

**TOWN OF BROOKLET
CITY COUNCIL MEETING
JANUARY 24, 2008**

- 1. CALL MEETING TO ORDER: Mayor Grooms**
Members Present: Russell Davis, Annette Wilson, Randy Newman, Attorney Hugh Hunter, Sylvia Prosser and William Hendrix.

- 2. INVOCATION:** William Hendrix

**JUDGE LEE DELOACH WAS PRESENT TO PERFORM THE DUTY OF ISSUING, AN OATH TO OFFICERS TO PERFORM FAITHFULLY THE DUTIES OF THEIR RESPECTIVE OFFICERS.
THE OFFICERS WERE COUNCILMAN RUSSELL DAVIS,
COUNCILMAN RANDY NEWMAN AND MAYOR JOE GROOMS.**

- 3. APPROVAL OF DECEMBER MINUTES:**
Councilwoman Prosser made a motion to accept the December minutes as written. Councilman Hendrix seconded the motion and it passed with all ayes.

- 4. APPROVAL OF DECEMBER FINANCIAL STATEMENT:**
Councilman Hendrix made a motion to accept the December financial reports as written, motion seconded by Councilwoman Wilson and passed with all ayes.

- 5. RECOGNITION OF GUEST:**

1. BARNEY SINEATH: QUESTIONS

- What are the duties of the City Attorney?
- Why does it take six months for Mr. Deal to audit an \$800,000.00 Budget?
- The Town of Brooklet's audit showed a balance of \$205,999.00 as of June 30, 2006 in the water fund. What source does Councilwoman Wilson use for her report?
(Mr. Sineath was not present at the time.)

2. MR. WILLIAM GRIFFITH, AND OR OTHER ZONING BOARD MEMBERS.

1. Questions for Council Members about their thoughts on the growth of Brooklet.
(Mr. Griffith was absent as well.)

6. REPORTS FROM COMMITTEES:

Councilman Davis: Reports on bids for the cemetery project. Councilman Davis has received three bids on the project. The bids are as followed, Perkins Concrete gave a bid of \$2,135.00 this bid includes the concrete, labor and drain box. Red Diamond Contractors gave a bid of \$5,412.72 which consists of installing a concrete curbing and drainage box. The contractor would be providing all the concrete, masonry box, and grate required exaction and debris removal. The final bid was from Curb and Gutter Professionals. They have proposed to furnish the labor and materials at a bid of \$3,900.00.

Councilman Newman made a motion to accept the bid from Perkins Concrete, motion seconded by Councilwoman Prosser and passed with all ayes.

Councilwoman Wilson: Gave the financial reports for the general and water fund accounts.

Councilman Newman: Is still in the process of taking bids for work being done to the sidewalks. The downtown parks have been curved as asked. Work on the Waters Trailer Park road is still in process.

Councilwoman Prosser: No reports.

Councilman Hendrix: Presented two letters of resignation. The first letter of resignation was for Chief Donnie Mincey and the other for Court Clerk, Brenda Hendrix. Councilman Hendrix would like to go ahead and appoint Officer Mike Buchan as Chief. Ms. Belle stated that council can appoint him Interim Chief until he completes Chief school. Also, The Town of Brooklet has to advertise the Chief's position then after two weeks, the new Chief will then be hired. Councilman Hendrix also stated that council will be going into Executive Session about the resignation due to personnel matters. Councilman Newman asked Councilman Hendrix that if we hired Officer Buchan as Chief Interim, until September when he goes to school, when do we have to advertise. Ms. Belle stated that we can go ahead and advertise or wait until July or August. The Chief's training will take place in September 2008. Councilwoman Wilson asked if we needed to make a motion to accept the resignations before a motion was made to appoint Officer Buchan as Chief Interim. Attorney Hugh Hunter suggested to do so, would be the appropriate way of accepting the resignations. Councilwoman Wilson made a motion that we accept the resignations. Motion was seconded by Councilwoman Prosser and passed with all ayes. Councilman Hendrix made a motion to appoint Officer Mike Buchan as Chief Interim effective immediately. Motion was seconded by Councilman Davis and passed with all ayes.

Chief Mincey: No reports.

7. CONSENT AGENDA:

8. OLD BUSINESS:

1. Second reading of AN ORDINANCE TO PROHIBIT THE RIDING OF BICYCLES, ROLLERSKATES, ROLLERBLADES, OR SKATEBOARDS ON PUBLIC SIDEWALKS IN THE CITY OF BROOKLET.

Mayor Grooms stated that this ordinance was made mostly for the Downtown Brooklet area. Councilman Newman made a motion we approve the ordinance as written. Motion was seconded by Councilman Hendrix and passed with all ayes.

9. NEW BUSINESS:

APPOINTMENTS FOR 2008

1. CHARTER – SECTION 2-7: Mayor Pro-Tem selection

The City Council shall, at its first meeting after election, elect one of its members as Mayor Pro-Tem.

