

1. CALL MEETING TO ORDER: MAYOR GROOMS
Members present: F. Rich, R. Davis, S. Prosser,
R. Newman, A. Wynn and Attorney Hall.
 2. INVOCATION: COUNCILWOMAN PROSSER.
 3. APPROVAL OF MINUTES OF MAY 20th MEETING.
Councilman Rich made a motion to approve the minutes as written. Motion seconded by Councilman Newman and passed with all ayes.
 4. APPROVAL OF MAY FINANCIAL REPORTS.
Councilman Rich reviewed the monthly reports and made a motion they be accepted as presented. Motion seconded by Councilman Wynn and passed with all ayes.
- S. RECOGNITION:
1. Marlin Nevil, Local Surveyor.
Mr. Edwin Smith has hired him to do a survey on property he plans to purchase from Mr. George Jenkins and Pretorious Lane runs in front of the house. He presented a plat of the road from 1934 and a new plat showing how the road in a period of time has been relocated. They would like the Town of Brooklet to quit claim any interest they have to the section of the mentioned lane. Mr. Nevil would like to relocate the lane to where it is now being used, then Mr. Jenkins would issue to Brooklet a Warranty Deed or Quit Claim Deed to this plat, relocating the lane as it is being used. This would result in the town giving up their interest in the old location and let Mr. Jenkins issue a deed for the relocated alley. Attorney Hall felt this procedure would work if it was acceptable by council. Councilwoman Prosser made a motion to quit claim that parcel to Mr. Jenkins in order to allow him to make the sale. Motion seconded by Councilman Wynn and passed with all ayes. Mr. Nevil will bring papers to be signed.
 2. BARNEY SINEATH;
 1. ATTORNEY FEES. Mr. Sineath asked Mr. Hall, if rather than having a dollar charge amount on his statements, could he have a break down of each item. Mr. Hall advised him the bills were for City Council, not to satisfy him. The Town of Brooklet is his employer.

2. ZONING. Mr. Sineath feels there is no uniform enforcement in ordinances. The property next door to city hall transferred property ownership, also the Trailer Sales on Highway 80 does not have paved parking. Commercial properties which abuts residential areas call for a buffer. Mr Dorsey has been advised of this and plans to plant trees. Attorney Hall had reviewed the ordinance and there seems to be a distinction in the ordinance between a business permit and a building permit. The Zoning Ordinance with the parking and the paving talks about building permits and the business permit does not address this. So you could have a C-2 facility but want a business permit. He is not sure the Zoning Ordinance address this whether to have a parking lot or not. This is addressed under building permits in zoning and if you had someone ask for a building permit to make a renovation to an existing C-2 structure, you might fall under having made the changes, but if you have a C-2 property and ask for a business permit, he is not sure what we have in the Zoning Ordinance that addresses this. This would fall under Building permits. Mr. Sineath asked if Second Base parking lot on Highway 80 East had to be a certain size or references to the size of the building. The formula for a retail store is one space per two hundred square foot of gross floor space. Councilman Rich advised that Mr. Sanders was aware of the parking codes and the plat should show parking spaces.

3. MAYORS' RESIGNATION: Mr. Sineath heard a rumor the mayor was going to resign. Mayor Grooms advised they should not worry about that he was here to stay - worry about something else. Whatever council decides, they can contact his attorney. Mr. Sineath believes Mayor Grooms attorney is also the Town's attorney. He stated that is the end of that subject for right now.

4. OLD TIRES ON THE SEPTIC TANK SYSTEM PROPERTY. Mr. Sineath reported the tires are full of water and mosquitoes and if there was a possibility they could be moved. Attorney Hall advised we purchased the land, not the tires. They were already there.

S. STATUS ON THE FENCE. There was a contract on a fence for the one acre lot. Is there a reason not to put the fence up. Mayor Grooms advised he did not see any reason. First bid for 890 ft was \$4,262.00, next bid for 1163 feet was \$6,853.00 for a 6 foot fence, 3 Barb wire and a double gate. The Goodman Street property line still has not been cleaned up.

6. STATUS ON HUSSEY, GAY, BELL AND DEYOUNG ESTIMATE. Attorney Hall advised council had agreed to use their services, but the work has not started. Mr Sineath stated he would have some comments on the budget when we get to that.

6. COMMITTEE REPORTS;

COUNCILMAN RICH had three things to bring to council. Fred Shaver was charged \$50.00 to fill a pool with water. The water was so dirty it cost more than this for chemicals to clean the water. He asked Councilman Rich if he would present this to council. He would like to get a refund. Councilman Newman made a motion we re-imburse Mr. Shaver the \$50.00. Councilwoman Prosser seconded the motion which passed with all ayes.

