

**TOWN OF BROOKLET
COUNCIL MEETING OCT. 15, 2009
MINUTES**

1. CALL MEETING TO ORDER, MAYOR GROOMS.

2. INVOCATION BY COUNCILMAN HENDIRX.

3. APPROVAL OF MINUTES FROM SEPTEMBER MEETING.

Councilwoman Prosser made a motion to accept the minutes as written. Motion seconded by Councilman Davis and passed with all ayes.

4. APPROVAL OF SEPTEMBER FIANANCIAL REPORTS.

Councilman Hendrix gave his report from all statements and made a motion to accept these statements as presented. Motion seconded by Councilman Newman and passed with all ayes.

5. RECOGNITION OF GUEST REQUESTING TO BE ON THE AGENDA.

1. Mr. Rod Pye, Drainage problems on West Lee & Ingram Streets. Mr. Pye is anxious to see what decision is being made about the problem. Councilman Newman drew a sketch of a proposal made by Wesley Parker. At present there are four pipes under the road, two 30's and two 24's that drain into a drop box and then into the Denmark pond. Wesley is proposing we buy a new type of pipe which is flat on the bottom and round on the top. He showed two possible scenarios (1) Cut the road down and taper it back 150 ft. (2) the other is more appealing using pretty much the same pipe but cut back 38 – 50 – 75 – 75. The engineer recommended to just cut the road down 2 inches for 300 feet. We might be better off to replace the pipes and ask for other quotes from Reeves, Ellis Wood and Sikes. With the help of our public works department to get it done. Councilman Davis and Rod had shot some levels and found a pipe to have a 2 inch peak in the center so one end of the pipe needs to be dropped to make it level. We also need to know how thick the road is. Mr. Pye says Lee Street has been paved once and the top side next to his house needs to be cut down too. He agreed to help with the work when it gets started.

Councilman Newman presented a copy of a new flood zone change from the Georgia Department of Natural Resources and F E M A (Federal Emergency Management Agency) for Bulloch County and all municipalities. The red part shows the new flood zones and the blue areas have been taken out. This will be adopted in the future and a form letter will be sent out to residents. They would be better off to go ahead now and get flood insurance if they are in the red area.

6. REPORTS FROM COMMITTEES;

COUNCILMAN DAVIS has received information from a student from Savannah College of Art and Design who is interested in filming a movie in Brooklet In mid January. Councilman Davis has talked to a person who is willing to come to the November meeting to give us more details.

The Police Department is in need of small pocket cameras for the officers. Chief Buchan reported the old cameras in the office were outdated. The Patrol cars also need cameras installed, except maybe the one in the 2007 Charger. This one needs some repair work. Chief Buchan was authorized to (1) buy three small cameras (2) have the camera in 2007 Charger repaired if it is not too much. (3) get prices to purchase cameras for the other Patrol Cars.

COUNCILWOMAN WILSON had no report at this time.

COUNCILMAN NEWMAN presented two quotes from Ellis Wood Contracting, Inc. One is for placing a D O T Mountable island with a stop sign at the intersection of Parker and Lee Streets. \$1,150.00. The second one is for a mountable island with stop sign at Cromley Road and Brooklet-Denmark Road. \$1,450.00. Following a brief discussion and everybody's suggestions and ideas, Councilman Newman will check with D O T to find out what is legal.

COUNCILWOMAN PROSSER has talked to Mrs. B. Bohler, who is concerned with a problem at her driveway. Councilman Newman is aware of this and will contact someone with Ellis Wood to repair the problem.

CHIEF BUCHAN was absent from the September meeting so he went back on reports for two months on traffic, accidents, injuries, arrests, citations, theft and other gossip.

ATTORNEY HUGH HUNTER was absent.

CHAD McCORKLE was absent.

7. CONSENT AGENDA.

8. OLD BUSINESS.

(1) Continue the discussion on topics discussed at the meeting of September 24th.

1. City Employees to pay at least 50% of employee medical insurance.

Councilwoman Prosser made a motion to not change the insurance plan, she is against the idea of making employees pay a portion of his/her insurance. Motion seconded by Councilman Davis and passed with all ayes.

