

TOWN OF BROOKER  
REGULAR MONTHLY COUNCIL MEETING  
MARCH 12, 2019

Present: Pam Johnson, Gene Melvin, Joe Tolleson, Steve Acree, John Maines, Charlene Thomas,  
Tony Stalnakar.  
Community: Terry Thomas

Meeting called to order by Gene Melvin, Mayor.  
Pledge of Allegiance!

A motion was made by Joe Tolleson to approve the minutes from the February 12<sup>th</sup> meeting as presented. Seconded by Pam Johnson. Motion passed.

First Order of Business: Swear- In council members – Gene Melvin, Steve Acree & Joe Tolleson

The appointment of Mayor and Vice-Mayor for a one (1) year term.

A motion was made by Joe Tolleson to table this until April meeting. Seconded by Pam Johnson. Motion passed. Clerk will put this back on agenda.

**Fire Department – Tony Stalnakar:**

1. Fire Hydrants were opened up, washed and cleaned around before they are painted. Pam Johnson said she received several complaints about rust in water and clothes ruined from rust. She suggested before we open up fire hydrants again we let the customers know so they can run their water before washing clothes. It was mentioned last month about getting Hydrant markers to put in road. Tony said he didn't check on them. The clerk said she contacted Municipal Signs and they told her they are called Pavement Markers or Hydrant Spotters. The cost to purchase a 100 on them is \$195.00.
2. The landing at the back of the building has rotten structure boards underneath. He will look around and see if we can buy a replacement landing.
3. Article in Telegraph on March 7, 2019, was discussed. The article stated the study proposes \$300.00 per home in new assessments. If the county commissioners accept the recommendations on funding fire and emergency medical services through two new special assessments. The method for calculating the fire assessment would include Brooker, Lawtey and Hampton, but not the city of Starke. However, the EMS assessment would include all. Each municipality would have to decide whether or not to participate in the county assessments. The county commissioners can only impose the assessments for the unincorporated areas.

**Town Clerk – Charlene Thomas:**

1. Past due water report was passed out. Still out \$312.47. We have several customers who have water leaks going to their homes and aren't fixing the leaks. Two of the customers are cutting the meter off, which could cause the meter lock to break. In this case, the customer would be responsible for the repair cost of meter. The other two customers are letting the water run, which causes them to have high water bills each month. Is there anything we can do about this? Council said if bills are not paid to lock the meter.
2. Ted Barber from Pine Hill Lodge invited anyone from council to come and eat with them on March 18 at 6:30p.m.
3. Went over Revenues & Expenditures for February.

4. I am working on resubmitting SCOP grant. Application deadline is March 22<sup>nd</sup>. Andy Easton is helping me with this. Mayor Melvin said he had met with Kat Cammack, Deputy Chief of Staff, for Congressman Ted Yoho. He spoke with her about the poor shape our roads are in, the need for more hydrants and no workable cut-off valves to isolate lines. He mentioned that we are applying for a SCOP grant to help with roads. She said Congressman Yoho would be glad to do a letter of support for this grant. Clerk will get in touch with her on this.
5. The final payment on the BIS 80 loan payment is due this year. The amount is \$2100.00. The loan was to finance a part of the cost of acquiring, erecting and constructing improvements to the municipal water system. On March 8, 2019, I went to TD bank and closed out the BIS 80 account and transferred \$3575.96 to Water Revenue account. On March 15<sup>th</sup> I withdrew \$2100.00 from Water Revenue and made the final payment on the BIS 80 loan.

#### **Water Department – Gene Melvin:**

1. Stand Pipe break in Shady Oaks subdivision at 12122 Cedar Drive on Saturday night, March 9<sup>th</sup>. Homeowner called 911 and they dispatched out the Brooker Volunteer Fire Department. Mayor Melvin thanked Tony Stalnaker, Michael Tolleson and Wade Huggins for responding. Tony contacted the Mayor. Mayor along with Joe Tolleson went to break site. The homeowner had attached a water hose adapter to stand pipe. This probably caused the pipe to break. The water pressure was low and the stand pipe was screwed back in and water continued to flow to customers. Quality Plumbing was contacted. The Mayor was told they could not come out tonight but would come on Monday. The Mayor checked the stand pipe hole on Sunday morning and it was dry. He contacted Bernard Carter so he could take Bacteriological test to make sure water was okay. On Monday, Quality Plumbing showed up and had no materials on truck to fix stand pipe with. Thanks to Terry Thomas the water department did have some materials on hand and they were used to repair break. The repair was done under pressure. Water was never turned off. The cut-off valves are so old you cannot turn them completely off. On Monday morning the clerk received three (3) calls from DEP. After the third call she referred them to Mayor Melvin. They were calling us because someone in Shady Oaks subdivision complained about them not having any water for a period of time. We were told a boil water notice should have been issued. Mayor Melvin argued with them about the boil water notice because the water was never turned off completely. They did have low pressure. Mayor Melvin was very upset with Quality Plumbing and suggested we find someone else that we can contact and fix breaks. The clerk mentioned that the last several breaks we have had that Quality Plumbing did the same thing, no materials on truck and had to go back to shop and get materials. Costing us money and time. Mayor Melvin said he would get with Bryan Nazworth owner of Quality Plumbing.

#### **Roads/Streets – Joe Tolleson:**

1. Mayor Melvin said he spoke with Troy with Bradford County Road department and they are waiting on patching materials so they can come out and patch holes.
2. Mayor Melvin said Christi Hudson, Code Enforcement for Bradford County, should be coming out on Thursday to post notes on trucks that are parking illegal in Shady Oaks subdivision.

#### **Ground/Maintenance- Steve Acree:**

1. Tony mentioned A.J Lawn Care is not weed eating around the fire hydrant at the corner of SR 231 and SW CR 18. Steve said he would get with him.

**Old Business:**

- I. Mayor Melvin found someone to repair fence for us. Thomas Quarles Fence came out and repaired fence at a cost of \$385.00. We did not have to file a claim with the second wreck Insurance company because we received enough from first claim to repair fence.

**New Business**

- I. Steve Acree mentioned that the veterinarian that comes out monthly on Saturday's asked him about parking her mobile home at city hall. She is having to use generators. The clerk mentioned that she rents out the community center on the weekends. Also, she said she didn't think it would be right for our customers to have to walk around dog poop.

Checks approved: 6923 – 6936, 5329 - 5338

A motion was made by Pam Johnson to approve the bills. Seconded by Steve Acree. Motion passed. Mayor Melvin made a motion to adjourn meeting. Time: 8:09p.m.

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Cecil E. (Gene) Melvin, Mayor

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Charlene Thomas, Town Clerk