

**TOWN OF BROOKLET
CITY COUNCIL CALLED MEETING
JUNE 26, 2008**

1. **CALL MEETING TO ORDER:** Mayor Grooms
Members Present: Russell Davis, Annette Wilson, Randy Newman,
and William Hendrix.
Councilwoman Sylvia Prosser was absent.

2. **INTRODUCTION OF MR. BILL POWELL, REPRESENTATIVE
FROM GEORGIA RURAL WATER.**

Mr. Powell is a specialist in rate analysis, tying into water audits and works hand in hand with EPD. There are many items to be factored into a rate analysis so that the “IF” rates need to be adjusted , all customers are treated equally and equitably. Because the state is under such severe drought conditions, the Georgia Department of Natural Resources, Environmental Protection Division (EPD) is requesting cities evaluate and adopt a water conservation-oriented rate structure. Mr. Powell will be happy to conduct a rate analysis for the Town of Brooklet to ensure the city will be in compliance with state regulations concerning the rate structure.

There will be a minimum of 3 to 5 visits which include all aspects of the rate analysis including all necessary council meetings and public hearings. These meetings and evaluations are all part of the rate analysis.

Mr. Powell will come in and look at the city rates, current rates, billing structure, and then to comply with the EPD requirements as far as a water conservation rate structure. All that means is, the more you use the more you pay. What we want to do is establish a base charge for zero consumption. The base charge is a map to keep the lights and doors open. Everybody will pay the same base charge but based on their demand.

Mr. Powell will come in and give us the good, the bad or the ugly.

He'll look at our budget and will generate the revenue in a fair and equitable way to address each and every customer equitably and generate the revenue to meet the budget. Then Mayor and Council will look at it and Mr. Powell will provide an ordinance with cut off fees, tap in fees and reconnect fees. Then we will have a public hearing where Mr. Powell will be to answer any questions from the public.

Mr. Powell quoted, "there's really not much to this budget process, just remember this, when your outgo exceeds your income then your upkeep becomes your down fall". Mr. Powell wants to make sure that the cities income keeps up with the output.

Councilman Newman made a motion that we pay up to \$500.00 for Mr. Powell to do a rate analysis. Councilman Hendrix second the motion. Motion passed with all ayes.

Charles Mallard had a couple of questions for Mr. Powell. He would like to know, what exactly EPD is requiring; there's been a lot of conversation lately about whether they are mandating this or that; are they mandating a rate increase or a based tear system? EPD is requiring a base tiered structure to help conserve water.

3. ADOPTION OF RESOLUTION ON THE 2008/2009 PROPOSED BUDGET.

Councilman Newman stated the reason we are here tonight is to discuss raises. Councilman Hendrix made a motion to give a 3.5% raise. Motion was seconded by Councilman Newman.

Councilwoman Wilson feels that 3% would have been a good percentage. Motion was brought to 3.5%. Motion passed with three ayes and Councilwoman Wilson voted nay.

Councilman Newman made a motion to adopt the budget. Motion was seconded by Councilman Hendrix. Motion passed with three ayes and Councilwoman Wilson voted nay.

10. ADJOURNMENT.

Mayor Grooms asked for adjournment. Councilman Newman made a motion to adjourn the called meeting. Motion was seconded by Councilman Hendrix and passed with all ayes.