

.TOWN OF BROOKLET
CALLED MEETING
MAY 6, 2004

1. CALL MEETING TO ORDER; MAYOR GROOMS
2. INVOCATION; COUNCILMAN RICH
3. PUBLIC HEARING; AMERICAN TOWER CO. (NEXTELL)
Representatives present; Mike Brandt and Jason
Groseclose.

There was no other public attendance.

American Tower Company Representative Mr. Hockey had put together a very informative application which had been reviewed by all members. Councilman Rich commented on the application; best he had ever seen of this type. Mayor Grooms asked for a discussion or questions of Mr. Brandt and Mr. Groseclose. No one had any questions. Motion was made by Councilman Newman to accept the recommendation from Planning & Zoning to allow American Tower Co. to construct the communications tower. Motion seconded by Councilman Rich and passed with all ayes.

4. REVIEW OF BUDGET F Y E 2005 GENERAL FUND

Members had been provided a copy of a balanced proposed budget as a guideline. Employee raises and Insurance cost was discussed at the beginning. Councilman Rich spoke on the proposed increase in water and garbage rates. He feels the increase personally, would only affect his bill by \$3.35 per month which is not a problem. Members discussed several different items and then started with revenues of General Fund line by line, then went on to expenditures. Mayor Grooms stated we were running this business and we have employees we are hiring whatever, I don't think the employees has the sole right to tell you how much, what Insurance Company they want to use or how much they want to pay. We got kicked on the H M O this go around and stayed on the P P O, which cost the city some money. Councilman Newman asked what per cent the Insurance coverage will increase this year. He was advised last year there was a 6% increase. Councilman Wynn asked if the rate increase was only 6%, why are we talking about taking 20% from the employee. He also asked if each employee insurance cost was the same amount. He could see the employee paying the increased amount of 6%, but not an extra 14%. Mayor Grooms thinks if they want to stay on P P O rather than HMO, this would make a big difference. The employees last year agreed to stay on the P P O plan. Councilman Newman does not have a problem with employees paying 20%, but keep the P P O.

Councilman Rich understands how Councilman Wynn feels, if the employees are asked to pay enough to offset the 6% increase of insurance premium, as far as the City is concerned, we would break even at this staying on the P P O plan. Councilman Wynn feels if we take the figures from last year and use as a base, and have the employee pick up the increase each year, but he cannot see putting 20% on the employee. Councilman Wynn made a motion we keep the current Insurance premium as it is now and figure the 6% increase to be a payroll deduction from each insured employee beginning July 1, 2004. Motion seconded by Councilman Rich and passed with all ayes. This will be reviewed each year at budget time. Other expenses were reviewed and discussed. Councilman Wynn asked about the Street sweeping Charges. Councilman Rich advised he would like to see a cut back on this item. They come once a month for 3 hours and charge for 2 hours travel for a total of 5 hours. \$540.00. Mayor Grooms asked how much you think it would cost if the laborers had to sweep it, figure your labor. Councilman Newman sees where they sweep on Parker Avenue and have to go our around the cars. They need to come earlier before cars park there. Councilman Wynn wants to ask them if we can cut back to every two months or so and have them give us a list of the streets they sweep. Councilman Davis made a motion we contact Southern Sweepers and ask them to come every two months on a set day of the week and hour and we need a list of streets done. Motion seconded by Councilman Wynn and passed with all ayes.

WATER FUND REVENUES AND EXPENDITURES;

Mayor Grooms feels we should make some re-adjustments on payroll anyway. We ought to go to Bi-Weekly or monthly. This would save a good bit of cash. Councilman Rich wanted to know where we would get savings from this. Mayor Grooms says what it cost for Belle to do it and what it cost to have it done. Councilman Rich thinks there are so few employees, this would take no longer than 15 minutes. Mayor Grooms thinks they would get used to it but they wouldn't like it maybe. Councilman Newman asked about employee salary raises. Last year there was a 4% increase for employees. Councilman Rich had a 2% raise in his mind and they will also be paying the portion of their insurance. Councilman Wynn and Newman mentioned a 2.50% increase. A motion was made by Councilman Wynn to give employees a 2.50% raise beginning July 1, 2004. Motion seconded by Councilman Rich and passed with all ayes.

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After the review of the April Financial statements we will review again a few items.

Motion to adjourn made by Councilman Newman, Seconded by Councilman Davis and passed with all ayes.