Mayor Grooms would like to appoint Mayor Pro-Tem to Councilwoman Wilson. No motion was made that we accept it. Councilman Newman made a motion that we appoint Councilman Davis as Mayor Pro-Tem. Motion was seconded by Councilman Hendrix and passed with all ayes.

2. CHARTER – SECTION 3-8 Appointment of a City Attorney

Councilman Newman made a motion to keep Attorney Hugh Hunter as the City Attorney. Motion was seconded by Councilman Hendrix and passed with all ayes.

3. CHARTER – SECTION 3-9 Appointment of a City Clerk

Councilman Hendrix made a motion to keep Belle Gay as Brooklet City Clerk. Motion was seconded by Councilman Newman and passed with all ayes.

4. CHARTER – SECTION 3-9 Appointment of a City Marshall

The City Marshall will now be Officer Mike Buchan. Councilman Hendrix made a motion to accept Officer Mike Buchan as City Marshall. Motion was seconded by Councilwoman Prosser and passed with all ayes

5. CHARTER – SECTION 3-10 Appointment of City Treasurer

Councilwoman Prosser made a motion for Belle Gay to remain City Treasurer, motion seconded by Councilman Davis and passed with all ayes.

6. CHARTER – SECTION 3-11 Appointment of accounting firm
Councilman Hendrix made a motion to keep Thigpen, Lanier Westerfield and Deal as our Accounting Firm; motion was seconded by Councilman Davis and passed with all ayes.

7. CHARTER - SECTION 4-2 Appointment of Municipal Court Judge.
Councilman Newman made a motion to keep Judge Lovett Bennett Jr. as our Town Judge; motion was seconded by Councilman Davis and passed with all ayes.

8. CHARTER – SECTION 2-9 COMMITTEES.
Police Department
Streets
Water
Finance
Solid Waste/Garbage
Mayor Grooms would like to leave the Committee as is. Councilwoman Wilson made a motion that we leave the Committee with there same duties. Motion was seconded by Councilman Newman and passed with all ayes.

Motion to close regular session and go into Executive Session to discuss personnel matters.

Councilman Newman made a motion to close regular session and go into Executive session; motion was seconded by Councilwoman Wilson and passed with all ayes.

Mayor Grooms called regular session back into the Council room after a motion was made by Councilman Newman to close Executive session and seconded by Councilwoman Wilson and passed with all ayes.

**MAYOR GROOMS CALLED THE REGULAR MEETING
BACK TO ORDER.**

COUNCILMAN DAVIS made a motion starting the first of February, the Town Of Brooklet would no longer allow Officer Hagan to use the uniform, car, or gun while Working as a Resource Officer at Southeast Bulloch School. Also, the check should be made out to the Officer and not the Brooklet Police Department. Motion was seconded by Councilwoman Wilson and passed with all ayes.

COUNCILWOMAN PROSSER made a motion that since we asked Officer Buchan to be our Interim Chief he needs to complete the Chief's Training classes. Motion was seconded by Councilman Davis and passed with all ayes. Chief Buchan will receive an increase in pay.

JONI SEIER, Principal of Southeast Bulloch High School asked to be recognized by the Mayor. She stated that S. E. B. had a school safety search and came up completely clean of weapons and drugs. Second, S. E. B. has been accepted as 2007 School of Excellence. Only 23 schools in the entire state were selected. Ms. Seier also stated that the School Resource Officer is Dee Hagan and was at the school to build student relationship, teach alcohol and drug substance abuse and seat belt safety class. Ms. Seier feels that having the officer at the school it will build relationships in hopes of the students to become better citizens in our community. There was also a concern that the Town of Brooklet would be liable for the officer. Ms. Seier stated that Bulloch County Board of Education has an Error and Missions Policy and also Officer Hagan is covered under this insurance.

BOBBY COSTLOW spoke to council about this matter as well. He stated that having an officer at the school in a uniform shows them that an officer is not a bad guy. The School Resource Officer at the school helps keep students out of trouble. The Students see Officer Hagan as a friend and an ali. He asked council to reconsider the motion for Officer Hagan to stay in uniform being that Brooklet is not liable for the officer while he is at the school.

CHARLES MALLARD had signed up to speak, but had nothing at this time.

JIMMY DAVIS had concerns about the skateboarding ordinance. Mr. Davis wanted to know where exactly the children could and could not ride. He also asked if there would be signs posted where skateboarding was not allowed. Councilman Davis stated that the signs have been ordered and will be posted downtown.

11. **ADJOURNMENT.**

Mayor Grooms asked for a motion to adjourn. Motion was made by Councilwoman Prosser, seconded by Councilman Davis and passed with all ayes.

PUBLIC PARTICIPATION ON AGENDA ITEMS:

These shall be limited to the subject that is being debated. Members of the public may speak for five minutes and may speak only once. Anyone wishing to speak at any meeting must be recognized by the Mayor before addressing the board.

