

TOWN OF BROOKLET
MAY 20, 2004

1. CALL MEETING TO ORDER; MAYOR GROOMS
MEMBERS PRESENT; F. RICH, R. DAVIS, S. PROSSER, R.
NEWMAN, A. WYNN, AND ATTORNEY HALL.

2. INVOCATION; ATTORNEY HALL

3. APPROVAL OF MINUTES OF APRIL 24 MEETING.

Councilman Wynn made a motion to accept the minutes as written. Motion seconded by Councilman Rich and passed with all ayes.

4. APPROVAL OF APRIL FINANCIAL REPORTS.

Councilman Rich reviewed figures from the reports and a motion was made by Councilman Newman to accept the reports. Motion seconded by Councilwoman Prosser and passed with all ayes.

5. RECOGNITIONS;

1. JOHN B. LANIER; questions on garbage pick up. Mr. Lanier explained that some citizens need and want the garbage pick up service and some citizens in Brooklet do not need and do not want the service and he is one who does not need or want the service. How can the City demand people who do not want it to pay for the service. It seems to him a violation of citizens rights. He would like to see an ordinance and know how this can legally be done. Mr. Lanier was provided a copy from the charter providing the Examples of Powers of the City. Attorney Hall advised this was a legal charge and customary. If you live in the city you are required to have the services such as water, garbage and the city is required to enact the ordinances. Mr. Lanier thanked Council for their time and hoped he had not offended anyone.

2. BECKY KELLY; (705 West Lane St.) Complaint on water being turned off without notice. Mrs. Kelly respectfully requested the next time we turn the water off electively, not meaning if something breaks with no control, for 6 or 7 hours, the affected citizens are made aware of the situation ahead of time so they can be prepared. The people in the area of W. Lane and W. Lee Streets were most unhappy that they were not notified the water would be off.

Mrs. Kelly was upset when she got home from work and had no water. She went out to the work site where Mayor Grooms was standing with the people and he didn't look at her or talk to her, but his little comment to her was very sensitive. One of the workers said they were getting the water turned back on and she told her neighbor standing there- Randy - it's about darn time. She was advised it could not be turned off till 1:00 pm because of the school, which she understood. Mr. Grooms made the comment to her; you got water now, so don't worry about it. Mrs. Kelly would not have come to the meeting if he had not said this to her, so she came to the meeting to ask for an apology. Mayor Grooms said he would apologize to her and back Billy Taylor up 100 percent because he forgot to tell the people, but he did notify the school. Mrs. Kelly does not know the name of the lady down the street, except it is Mayor Grooms daughter who is getting ready to build a house on the lot, and they have a problem with water on the property when it rains. She understands that city workers on city time with city equipment was over there on private property digging a ditch to drain off the water. Part of that private property is on her property. She did not grant an easement or ask for the ditch to be dug on her property. Mrs. Kelly resents this work being done with taxpayers money on private property during the work day. The property owner should either pay for this work or be funded some other way.

6. COMMITTEE REPORTS;

1. COUNCILMEN RICH advised the Splost check amount for February distributions was \$8,879.35
2. COUNCILMAN DAVIS met with Sam from Ellis Wood Paving Co., on the Julius Circle project. He will get a quote to us on the base rock and paving. He also contacted Carroll & Carroll and Reeves Paving for a quote.
3. COUNCILWOMAN PROSSER was back following surgery on May 3 and hopes the garbage truck is still in operation.
4. COUNCILMAN NEWMAN had received a quote from Hussey, Gay, Bell and DeYoung on the Environmental Site assessment and limited under ground sampling at the S. E. Bulloch Junior High School on Railroad Street. Councilman Newman made a motion we accept the lower bid from Hussey, Gay, Bell and DeYoung of \$7,950.00. Motion seconded by Councilman Rich and passed with all ayes. He and Councilman Wynn had not met on the City Hall project, but he had talked to Jeff Akins. County Attorney.

The Town of Brooklet was allocated \$350,000.00 for that building. \$75,000.00 allocated for Cultural Facilities. Councilman Newman asked him about moving money around, we can move anything except money for roads which is \$205,000.00 and \$230,000.00 for water ..

Our available balance now is \$142,709.00. Mr. Akins advised if we spent money, not to go over the available balance. Councilman Newman will have the bids on Plumbing and Electrical for the building by the next meeting. Bill Lovett has been contacted about the Lee/Lane Street drainage. His recommendation was to obtain an easement for a ditch to be cleaned out between Lee/Lane Streets. The land owners involved are Rod Pye, Viola Sikes and Gary Denmark. Attorney Hall advised to speak to land owners to see if they are agreeable to an easement then talk to the Corps of Engineers. Councilman Newman and Councilman Rich will work on this project.

5. COUNCILMAN WYNN reports the starter is out on well # 2 and he hopes to install this part Friday.

6. CHELF MUNDY; Today's newspaper covered a story on a recent seatbelt safety check at Creative Kids Child Care, with a picture of Officer Brown on the front page. A grant application came in this week from G I R M A. We need to apply, but someone needs to be appointed to attend a Risk Management Class for us to be eligible. Chief Mundy agreed to attend the class.