2. Furlough all employees 12 days a year.

Councilman Newman feels this is not necessary and made a motion not to do this. Motion seconded by Councilwoman Prosser and passed with all ayes.

3. Employee must retire at age of 65.

Councilman Davis made a motion against this suggestion. Motion seconded by Councilman Newman and passed with all ayes.

4. Pay employees monthly instead of weekly.

Councilman Hendrix made a motion of no on this suggestion. Motion seconded by Councilman Newman and passed with all ayes.

5. Stop the Spring water service.

Motion made by Councilman Newman to not stop the water service, seconded by Councilwoman Prosser and passed with all ayes.

6. Have someone in Public Works on duty 5 days a week.

The schedule changed back to 7 A M till 4 P M for 5 days a week on Monday October 5, 2009.

7. Save on gas by keeping police vehicles inside the City Limits of Brooklet. Don't go out of town for meals. Furnish own transportation to and from work. Councilman Davis asked to abstain from this discussion. After a question and answer discussion, Mayor Grooms asked if there was a motion to keep the vehicles inside the city limits. Councilwoman Wilson announced that she would like to make that motion if nobody else would. It has already been discussed to leave the vehicles in town. Chief Buchan feels this is going a little too far for a little of nothing. As far as security, you would be giving up and you would expect a police officer to go on a call in his personal vehicle. Mayor Grooms asked how many cars we have, because he never sees any cars there. Chief explained one car was issued to him, one to Sergeant Hagan. The Mayor asked why one was issued to Hagan and he did not go along with that. Chief explained it is issued to him and he is responsible for it. Following this discussion, Councilwoman Prosser seconded the motion made by Councilwoman Wilson earlier. Councilman Newman feels this is petty and all other towns allow the officers to drive the cars home. Mr. Grooms announced a motion had been made and seconded, All in favor? Councilwoman Prosser asked Councilwoman if she would be comfortable rescinding her motion and make the motion to include only the first two sentences and leave of the last sentence. Chief said he would ask the officers not to go to Statesboro unless necessary and on police business. Not just drive there to eat. Councilwoman Wilson wanted to rescind her motion and forget about it.

8. Patrol inside City Limits only, unless disaster occurs or in pursuit of a traffic violation. Already doing this.

2. OLD BUSINESS

REVIEW OF PROPOSED ORDINANCE REGARDING MANUFACTURED HOMES AND DISCUSSION OF ATTORNEY HUNTER'S LETTER.

Mr. Hunter sent a letter requesting the mayor to appoint a committee from council to do a study in order to provide him with the necessary direction to draft a sign ordinance. Councilman Newman volunteered to work on this and Councilwoman Wilson agreed to work with Randy. The proposed ordinance regarding Manufactured homes was reviewed.

9. NEW BUSINESS

1. LIVE OAK ENVIRONMENTAL HAS PRESENTED A SERVICE AGREEMENT WITH AN EFFECTIVE DATE OF 01/01/09 FOR A TERM OF 3 YEARS.

Councilman Newman reviewed the Service agreement. He thinks it looks like it is a Temporary contract for one year of 2009. Mr. King sent a note with the agreement (attached to Minutes). Councilwoman Prosser thought we did this for one year to see how it worked, then renew if we wanted to.

INFORMATION FROM PRIOR MINUTES AND PAPERWORK:

Mr. King presented paperwork Dated December 20, 2007 submitting a bid for \$7.97 per unit for one year beginning January 2, 2007. During a council meeting on June 19, 2008, Mr. King presented a proposal on Fuel Surcharge beginning with July billing increasing the rate from \$7.97 plus .19 to a total of \$8.16 per cart which we are now being charged for each month. The service agreement presented at this meeting 10/15/09, showing an effective date of 01/01/2009 quotes a rate of \$8.14 per cart. If this is the case, we have over paid by .02 cents per cart each month from January thru September. .02 cents per cart X 598 carts for 9 months equals to an over charge of \$107.46.

Mayor Grooms said just wait till December 2009 and we will worry about it then.

10. PUBLIC PARTICIPATION ON AGENDA ITEMS.

Mr. Barney Sineath had signed up to speak but had nothing else at this time.

11. ADJOURNMENT.

Motion made by Councilman Newman Seconded by Councilwoman Prosser and a passed with all ayes.