

**TOWN OF BROOKLET
CITY COUNCIL MEETING
March 29, 2007**

1. **CALL MEETING TO ORDER:** The meeting was called to order at 6:00 p.m. by Mayor Grooms.

Members Present: (L to R) William Hendrix, Mayor Grooms, Eileen Spiers, Belle Gay, Randy Newman, Annette Wilson and Russell Davis. Members Absent: Sylvia Prosser.

2. **PROBLEMS WITH SIDEWALKS & LIGHTING IN THE DOWNTOWN AREA.**

Councilman Newman and Councilman Davis having met with Dan McCorkle over the past several weeks regarding the problems with the sidewalks called Dan McCorkle forward to address the sidewalk proposal that they have come up with as follows:

We have proposed to overlay the existing sidewalks rather than tear the present ones up and relay them. If the existing sidewalks are torn up, it may cause foundation and structure failure as the present sidewalks are bonded to existing downtown buildings. To keep the existing cracks from coming through, we would first put a 15" pound bond paper on top of the existing concrete and then just pour over that.

A four to four-and-a-half inch overlay will be used to pour over the existing sidewalks. All the doors on the existing businesses would accommodate the four inch overlay except the Old Post Office Café door, where the doorway would have to be raised or elevated four inches. The price on the proposal does not include any glass work or mill work to raise that door. It also does not include any debris removal or excavation. The City of Brooklet is to do the asphalt cutting in the middle of the street.

Councilman Newman pointed out that there will be one section of the sidewalk that will have to be removed, the area by the drug store. That existing sidewalk is not very thick and is crumbling. The City of Brooklet will remove that area and also cut out the asphalt for the little island. We could probably give the asphalt to Ellis Wood to take back to his place to get rid of.

Dan McCorkle explained further that the work would be done in three different pours. During each pour that section of businesses would be interrupted. They

will keep the interruption as brief as possible. Given good weather, three pours could probably be done in ten days, from start to finish.

Councilman Newman pointed out that the beauty shop is closed on Mondays and Tuesdays so it was suggested to work with that schedule if possible. Also there are some other businesses on that side which are closed at the first of the week also.

Dan McCorkle said that he would like to get on the project and stay on it until finished, with the least interruptions as possible, working through the weekend if necessary.

There was some discussion about taking the awnings down.

There will be some power poles added by Georgia Power to provide four to six light fixtures for the downtown area. Councilman Newman will get with Georgia Power to work out the details. Dan McCorkle to include conduit.

A ½ inch water line to be put inside a bigger line will be included with the work. Dan McCorkle will check on sizes for outer piping.

Councilman Newman reminded everyone that he has checked and anything under \$100,000.00, the City does not have to get but one bid.

Councilman Newman asked Dan McCorkle to explain how he came up with pricing. Dan McCorkle explained that he added in all his direct costs, general liability insurance and workers comp insurance. No profit or overhead added in, just direct costs. He wants to help the City of Brooklet as he feels they have been good to him.

Councilman Newman made a motion to approve the bid as proposed. The motion was seconded by Councilman Davis and passed with all ayes.

Councilman Newman clarified that the money will come out of SPLOST. Total bid is \$38,454.00.

3. **G M A VEHICLE LEASE PROGRAM:** Councilman Hendrix asked everyone to refer to the portfolio he had given them on the G M A Lease Program. He explained that the program will give Municipalities loan money up front until their SPLOST money comes in with no prepayment penalties or finance fees – just a standard legal document. Interest is very cheap through the program. Councilman Hendrix would like to see the next police cars bought under this program.

Councilman Newman added that Public Works needs to replace the black truck and that could probably be done through this program.

Councilman Hendrix reported that we will probably have some SPLOST money for vehicles in November. This plan will enable us to get what we need and the payments will be deferred until November or December.

Councilman Hendrix further explained that in order to qualify you have to have the last two years' financial reports and the town attorney's blessing before it can be approved.

Belle will speak with City Attorney, Hugh Hunter regarding the GMA Lease program.

