



# Council Minutes

Special Session | January 3<sup>rd</sup>, 2023

**ROLL CALL:** Mayor Ware called the meeting to order at 7:00 p.m. with Council President Hansen, Councilor Thompson, Councilor Chambers, Councilor Neddeau, Councilor Craven and Councilor Humphreys present. Administrative Assistant Tammi Morrow, Administrative Assistant Elizabeth Coleman and City Administrator Scott McDowell were also present.

Mayor Craven, Councilor Solberg and Councilor LaCoste took their Council seats after being sworn in at 7:06 p.m.

**ABSENT:** Everyone was present.

**PUBLIC:** Dan Murphy, Trapper & Nichole Solberg, Sean & Karmin LaCoste, Mike & Heidi Winklepleck, Collin Winklepleck, Nick Morrow, Brandon Putney, Wendy Toshitsune, Jack Alsman, Pam & Kris Solberg, Stephen & Geneva Sedlar, Johnny Claasen, Sally Lockhart, Barbara Andersen, Chenoweth Robertson, and Nan Van Sandt were present.

The pledge of allegiance was recited.

Mayor Ware wanted to publicly thank everyone for supporting him through his 16 years as Mayor of Brownsville. He publicly thanked City Administrator Scott McDowell for his dedication to the City and to his responsible Staff. Ware thanked Staff for their hard work and determination to do the right things for our community. "It has been a fun time for me," and I want to thank you all for your support through the years.

## **PUBLIC HEARING | PRESENTATIONS:**

1. **Councilor Craven | Council Seat Resignation.** – Councilor Craven read his resignation letter into the public record. Craven's letter is attached. Craven had to resign his seat to take the position of Mayor. Craven thanked Mayor Ware and the Council and said he was excited to take the position of Mayor and to be a part of leading the community. *Council accepted Mr. Craven's resignation, as presented, by consensus.*
2. **Oaths & Affirmations | S. Scott McDowell.** – City Administrator Scott McDowell swore in the new members of Council starting with Mayor Craven, and continuing with Councilor Solberg and Councilor LaCoste. The members took their seats on the dais. Mayor Ware, Councilor Thompson and Councilor Neddeau congratulated the members as they took their seats.
3. **Council Vacancy | Applicants.** – Mayor Craven presided over the remainder of the meeting. Mayor Craven began by thanking the applicants for filing a letter of interest for the open Council seat. Brownsville is fortunate to have caring citizens willing to perform public service. Craven announced that each applicant would be given three minutes to address Council about their reasons for applying and whatever else they feel they want to say. Staff will then provide a ballot with all names listed. Council will vote. Administrative Assistant Tammi Morrow will collect and tally the ballots. In the event of a tie, Council will vote again until there isn't a tie. Mr. McDowell will then swear in the new member of Council. Mayor Craven asked the first applicant, Jack Alsman, to please take the podium.

**Jack Alsman** – Mr. Alsman said he moved to Brownsville five years ago. Alsman has lived all over the country and likes Brownsville the best. He loves walking around the town and meeting new people. Alsman loves the friendliness of the town and the people. Alsman spent 30 years in Santa Cruz, California and was originally born in New Jersey. He would like to give back to Brownsville. He is retired and has the time to dedicate to public service. He is excited about the new Council's traditional values and hopes to be a part of the process.

**Tricia Thompson** – Ms. Thompson reviewed her qualifications by highlighting the fact that she was current on projects and goals Council is hoping to accomplish. She has a fair amount of history



## Council Minutes

with the City's operations as well. She moved to Brownsville in 2007. She is a homeowner and a small business owner. She is very involved with many civic organizations in the community and loves to volunteer. She loved her time on Council and the Planning Commission and hopes to get a chance to continue working on Council business. She is ready and able to get it done!

**Nan Van Sandt** – Mrs. Van Sandt started by thanking all the past community members who have built this community to what it is today. She really wants to give back to Brownsville. She wants to build community by bringing people together. She likes to find and deal with problems head-on. She is adept at hearing both sides and making decisions that are best for the community as a whole. She said that it is imperative to have advocacy as a primary focus due to continued unfunded mandates. Government is supposed to support the people, not oppose the people.

**Mike Winklepleck** – Congratulated the Mayor and new Councilors on their election. Mike introduced his wife, Heidi, and their son Collin. Winklepleck loves being in Brownsville. He said that Brownsville really represents what small, rural town living is supposed to be. Since Council has had an opportunity to review his letter of interest, he just wanted to add that his agenda is to serve the community to the best of his ability.

### ACTION ITEMS:

1. McDowell disseminated the ballots. Council voted secretly and passed the ballots to Administrative Assistant Tammi Morrow. Mrs. Morrow tallied the ballots and Mike Winklepleck was selected to fill the Council seat vacated by Mayor Craven.

McDowell swore in Mr. Winklepleck at the request of Mayor Craven. Councilor Mike Winklepleck took his seat on the dais.

### DISCUSSION ITEMS:

1. **New Councilor Training.** McDowell said that there was a fair amount of training to do with the new members of Council prior to the Goal Setting session. McDowell said that he would visit quickly after this meeting with the three new Councilors to determine times that work for that training. McDowell said that Mayor Craven also wanted to spend time with the new Council members to help with their transition to Council.
2. **Council Goal Setting Session.** McDowell reviewed the two items that Council traditionally completes every odd year which is a Council Retreat complete with a tour of City facilities and then a separate Goal Setting session. Council agreed to hold the Council Retreat on Saturday, February 4<sup>th</sup>, 2023 at 9:00 a.m. to 1:00 p.m. in the Community Room at City Hall. Council then settled on Thursday, February 9<sup>th</sup>, 2023 at 7:00 p.m. for a Goal Setting session in Council Chambers. Mayor Craven and McDowell will provide a list of goals and possible goals very soon. McDowell encouraged Councilors to send him any ideas they may want considered as well.

### COUNCIL COMMENTS.

Councilor Hansen addressed the applicants to say that this decision was one of the hardest he has had to make while serving on Council. Hansen was very impressed with the applicants and said Brownsville was lucky to have such talented people interested in City government. Mr. Hansen hopes that no one takes the vote personally.

**ADJOURNMENT:** Councilor LaCoste motioned for adjournment and Councilor Mike Winklepleck seconded. The meeting at 7:32 p.m.

Handwritten signature of S. Scott McDowell in blue ink.

City Administrator S. Scott McDowell

Handwritten signature of Mayor Adam R. Craven in blue ink.

Mayor Adam R. Craven