

CITY OF BRAIDWOOD AGENDA
SPECIAL MEETING
Thursday January 24, 2019 @ 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 Ord.)

APPROVAL OF MINUTES -January 8, 2019

REPORTS BY CITY OFFICIALS

Mayor-

Administrator-

Clerk-

Engineer-

City Attorney-

REPORTS BY CITY COMMISSIONERS

Accounts and Finances-Approve Payment of Bills
-Approve Payroll Expenses

Streets & Public Improvements-

Public Property-

Public Health & Safety-

Planning & Zoning-

Closed Session-Discuss Personnel, Pending and/or Imminent Litigation, Collective Bargaining/Labor Relations, Land Acquisition or Review of Closed Session Minutes.

-Actions to be taken following Closed Session

Old Business

New Business

Adjournment

CITY OF BRAIDWOOD
Special City Council Meeting Minutes
Thursday, January 24, 2019

Call to Order

Mayor Vehrs called the 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 Don Labriola, Chief Ficarello and City Engineer Todd Gereaux were present.

Public Comment

Opened at 7:00pm.

Rich Girot, Rich asked the Mayor if the council is going to invite the Auditor's to explain the Audit and go through it and see an Auditor's Report like they usually do? Or we just going to have to go by what's on the website? The Mayor said hopefully the Audit Report will be on the next Agenda and the Auditor's will be here to explain it to people. Rich stated that when he went through the Audit he saw that the city is in a bad financial state. Rich said he also knew that the city borrowed \$2.7 million from the Sewer Fund and wasn't sure if the council voted on it or if Comm. Hutton knew about it. He said in 3 yrs. the city is \$3.1 million in debt. He said another big expense is the city payroll and in 2 yrs. it went up 42%. It went up \$844,000 in 2 yrs.

Chris Erling, Commented that he didn't understand why anyone on the current council would be running again with the current budget issues. He then addressed the Mayor directly stating you're in charge of all this and has let it blow out of proportion. He then directed his statement of reason was because Chief Ficarello needs all the money for his department and can't make a single arrest on his own when things are brought to his attention.

Bob Jones, said he was very impressed how the recent snow was removed from the streets. Also saw the sidewalks on our main streets being cleared as well. He said that's what we need to do to get businesses here, open the sidewalks for the businesses. Bob said that he saw that Main St., Rte. 113 was touched with snow removal, but we drive the streets with the plows up to get to other streets in town and can't understand why the plows can't be down. It's a safety issue to make sure that everyone can get in and out of town. Bobby said our town is the best plowed streets anywhere around here. Bobby said he praises Fay for the guys getting out there getting done, hit some of the icy spots.

Closed at 7:06pm.

Approval of Minutes

Comm. Smith made a motion to approve the Regular Meeting Minutes of January 8, 2019, seconded by Comm. Tessler. Motion approved 5 ayes, 0 nays (Smith, Tessler, Hibler, Hutton & Mayor Vehrs).

REPORTS BY CITY OFFICIALS

Mayor

The Mayor explained that our Regularly Scheduled meeting on Tuesday January 22nd was cancelled due to the terrible ice storm that day. His concern was for elderly residents who attend our Regular council

meetings as well as some of our elderly council members and their safety. The meeting was rescheduled to today Thursday January 24th. The Mayor said he appreciated people coming out to the Special Meeting.

Administrator

Don commented that he is working on the report about the water bills and will be letting him know the results.

City Clerk

Nothing to Report.

Engineer

City Engineer Todd Gereaux advised that at the next meeting the Attorney will be presenting an Ordinance that IDNR would like the city to pass. This will clean up our current Storm Water Ordinance and be in compliance. FEMA is going to issue a new Floodplain Map and they're working with them on that.

City Attorney

Nothing to Report

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 \$246,077.07, seconded by Comm. Smith. Motion approved with 5 ayes, 0 nays (Hibler, Smith, Hutton, Tessler & Mayor Vehrs).

Comm. Hibler made a motion to approve the Payroll Expenses in the amount of \$144,921.50 and includes \$4,161.18 that will be reimbursed by the Braidwood Healthy Coalition, seconded by Comm. Smith. Motion approved 5 ayes, 0 nays (Hibler, Smith, Hutton, Tessler & Mayor Vehrs).

Streets & Public Improvements

Comm. Smith said he looks at Bobby Jones as a taxpayer. When he went to Bobby's business he looked at him as a taxpayer not Bobby Jones. Comm. Smith said he believes that every taxpayer should know where there money is going and every commissioner should take care of their department's money-the taxpayers money, like it was their own! Fay said they looked into the front of Bobby's business and yes it is part of the city easement, so he then told his men to put salt down. The commissioner said there were also some other places that they had to do the same and that they belong to the city. He said he always want to make sure he knows what he's doing before he does anything.

Public Property

Comm. Hutton gave the Outside Crews report then gave the Plant Crews report.

Public Health & Safety

Comm. Tessler said that it looks like weather coming next week could be brutal with snow, sleet, very cold temperatures so remember to take a little more time, check on your neighbors. Also be mindful if kids have a snow day to keep an eye out for them playing in the snow. Comm. Tessler gave the numbers report provided by the Chief for the period from 1/8/19- 1/22/19. Their total calls for service for this period were 209.

Planning & Zoning

Nothing to Report.

Closed Session

Comm. Hutton made a motion to go into Closed Session at 7:14pm to discuss Personnel and Pending Litigation, seconded by Comm. Tessler. Motion approved 5 ayes, 0 nays (Hutton, Tessler, Hibler, Smith & Mayor Vehrs).

Comm. Smith made a motion to Reconvene the Regular Meeting at 7:38pm, seconded by Comm. Hutton. Motion approved 5 ayes, 0 nays (Smith, Hutton, Hibler, Tessler & Mayor Vehrs).

Mayor Vehrs advised that there will be no action taken following Closed Session.

Old Business

Nothing to Report.

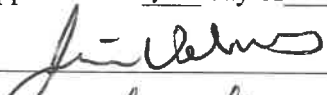
New Business

Mayor Vehrs wanted to let everyone know that with the cold weather coming, city hall will be a warming center, Monday-Friday, 9am-5pm. After hours and on the weekend he advised people to call the Police Department and they will get a Police Officer to let them.

Adjournment

Comm. Tessler made motion to adjourn the Regular Meeting at 7:40pm, seconded by Comm. Smith. Motion approved with 5 ayes, 0 nays (Tessler, Hutton, Hibler, Smith & Mayor Vehrs).

Approved this 12 day of February 2019

 Mayor

 City Clerk

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