4. GUEST SPEAKER

Whereupon William Howell addressed the Council on an emergency basis regarding the approval of paving from his lot on College Street to Lewis Street. It was proposed that Mr. Howell will have Sikes Brothers pave a 10 foot wide, 2" asphalt all the way down to his lot. Paving only 10 feet rather than 20 feet as the R.O.W belongs to the City. He will put a Stop sign up and Dead End sign so it will be like a private drive. Sikes will be paving Monday, Tuesday and Wednesday of next week.

Mayor Grooms stated that no motion needed to be made.

- 5. MOSQUITO SPRAYING CHARGES:** Last year's charges were \$2.00 per month per customer for spraying but that barely covered the expenses of chemicals and spraying so it was proposed that an increase be made to \$3.00 per month per customer.

Linda Kimble inquired as to what chemicals were used as she had allergies. It was discussed that the best thing to do was to stay inside on the days the spraying took place. Also the spraying takes place late at night so that it has dissipated by morning. Mayor Grooms stated that it is the same chemicals other cities use.

Councilman Newman made a motion to increase the fee from \$2.00 to \$3.00. The motion was seconded by Councilman Davis and passed with all ayes.

- 6. GARBAGE COLLECTION INFORMATION:** Sealed bids packages were opened and reviewed as follows:

Councilman Davis reported on the following bids:

Live Oaks: Using 567 carts at \$10.75 per month comes to \$6,095.25 a month.

Sullivan Environmental Services: Bases their bid on 524 residential customers and 43 commercial customers with a quote of \$9.50 per cart per month.

Southern Disposal Service: Gave two proposals:

Proposal 1 proposed a charge of \$7.26 per cart, per household with the City of Brooklet providing the carts for a total of 567 carts. That cost comes to \$4,166.42

Proposal 2 proposed a charge of \$8.46 per cart at 567 carts with Southern Disposal purchasing existing containers from the City at \$22.00 per cart. Southern Disposal would be responsible for care, maintenance and replacement of carts at no additional charge.

Thomas Disposal: Provided a bid for 514 residential carts and 43 commercial carts and 10 for churches. Residential and commercial (557 carts) at \$7.50 each and churches (10 carts) at \$6.00 each. Their total came to \$4,237.50.

Councilman Davis is not asking for a vote tonight because he doesn't have all the numbers on what the town now spends versus the cost of a private service. Will have the figures worked up by the next meeting in two weeks.

Councilman Newman suggested we look at other cities that have privatized garbage service and see how it's working for them before the next meeting.

7. **ADDITIONAL GUEST**

Troop Leader Wise from local Boy Scout Troop 337 here in Brooklet asked to be heard regarding fulfilling the requirement for the Citizenship Merit Badge and asked permission for the troop to discuss agenda items in fulfilling their merit badges.

Mayor Grooms commented on how nice the Eagle Scout project done by Austin Alsbrook where he made the three park benches and planted crepe myrtle trees in the middle of Brooklet.

Troop Leader Wise said there is another young man who is only a couple requirements away from his Eagle Project and he is looking at different projects so any ideas would be welcome.

Councilman Newman suggested fixing the hole in the roof of the Boy Scout Hut. Troop Leader Wise said that was discussed but that he had heard that was going to be fixed by the insurance company.

After some discussion, it was concluded that fixing the hole in the Scout Hut would be the best project for the Scouts to work on rather than turning it in to insurance company and having the rates go up. This could be taken on as a Scout

eight hour service project. Labor would be provided by the Scouts but the materials would be provided by Brooklet.

The downtown island improvement would be the best project for the Eagle Scout project.

It was clarified that the time to finish the downtown projects would be about thirty to sixty days so the troop can make arrangements. Councilman Newman said that they have a plan if the troop wants to get a copy.

It was decided that Councilman Davis and Councilman Newman would be the points of contact for the Scout Troop.

Councilman Davis made a motion to adjourn. The motion was seconded by Councilman Newman.

The meeting adjourned at 7:00 p.m.