs addressed the council regarding the Heartland Bank land acquisition. Mr. Vehrs wanted to know where the city is getting the money for this property? Mayor Rulien advised if we did purchase the property it would likely come out of economic development.

Approval of Minutes

Mayor requested a motion to approve the correction to the January 11, 2014 minutes. Comm. Hutton made the motion, seconded by Comm. Hibler. The motion was approved with 5 ayes (Hibler, Hutton, Tessler, Graf, Rulien) 0 nays.

The minutes for the regular meeting were approved as read.

Reports by City Officials

*Mayor requested a motion to approve An Ordinance 14-03 Authorizing an Agreement Between Heartland Bank and Trust Company and the City of Braidwood for the Purchase of Land. Comm. Graf made the motion, seconded by Comm. Tessler. **Discussion:** Mayor Rulien gave the background on the property, it is the subdivision Townes of Braidwood, there are over 30 buildable lots with water and sewer, curbs and gutters and paved streets except for one small street that still needs to be developed. The developer lost it to the bank. Although there was a letter of credit to finish the streets it was allowed to expire by the city at that time, so in the end the roads had become unnavigable almost third world type roads. When Danny Graf took office he had them fixed at a cost of tens of thousands of dollars to the city. The city has claims against the lots to get our money back, at this time we have an opportunity to purchase the lots at a real attractive price to help spur economic development to recover our costs. When these lots are built on, it will help all of our taxing bodies, including our park district, fire department, school district, helps our library, it helps everyone out with the taxes and it will help our plant out with the fixed user rates. It also means more residents which means more*

customers for our businesses. So for the economic development potential of this I believe we should go ahead and purchase the property. Does anyone else want to comment? (no other comments). The motion was approved with 4 ayes (Hibler, Tessler, Graf, Rulien) 1 nays (Hutton).

City Administrator

Administrator reported he was off last week with surgery on his back but he did speak with Mr. Lleshi who will be back next week and they will start working on his property.

City Clerk

City Clerk presented a request from the American Legion Koca Post #39 for their annual Poppy Days on May 16th from 6:00 am – noon and May 17th from 8:00 am – noon.

Mayor requested a motion to approve the Poppy Day. Comm. Hutton made the motion, seconded by Comm. Hibler. The motion was approved with 5 ayes (Hibler, Hutton, Tessler, Graf, Rulien) 0 nays.

City Clerk reminded everyone to purchase their city stickers and that early voting starts on Monday, March 3, 2014.

Mayor Rulien commented that one of the things Jerry Pressley wanted to accomplish was making city hall more user friendly for the voters and I am proud to say the ladies in city hall have done a great job with doing that.

City Engineer

Engineer advised nothing to report at this time.

City Attorney

Nothing to report.

Reports by City Commissioners

Comm. Hibler corrected an error on the last bill list. It appeared that a worker received a meal allowance in the amount of \$151.30. He received the meal allowance of \$10.00 and the balance of \$141.30 was for his boot allowance as per their union contract.

Comm. Hibler moved to pay \$157,020.11. Comm. Graf seconded. The motion was approved with 5 ayes (Hibler, Hutton, Tessler, Graf, Rulien) 0 nays.

Comm. Hibler moved to pay \$74,598.41. Comm. Hutton seconded. The motion was approved with 5 ayes (Hibler, Hutton, Tessler, Graf, Rulien) 0 nays.

Commissioner of Streets and Public Improvements (Comm. Graf) thanked everyone that prayed for more snow and cold, you got your wish. Also reminded everyone to check on your elderly neighbors as we are supposed to get more snow and cold this coming week. Comm. Graf read two letters from a grateful resident and Wescom for all our public works department has done for the city. Comm. Graf thanked public works for all their hard work. Comm. Graf advised that the council members has all received phones calls thanking them for what our guys do.

Comm. Hutton also commented that he has had about 8 people stop him in the last couple of weeks letting him know that they appreciate when they leave for work the roads are done, which means if you leave at 6 am our guys have already been out working to give you safe passage.

Comm. Graf continued with the statement that the bus barn and parents have also complimented us on the conditions we keep our roads in.

Commissioner of Public Properties (Comm. Hutton) read weekly reports, reported on the status of the generator and advised we did purchase the hammer for the bobcat to be able to pound through the frost since we are at 48" deep right now. Mayor advised it can also be used in the summer for concrete too.

Commissioner of Public Health and Safety (Comm. Tessler) advised he was going to table the acceptance of Joshua Shirley's resignation and explained there is a vacancy on the Police and Fire Board and he would like to appoint Rich Walden to the board.

Comm. Tessler moved to appoint Rich Walden to the Police and Fire Board. Comm. Graf seconded.

Discussion: Chief Rich Girot advised Rich Walden lives in town and is a retired Will County Sherriff that he worked with for 20 years. It is hard to find someone that wants to donate their time to work on a board but he is willing. The motion was approved with 5 ayes (Hibler, Hutton, Tessler, Graf, Rulien) 0 nays.

Planning and Zoning Board Report

Nothing to report.

Braidwood Area Healthy Community Coalition Report

Sandy Fletcher the President of BAHCC advised the council on the presentation "Not my Kid" that will be held at the high school in May of 2014.

New Business

City Clerk advised there was another letter of appreciation from Ron McCarthy. Tony Altiery volunteered to help anyone that needed assistance if they were elderly or disabled with clearing their driveway so City Hall took down the information and made a list for Tony and he took care of these so our public works could maintain the roads. Mayor Rulien also expressed his appreciation for Tony Altiery in helping us and working to make a great community for everyone.

Adjournment

Mayor requested a motion to adjourn. Comm. Hutton made that motion, seconded by Comm. Tessler. The motion was approved with 5 ayes (Hibler, Hutton, Tessler, Graf, Rulien) 0 nays.

Meeting was adjourned at 7:20 pm.

Approved this 11 day of ^{March}~~February~~ 2014

Will Rulien Mayor

Lisa Allenson City Clerk