

City of Brownsville
Minutes of June 3rd, 2026, Regular Monthly Council Meeting and HRA of Brownsville

Mayor Jean Meyer called a special public hearing to order at 7:00 pm to consider a conditional use permit for installation of a septic holding tank on property owned by Sarah Libbon, Parcel Number 200260000. Council members Barb Hurley, Pam Walhovd and David Prestby were in attendance. Bill Fitzpatrick was noted as absent. Guests attending; Fred Beseler, Argus, Jeff LeJeune, resident and Niki Ranzenberger, resident. Brownsville city staff included Dean Twite, Maintenance, Jenna Knight, City Treasurer and Steve Schuldt, City Clerk. The septic tank will meet the needs of a proposed new cabin. A site inspection was conducted by Jean Meyer and Pam Walhovd who confirmed that setback requirements are met. It was confirmed that the existing house will be removed following completion of the new cabin. It's noted that the owner has applied for and received consent from Houston County for installation of the septic tank. Following discussion, Barb Hurley moved, seconded by David Prestby and the motion passed to approve installation of the septic holding tank with clarity on removal of the existing house and other structures. There being no further discussion, Jean Meyer closed the public hearing at 7:05 pm.

Jean Meyer called the regular meeting of the Brownsville City Council to order at 7:05 pm. Council roll call was conducted by the clerk confirming that a quorum was present with Barb Hurley, Pam Walhovd, and David Prestby present. Bill Fitzpatrick was absent. Others in attendance were Steve Schuldt Clerk, Jenna Knight, Treasurer, Dean Twite, Maintenance Supervisor, Niki Ranzenberger, Resident, Jeff LeJeune, Lions Club and Fred Beseler, Argus.

Mayor Jean Meyer led the meeting attendees in reciting the pledge of allegiance to the US Flag.

Jean Meyer requested approval of the consent agenda which includes the meeting agenda, minutes of May 6, 2026 and claims payable to date. Additionally, the consent agenda is to include the following additions: Old Business: Discussion regarding the Lions Club installation of a lighted event sign at the intersection of State Highway 26 and County 3. Maintenance: Discussion of Scott's seal coating estimate. New business: Approval of a fireworks permit to the Brownsville Lions Club. David Prestby moved, seconded by Barb Hurley and the motion passed to approve the consent agenda as amended.

FLOOR CORRESPONDENCE: None

PRESENTATIONS: None

APPOINTMENTS: None

OLD BUSINESS: Jean Meyer updated the council regarding administrative letters for ordinance violations. She informed the council that she is waiting for advice from the city attorney regarding fines or penalties for noncompliance. Council members requested that a copy of the letter be emailed to council members prior to mailing.

NEW BUSINESS: Jean Meyer presented the council with an email from MnDOT informing the Lions Club of approval for their proposed Outdoor Advertising Device. Pam Walhovd expressed that the city is not adhering to the ordinance. Barb Hurley stated that an application was not presented to and approved by the city council. Following discussion, Barb Hurley moved to disable the sign and complete an application to the city for the sign to be approved at the July 1st meeting. The motion was seconded by David Prestby and passed.

Jean Meyer presented the council with a membership renewal invoice to the Minnesota Association of Small Cities. Membership dues for the year 2026-2027 are proposed to be \$392.50. Barb Hurley moved, seconded by Pam Walhovd and the motion carried to approve membership at a cost of \$392.50.

Jean Meyer presented a proposal for a Caledonia Argus ad supporting Brownsville Days at a cost of \$33.00. David Prestby moved, seconded by Pam Walhovd and the motion carried to approve ad.

Jean Meyer presented the council with a request by the Brownsville Lions Club to host a fireworks display during the Brownsville Days event. David Presby moved, seconded by Pam Walhovd and the motion carried to approve the fireworks event.

MAINTENANCE DEPARTMENT: Dean Twite informed the council that a second quote has been received for street seal coating which is estimated to be half of Scott's Construction bid. Mr. Twite expressed concern regarding the lower bid in that their representative did not inspect or measure the project. Mr. Twite expressed concern that a detailed bid needs to be submitted by the low bidder to reach an informed decision.

Mr. Twite informed the council that blacktop grindings from County Road 18 are being temporarily stored at the dump site with the understanding that some of which will be reclaimed for the Highway 18 resurfacing project and any remaining can be used by the city for any of their projects.

Mr. Twite informed the council that a resident in Apartment 11 at the Manor is requesting hard flooring due to safety concerns. He will get additional information and present at the July meeting.

FIRE AND RESCUE DEPARTMENT: Jean Meyer presented the council with a printed report informing the council of the AFG grant request status, currently submitted but not yet accepted.

The council was informed that CARP has increased their annual donation to \$1,000.

CITY CLERK REPORTS: Jenna Knight informed the council that she is looking for election judges for the upcoming midterm election.

Council was informed that she is working with MI Energy and Dairyland Power for an energy conservancy block grant.

Ms. Knight informed council that Richard's Sanitation has increased their fuel surcharge from 14% to 17% for the month of May service. Ms. Knight suggested that the city hold pricing for another month and re-evaluate after June billing due to the cost of notifying all residents. The hope is for a fuel surcharge reduction and to recoup those charges later. Barb Hurley moved, seconded by David Prestby and the motion carried to leave unchanged the current surcharge to customers and re-evaluate in July.

Ms. Knight reported that 36 kids are signed up for summer rec.

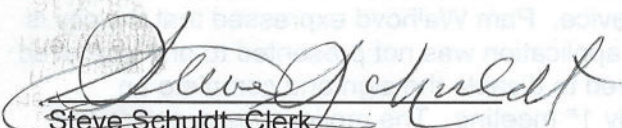
Ms. Knight reported that a proposed meeting is to be scheduled with MnDOT, Houston County Highway, the City of Brownsville and the landowner at the County 3 and State 26 intersections. Jean Meyer and Barb Hurley will attend the meeting when scheduled.

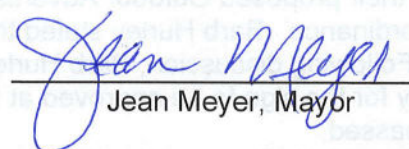
Ms. Knight questioned if council wanted to have Ken's Window Cleaning Service clean the Community Center windows. Barb Hurley moved, seconded by Pam Walhovd and the motion carried to have Ken's Window Cleaning wash the Community Center windows, inside and outside.

Dean Twite extended a thank you from the city to Brownsville Pump and Well for repairing a lift station pump. Mr. Twite stated that the repair saved the city from purchasing a new pump at a cost of at least \$1,700.00.

Steve Schuldt reported that the office printer is failing to provide clean copies and that repair parts can approach \$250.00 to \$500.00 plus labor costs. There is currently a printer on sale at Office Depot for \$499.99, that is comparable to the current printer, which is five years old. Barb Hurley moved, seconded by David Prestby to purchase the proposed printer.

ADJOURNMENT: There being no further business, David Prestby moved, seconded by Barb Hurley and the motion passed to adjourn at 7:59 pm.


Steve Schuldt, Clerk


Jean Meyer, Mayor

Footnote: The June 3, 2026 council meeting minutes are condensed to show motions made and seconded by the council and do not include all arguments and conversations leading up a motion. This footnote is requested by councilmember Pam Walhovd and concerns the following motion.

"Barb Hurley moved to disable the sign and complete an application to the city for the sign to be approved at the July 1st meeting. The motion was seconded by David Prestby and passed."