The other is really a personnel issue but bears on the budget. Council would like to ask Mrs. Tyson to cut hours back to 3 days (24 hours) a week. She is part time now at four days a week and no benefits. In view of the nature of the work load and characteristic of the work changes and data management. Mayor Grooms asked if this would be Monday through Wednesday or which days of the week would she be needed the most. Councilman Wynn asked if Monday, Wednesday and Friday would work or whatever schedule City Clerk came up with. Belle Gay advised court was held once a month on the second Wednesday and every third Thursday was council and water billing was done on the last week of the month. Councilwoman Prosser feels Mrs. Tyson would rather have set day. Mr. Rich asked council if they were agreeable to change her from working 4 days a week to 3 days. All agreed, but Mayor Grooms feels Belle would be the one to work out a schedule. Councilwoman Prosser said she would talk to her, but she would rather have her work the same days each week. Councilman Rich next item was somewhat old business. Last month Mrs.

Becky Kelly attended the meeting and Councilman Rich has heard from a number of people concerning the work being done on Robertson Lane. Work was done by City employees with city equipment on private property which Mrs. Kelly did not ask to have done on her property. A bill was presented in the name of Terry Deloach for work done on Robertson Lane Property: total of 672.99. Councilman Rich presented the bill to Mayor Grooms who believes we should have a survey done to be absolutely positive. If they were on private property, he would be more than happy to pay the city \$672.99, but not if work was on city property.

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The county maintains the road and he has talked to Eddie Smith and the county engineer. Councilman Rich asked council if we should have a survey done in order to settle this. Councilman Rich asked what was the purpose of the work done. Mayor Grooms advised the purpose was, they came down to put the culverts in and Eddie said they needed to get some of the water out if he could get Billy to move some water on the edge of the road where they could put the pipes in. Billy moved some of the water out by digging around the circle. Councilman Rich asked if there was need for a survey. Councilwoman Prosser asked if the statement was saying our mayor supposedly had something done on private property and we want to charge him \$672.99 for the work done. Mrs. Kelly explained the problem. Councilman Newman advised they are not sure if the ditch was dug in the road or on private property. Councilman Rich made a motion to hire All Day Land Surveying to survey Robertson Lane to determine where the private property ends and the public property begins then make a decision if what was done was appropriate or inappropriate. Motion seconded by Councilman Wynn and passed with all ayes.

COUNCILMAN DAVIS presented a bid from Ellis Wood Paving on Julius Circle in the amount of \$51,523.75. He is expecting one from Sikes and Reeves next week. West Lee Street between the curbing and asphalt is breaking up. Councilman Newman asked about L A R P for this year. 0.490 miles of N. Parker Avenue is listed, we requested 1.2 miles from Hwy. 80 to city limits of North Parker Avenue, but? Mayor Grooms spoke about the proposed grant but we may not know until August. We had two correspondents, one says yes and one says no, so we are waiting. Councilman Davis advised the quote was based on the county doing the sub work on Julius Circle. Councilman Newman said they had not addressed drainage yet.

COUNCILWOMAN PROSSER had no report.

COUNCILMAN NEWMAN had no report.

COUNCILMAN WYNN had no report.

COUNCILWOMAN PROSSER asked about the bid on the bathroom. The work is already completed.

CHIEF MUNDY reported on a class attended by he and Mrs. Gay. Local Government Risk Management Services Inc. offered this class (FREE) held in Statesboro. This course on workers compensation met the Risk Management requirements for the Safety Coordinator in our application for the G M A Grant. Officer Brown recently completed Basic Radar Certification training.

MAYOR GROOMS asked Councilman Newman of the status of the cafeteria. Councilman Newman advised he and Councilman Wynn are working on it and would have something by the next month meeting.

7. OTHER BUSINESS FROM CITY COUNCIL;

1. BUDGET REVIEW AND PUBLIC HEARING.

Mayor Grooms announced this was the Public Hearing tonight and the Adoption and signing of the resolution was scheduled for Thursday, June 24th at 6:00 pm.

2. DECISION ON WATER AND GARBAGE RATES.

Mayor Grooms advised we had discussed this before. Councilman Wynn asked Councilman Rich about his feelings on the financial side. Councilman Rich supports the increase. In looking at figures, the budget is in sound condition, but the proposed budget for this year is larger than last year for a variety of reasons. Mr. Rich thinks the increase in water and garbage rates will increase his monthly bill by about \$5.50. Councilwoman Prosser has no problem with giving somebody a raise, but wishes we could find the money somewhere else to make up the difference. Councilman Rich then reviewed his proposal for salary increases by 4%, which he is promoting. Contingencies money could be used for salary increases. Councilwoman Prosser asked if the water fund was from payments of water bills. Councilman Newman advised it was but at this time of the year, we usually have to transfer money into General Fund to cover expenses. Councilman Newman says the water and garbage increase was to take care of increased expenses (chemicals, fuel, drinking water permit, laboratory fees, & ect.) and the last increase was December 1998. We also plan on more system improvements. Councilman Wynn advised we need to set aside money for well and pump maintaince. Old lines are breaking which were installed in 1929. Councilwoman Prosser asked Ms. Belle if she received \$500.00 Monthly plus her salary. This is a separate line item on the budget set up for Zoning Administrative Fee.

