CITY OF BRAIDWOOD
Minutes
City Council Regular Meeting
Tuesday, September 11, 2012
City Council Chambers

Call to Order

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

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 Attorney Scott Pyles, City Administrator/Police Chief Rich Girot and City Clerk Lisa Glisson.

Public Comment

Pamela Vehrs, 160 S. Cook St., requested to be on the agenda at the next meeting to obtain the permit for the Stand for Life on October 7, 2012 from 2:30 – 3:30 pm.

William Ewing, 279 S. Walnut St., inquired as to what progress had been made in the complaint he filed regarding his neighbor's fence being too high and the garage he built three years ago is so high the standing water it creates is heaving his driveway. Council advised they would check into it.

James Vehrs, 160 S. Cook St., commented regarding the epidemic of heroin in our town. Mr. Vehrs stated he had received a call advising of another heroin related death and he informed the council that during Braidwood Fest they found hypodermic needles at the park.

The Mayor closed public comment and recommended to the residents to join the Braidwood Area Healthy Community Coalition who is actively working on programs to address this problem. Comm. Tessler also commented that he did address the council two weeks ago with some scary statistics on what we are facing. Comm. Tessler also advised that they are actively working on warrants and making arrests, but in a small town everyone knows everyone and they tend to find out we are coming, but we are still working on stopping it. Chief Girot also informed the council and residents that there has not been another death in our town. There was an overdose but not another death.

Approval of Minutes

The minutes for the August 28, 2012 and regular meeting were approved as written.

Reports by City Officials

Mayor Rulien reported (a) they were tabling the ordinance amending the utilities chapter, (b) the TIF ordinance is an amendment to the area since it is removing some small easement pieces that are not annexed into the city, (c) read the Family Day Proclamation for September 24, 2012 – a day to eat dinner with your children to help combat drug use and abuse.

Mayor Rulien requested a motion to approve the Ordinance 12-27 Providing for and Approving the Third Amendment to the Braidwood TIF District III Redevelopment Project Areas, Plan & Projects. Comm. Tessler made a motion to approve Ordinance 12-27. Seconded by Comm. Hibler. The motion was approved with 5 ayes (Hibler, Hutton, Graf, Tessler, Rulien) 0 nays.

Administrator Rich Girot advised that ComEd is moving ahead with the removal of the poles at Casey's, we have paid the down payment and have the final easement done.

City Clerk Lisa Glisson gave a brief summary of the training course that Tari Atherton and she attended at the Braidwood Fire Station with the Braidwood Area Healthy Community Coalition, federal, state and local trainers to help train us in establishing a strong coalition. Discussion ensued between the residents and members of council regarding the need for the coalition, neighborhood watch, meeting times, road to reality programs that are being held and planning for ones in our town.

Reports by City Commissioners

Comm. Hibler moved to accept the Humana dental renewal at 1.29% increase over last year. Comm. Tessler seconded. The motion was approved with 5ayes (Hibler, Hutton, Graf, Tessler, Rulien) 0 nays.

Comm. Hibler moved to pay $344,543.25 in bills. Comm. Graf seconded. The motion was approved with 5ayes (Hibler, Hutton, Graf, Tessler, Rulien) 0 nays.

Comm. Hibler moved to pay $81,731.64 in payroll. Comm. Hutton seconded. The motion was approved with 5ayes (Hibler, Hutton, Graf, Tessler, Rulien) 0 nays.

Commissioner of Streets and Public Improvements (Comm. Graf) reported Monday, September 17, 2012, we will be starting road repairs. City Hall will contact all the different agencies and schools to keep everyone informed of any closing. Comm. Graf requested that residents drive carefully while the work is being done.

Commissioner of Public Properties (Comm. Hutton) (a) read two biweekly reports (b) they are still working on Division Street sewer, we should be getting flow by the end of next week from Exelon (c) SCADA system at the WWTP should be on automatic by the end of the week (d) rehabbing old plant, replacing sidewalk and pouring the concrete.

Comm. Hutton motioned to Approve Change Order #13 for the Wastewater Treatment Plant Expansion Project. Comm. Graf seconded. The motion was approved with 5ayes (Hibler, Hutton, Graf, Tessler, Rulien) 0 nays.

Comm. Tessler tabled the motion to approve the labor agreement for the sergeants until the next council meeting.

Commissioner of Public Health and Safety (Comm. Tessler) (a) reported the total CAD calls for the month of August is 1078, up by 10 calls from July's total of 1,068, hopefully they will go down with the winter months (b) police served a search warrant on Friday, Sept 7th and there will be a press release on the two arrests.

Planning and Zoning Report

Michelle Serena advised the meeting for September 4th was cancelled due to a lack of agenda items and the October meeting is scheduled for the 1st.

Old Business

Comm. Tessler asked if we had any news on the generator and if we were thinking about connecting it to City Hall also. Mayor advised we are working it, Aubrey is still waiting on pricing to have it fixed but the cost to have City Hall added is too great. Comm. Hutton also advised that it was $6,500.00 for them to come out and service all of the generators.

New Business

Discussion ensued regarding the drug abuse problem in town: Chief Girot advised the residents if they wanted to get involved in a community watch or any other form to help with stopping the drug abuse, he would give anyone who wants it his email so they can contact him directly about it.

Mayor commented that it is not just Braidwood, this is an area problem and we need to reach out to other towns and it needs to be a joint effort to stop it.

Adjournment

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

Approved this 25 day of September 2012

Will Rl Mayor

Lisa A Gleason City Clerk