7. OTHER BUSINESS FROM CITY COUNCIL;

1. MOTION TO ADOPT A RESOLUTION ENDORSING HOUSE BILL #1836 TO DEVELOP A COMPREHENSIVE STATEWIDE WATER PLAN. COASTAL REGIONAL DEVELOPMENT CENTER.

Councilman Rich reviewed the document and was pleased with what he read. The main idea is to get the rural communities to work together and secure a good water supply. Councilman Rich made a motion we adopt the resolution. Motion seconded by Councilman Newman and passed with all ayes.

2. AMENDMENT TO THE METAL BUILDING ORDINANCE.
This has been advertised and will be the first reading of Article 3-28-8 of the Code of Ordinances of Brooklet.
As read by Attorney Hall:

" 3-28-8 Buildings with metal surfaces must obtain a Special Exception in A-I, C-1, C-2, R-1, R-2 or R-3 districts. This provision shall have no applicability to the construction or placement of accessory buildings as defined in Section 2-2.11

Motion to accept the the first reading of the amendment made by Councilman Newman, seconded by Councilman Rich and passed with all ayes.

3. REVIEW OF WATER & GARBAGE RATES;

Councilman Wynn asked if it was acceptable, he would like to table this discussion until he reviewed a report of revenues and expenses.

4. QUOTE ON REPAIRS TO BATHROOM FLOOR IN CITY HALL.

The floor is about to fall through. We had three people look at it, but only one quote was given from Joseph Blicht. Councilman Wynn asked if he carried Liability Insurance. We need to get a certificate before the work starts.

5. CONCERNS ON THE PROPERTY AT 215 HIGHWAY 80 WEST.

Mrs. McCord plans to open an antique store at this location on July 1, 2004. She was informed to ask owner Nicky Gwinnett to review the ordinances on the parking and the entrance off Highway 80. Mr. Gwinnett called the clerk and advised her, he was grandfathered in. He was then asked to contact Mr. Jackson with Department of Transportation about a decel lane at the entrance on Hwy 80. Mr. Jackson met with Mr. Gwinnett and told him to put crush & run on the driveway from Hwy 80. He would not ask him to have a decel lane at this time. Mr. Jackson told city clerk he would monitor the traffic flow for a while and see how it goes. Councilman Newman reviewed the paperwork. The adoption and effective date of the new ordinance was March 4, 2002. Mr. Gwinnett purchased his re-model permit March 14, 2003. According to Zoning Ordinance Section 7-5 Parking Area Design, he should pave the parking lot and have a certain number of parking spaces. Councilman Rich thinks he is not grandfathered in and if the work was initiated after the adoption of the ordinance and he needs to abide by the ordinance. Councilwoman Prosser asked about Mr. Jackson saying he could put crush & run. Councilman Newman explained this was the minimum standard from the Department of Transportation as access off of Hwy 80, but the actual property has to be paved for parking because it is Commercial, C-2.

Councilwoman Prosser hates to see him have to go to this expense, at least he is cleaning up the corner. Councilman Rich appreciates this, but if we grant an exception to one, we will have to grant one to everybody who does not like the way the ordinance reads. Mayor Grooms asked for a motion. Councilman Newman feels he needs to apply for a variance. Councilman Rich advised he needs to abide by the ordinances that were enacted when he began the project and if not, he needs to request a variance.

CHIEF MUNDY asked to speak and made reference to the called meeting of May 6, 2004 and the discussion of employee raises and Insurance. He presented a print out of salary information and insurance comparison from several other small cities. Chief Mundy reviewed the expected 2.50% raise planned for the employees and the payroll deduction for the insurance increase. The increase per hour for the employees would be anywhere from .17 cents down to less than .01 cent. Councilman Newman asked Councilman Rich if he would look at a projected salary for the next year. He was bothered by the 2.50% decision at the last meeting. Councilman Rich has also re-thought the decision and he appreciated the information. Now that they know what each person makes, maybe they can do better.

COUNCILMAN NEWMAN thinks we need to look at an Ordinance or procedure about water being cut off for repairs. A review of the situation would result in the decision of doing the work at a more convenient time. If they had waited on the Roberson Lane project, school would have been out on Monday. Mayor Grooms advised Councilman Newman we discussed this, Billy discussed it for two weeks prior to this and we try to work on Billy's schedule. Councilman Newman talked about door hangers to notify people of plans to turn the water off. If the work had to wait a week, it would have to go a week but we need to set some sort of procedure. Councilman Rich agreed. Mayor Grooms says you can't satisfy everyone. Billy Taylor spoke up that is was his mistake for not notifying the people. Billy also had a question. He wanted to know what would have happened if Brian had not brought the information on salaries to council. This concerns the Employees. You don't have to answer this, but think about it. You go through these decisions and before the meeting, you talk to God. Think about it real good and go home with a clear conscience. Mayor Grooms thanked Billy and asked for an adjournment. Councilman Wynn advised Billy he would get with him about a decision on notification.

Motion to adjourn made by Councilman Rich and seconded by Councilman Wynn. Passed with all ayes.