

TOWN OF BROOKER
REGULAR MONTHLY COUNCIL MEETING
JULY 11, 2017

Present: Gene Melvin, Joe Tolleson, Curtis Clark, Pam Johnson, Charlene Thomas, John Maines, Tony Stalnaker.

Absent: Doug Hayes

Meeting called to order by Gene Melvin, Mayor.

Pledge of Allegiance!

A motion was made by Curtis Clark to approve the minutes as presented from the June 13th meeting. Seconded by Joe Tolleson. Motion passed.

Open Lawn Maintenance Bids: Mr. Maines

One (1) bid received. Bid was from A J Lawn Care. Bid for seven (7) months was \$1,300.00 per month. Bid for five (5) months was \$1,000.00 per month. Total for twelve (12) months is \$23,200.00. The above total's do not match up to the \$23,200.00. A J did not attend bid opening. A representative named Brence Stewart attended on his behalf. Mr. Maines said since only one bid was received we can negotiate bid. Brence said we could go with what we are paying now. Mr. Maines suggested Brence get in touch with A J and ask him to come to meeting to discuss this. The total for twelve (12) months based on figures submitted on bid total should be \$14,100.00. This is \$5,600.00 more than we were paying two years ago. A J showed up and council told him the total for twelve (12) months was incorrect on bid. His wife said she figured it incorrectly. The council said they cannot afford such an increase as this. Council was instructed they have the right to accept or reject any and all bids. Since only one (1) bid was received the council decided to try and negotiate cost with A J. He said when he first started mowing for us he bid low to get the job, but it cost him a lot now to have three people mowing. A J was asked what amount he could possibly do the mowing for? He said he would do the seven (7) months for \$950.00 per month and the five (5) months for \$750.00. A total of \$10,400.00. This is up \$2,000.00 from two years ago. A motion was made by Curtis Clark to accept the \$10,400.00. Seconded by Pam Johnson. Motion passed.

Clerk told council they will need to look over bid line items before this contract is up again because we can't afford this.

Fire Department – Tony Stalnaker:

1. He said they are needing three (3) thermal imaging camera's. One for him and the other two (2) active volunteers. Camera comes with a lanyard and pouch. The pouch will attach to gear. There were questions about why three (3) were needed. Cost for one (1) is \$550.00. Total cost around \$1798.50. Council asked if he had the money in his budget. Machinery and Equipment has \$2900.00. A motion was made by Joe Tolleson to approve this purchase. Seconded by Curtis Clark. Motion passed. Items will need to be put on inventory list.
2. He said there is an old Kerosene Heater that doesn't work and needs disposing of. A motion was made by Joe Tolleson to dispose of heater. Seconded by Curtis Clark. Motion passed. Heater was removed from inventory years ago.
3. He said they are needing an Electrical Meter. 110 or 220. It will be used to open homeowners panel box and tell them what breakers are out. Last week lightning hit someone's home and knocked out power and other items in home. If they had an electrical meter they could have checked panel box to see what was out. Fire department will not turn breaker back on. Gene

suggested they get with him and he will be glad to show volunteers how to use an electrical meter. Also, they need some hand tools and tool box for truck. The cost for all of this is around \$200.00. A motion was made by Joe Tolleson to approve these purchases. Seconded by Pam Johnson. Motion passed.

4. He said the original fire department needs a new roof. He was advised that this would have to be bid out. It was suggested he get a quote for the new budget year.

Town Clerk – Charlene Thomas:

1. Past due water report was passed out. Still out \$607.40.
2. Working on Budget. New budget will be available at the August meeting for review. First public hearing will be September 12th at 7p.m.
3. Clerk asked Curtis Clark about Arrow exterminators service agreement. Is it for more than one year? Curtis said No. We would need to renew. Council decided to not renew agreement.
4. Clerk reported that she did not receive Clay Electric bills before this meeting. She is going to contact them and have them start sending her an email when they are available so she can print them. Mail is taking too long.
5. Also, we did not receive bank statements from TD Bank. She is going to contact them and sign up for online banking so she can print them instead of waiting on them to be mailed.

New Business:

1. Raising water rates was mentioned. Council is suppose to look at this each year. Last time rates were raised was September 2016. Council decided to think about this. Put on August agenda.
2. New committees for 2017/18 were given out.
3. Curtis Clark submitted his resignation to council effective two weeks from this date. Clerk said she will look and see how much time was left on his seat and report at next meeting.

Mr. Melvin was about to close meeting when Clerk asked him about Steve Nipper's water bill problem. Steve Nipper advised clerk that he had talked with Mr. Melvin and he told him he would get the amount changed. Mr. Melvin said he didn't see his name on the past due. Clerk advised him that the bill in question is for July. Past due is for June. Clerk advised council that Steve used 52,025 gallons of water and his bill was \$119.67 including his garbage service. When meter was read in June the usage was high so she had meter reader re-read this meter. The usage was higher so meter was read correctly. She went back and looked at his readings and found out that the meter was not read in April or May due to dogs being inside fenced in yard. Meter reader does not enter gates if dogs are outside. The computer estimated his usage these two months. Steve had a garden and also car detailing was being done at his home. It is possible the hose was left on. The reason his bill was so high on the July bill was because his bill was estimated in April and May. His bill would have been high these months if meter could have been read. We cannot adjust everyone's bill because they don't like the amount. Since Steve said he didn't have a break anywhere council said he would have to pay this bill. Mr. Melvin said he would get with Steve.

Checks approved: 6492, 6496 – 6512, 5115 - 5124

A motion was made by Pam Johnson to pay the bills. Seconded by Joe Tolleson. Motion passed.

A motion to adjourn was made by Gene Melvin. Time: 8:30p.m.

C.E. (Gene) Melvin, Mayor

Charlene Thomas, Town Clerk