Councilwoman Prosser asked where the town purchased fuel for vehicles and what was the fuel bill monthly. She then asked about Chief Mundy driving the police car home and feels this is a plus in salary. She is thinking of the right things to do for everybody. Councilman Newman asked Councilman Rich what his recommendation would be. Councilman Rich has considered the value he puts on the services rendered by the City employees and he feels the 4% raise is reasonable. He feels they are worth more than they are getting paid and proposes the 4% raise and the town pay the insurance increase order to keep the employees we have now. Councilwoman Prosser does not have a problem with the raise but the insurance is a problem with her. She would like to see the insurance premium cost split, the Town pay 1/2 (\$247.83 and the employee pay 1/2 (\$247.83), but Catto has his own State Merit. She was advised Catto was covered under our policy and his wife has State Merit. Councilwoman Prosser later says she was too hard in asking employees to pay 1/2 the insurance premium, but she would agree on the 4% raise and have employees pay the increased amount of the premium from what it is now. Councilman Davis feels the raise is fine and the insurance would be an incentive and they probably deserve it. Councilwoman Prosser wondered if the difference in what we pay for Mr. Catto's insurance, maybe we could pay his wife to put him on State Merit with her and asked why we paid for his insurance. She was advised it was part of his benefit package. Councilwoman Prosser stated we were paying for a benefit he does not need. Officer Catto advised he was not covered under her insurance as primary coverage, but secondary. Councilwoman Prosser feels we have made a mistake if we do not correct this, we are in bad shape. Councilman Newman asked Attorney Hall if we could refuse insurance to an employee. At this time, Councilwoman Prosser announced she wanted to resign right now. Attorney Hall called for a break at this time. He hopes Mayor and Council shares feelings toward Ms. Prosser, that we value your opinion and part of the process is to have disagreements and side taking. He hopes Ms. Prosser will reconsider her decision, because he personally values her being on this council. A. Hall asked her, from his stand point, not to resign because we need her as well as Russell, Randy, Aubrey, and Fred. Even though some people might not agree with you, does not mean your opinion is not valued.

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Following a short break, the meeting was called back to order. Councilwoman Prosser advised she did not come tonight to resign and she talked to her spiritual advisor (Billy Prosser) and he said he was all for her to resign except for what Attorney Hall said and she believes him, so she will withdraw her resignation, and would like to know she has the support of all the members, but she will not talk to Ms. Tyson.

Councilman Newman advised we needed to make a decision on the water and garbage rate increase. Councilman Wynn would feel better about the increase as far as covering the maintenance cost in the near future. Mayor Grooms asked for a motion. This has to be done by a first reading of the ordinance which had been provided to council. Councilman Rich made a motion to increase the rates as recommended in the proposed ordinance provided by the city clerk. Attorney Hall read the amendment for Section 16-9 Water Rates of the Code of Ordinances and also the first reading of the Garbage Ordinance Section 6-11 of the Code of Ordinances. Motion was seconded by Councilman Wynn and passed by Councilmen Davis, Newman, Wynn and Rich. Councilwoman Prosser abstained. Mr. Sineath asked if the second reading could be done at the call meeting for the adoption of the budget. Attorney Hall advised we could if it was listed on the agenda.

Councilman Newman wanted to re-visit the employee raise matter. Councilman Rich reminded Council the print out he presented was his idea only, the decision was up to council. Previous plan was a 2.50% raise with the employee paying 6% of their insurance premium. Councilman Newman talked about a possible 4% raise and have employees pay maybe \$20.00 a month on their insurance. Councilwoman Prosser said yes this is a thought. Councilman Newman made a motion we change the previous recommendation to a 4% employee raise and have the employees pay \$25.00 per month on insurance. Motion seconded by Councilwoman Prosser and passed with all ayes. Councilman Wynn asked how these figures work out, because we have not run them. Councilman Rich explained Gene was hired in December of 2002 and did not get the increase in December of 2003 he was entitled to and has not been taken care of yet.

3. Second Reading and Motion on the amendment to the Metal Building Ordinance. Motion was made by Councilman Rich to accept the amendment to Article 3-28.8 of the Code of Ordinance. Motion seconded by Councilman Newman and passed

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4. Nomination of a person who has time to serve on Keep Bulloch Beautiful Committee to evaluate ordinances related to corridor area development, signs, trees and ect. Councilman Newman says what they want to do is form a group with all the Cities and County and try to work out something that everyone is in agreement with and will be on the same page. Bill DeChristopher will be contacted and Russell Davis agreed to volunteer. Councilman Newman made a motion to appoint these two as representatives. Motion seconded by Councilwoman Prosser and passed with all ayes.

The Mayor asked for a call meeting for the adoption of the 2004-2005 Budget. Thursday, June 24, 2004 at 6:00 PM. Councilman Rich will not be in town for this meeting, also the July 15th meeting.

Motion to adjourn by Councilman Rich seconded by Councilman Newman passed with all ayes.