

TOWN OF BROOKER  
REGULAR MONTHLY COUNCIL MEETING  
MAY 14, 2019

Present: Pam Johnson, Steve Acree, Joe Tolleson, Gene Melvin, John Maines, Tony Stalnaker, Charlene Thomas.  
Community: Linda Bennett

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

A motion was made by Joe Tolleson to approve the minutes from the April 9<sup>th</sup> meeting as presented. Seconded by Steve Acree. Motion passed.

**FIRST ORDER OF BUSINESS:**

The clerk had spoken with Linda Bennett on April 19<sup>th</sup> about considering being appointed by council to fill Seat #1.

The vacant seat would run from May until February 2020. Qualifying for this seat would be held in December 2019.

A motion was made by Joe Tolleson to appoint Linda Bennett to fill Seat #1 for a nine (9) month term. Seconded by Steve Acree. Motion passed.

Linda Bennett read the Oath of Office and filled Seat #1.

**Tony Stalnaker – Fire Department:**

1. He plans on painting fire hydrants on May 25<sup>th</sup>. He will pick up paint. Also, he asked Council if he could pick up a gallon up black jack tar.
2. The roll up garage door on front side of building needs replacing. It has been hit several times. He will get 3 bids. He would like to replace with an electric door. Gene Melvin suggested he contact Overhead door in Waldo for a quote.
3. He has checked around and can get a new back landing (west side of building) for around \$450.00. A motion was made by Joe Tolleson to purchase back landing with cost not to exceed \$450.00. Seconded by Steve Acree. Motion passed. Tony was told if it is a little more than \$450.00 to go ahead with purchase.
4. Joe Tolleson mentioned hood to go under helmet for volunteer firemen. The cost for one is between \$100.00 - \$120.00. We have three certified volunteers. A motion was made by Joe Tolleson to purchase three (3) hoods. Seconded by Pam Johnson. Motion passed.

**Town Clerk – Charlene Thomas:**

1. Past due water report was passed out. Still out \$206.93. Four (4) meters were locked. All four (4) paid to have them turned back on.
2. Filed a claim form in the amount of \$73.00 on Windstream account.
3. We signed the Memorandum of Agreement last month with the Department of Economic Opportunity (DEO). The MOA would provide technical planning assistance to update our comprehensive plan. At the last meeting the dates on the MOA were discussed. I got with Sandra Joseph, NCFRPC, before scanning and sending the MOA to

DEO. None of the dates on the agreement would work. Sandra said since her office would be providing the Map, Resolutions and Ordinances there is no way they can do all of this work on these dates. She would have to schedule these items on their schedule. I did not send the MOA to DEO. Sandra Joseph got with Scott Koons and the NCFRPC agreed to provide the technical planning assistance to update our Comprehensive Plan at no cost to the Town. I did contact DEO, Sherry Spier, and ask if it would be alright for the NCFRPC to update our Comprehensive Plan. She said that would be great. I have turned this over to the NCFRPC and will wait to hear from them on when we will start this.

4. Person living in shed in Corlotta subdivision was mentioned last month. I got with Randy Andrews, Building/Zoning. He instructed me to send a certified letter and give them 30 days to move out. If they don't then I need to contact Code Enforcement on this. I emailed Brad Smith, Undersheriff, about drugs being sold at this location by someone named Drake. I heard back from Brad Smith and he advised us that he was referring this to their Patrol command and have them increase their presence in the area to try and combat the drug activity. Also, he was letting the code enforcement team know so they can enforce any violations they have on the books. I spoke with Christi and she asked me to fill out a Code Violation Complaint form for this location.
5. I had two homeowners talk to me about receiving a notice of violation for parking a semi truck in Shady Oaks subdivision. I gave them Blake Hamilton's number and told them to contact him about parking their semi on his property across from Kangaroo. They did complain that Johnathan Nash was still parking his semi in subdivision. I contacted Christi Hudson, Code Enforcement, about Johnathan Nash. She told me she had not issued him a notice of violation because she did not have his address or name. Mayor Melvin said he had contacted her and gave her address, name and took pictures and sent them to her. She assured us she will give him a notice of violation and give him 30 days to correct.
6. I heard from Joshua Davis. He does the installation of new meters, fixes water line breaks for the City of Hampton. He has Insurance and Workman's Comp. He said he would be glad to help us with these repairs. I gave each councilmember his number (352-258-1949) and told them we might want to use him in the future when we have breaks.
7. Went over Revenues and Expenditures for the month of April.
8. I received a letter from Department of Environmental Protection advising us they had approved the list of project elements dated April 1, 2019, and the corresponding site plan for this project. Also, it stated we can commence project construction for FRDAP. I contacted Andy Easton on this. We are required to submit status reports. Andy will handle these. The close out date for this project is April 30, 2021. I spoke to Andy about what if it doesn't cost as much as budgeted to do project. Can you use the money elsewhere on budgeted items? He said yes. He said we need to try and do as many items as we can. Also, we need to take pictures along the way. Clerk ask council to look over these items and see which ones they can help with and get bids on. Clerk has been in contact with several Playground companies. The budget amount for a new playground is \$25,000.00. She received a quote from Playground Package. Their cost is \$24,953.90. I am attaching a copy of what the quote includes to these minutes. I would like for us to go ahead and get the playground started. A motion was made by Pam Johnson to go

with Playground Package in the amount of \$24,953.90. Seconded by Steve Acree. Motion passed. Clerk will contact them.

9. I received an email saying that FDEP has approved the 2018 CCR and it is ready for distribution to customers. I will be sending this out with the June water bills.

**Attorney – John Maines:**

1. He mentioned he had received a copy of an order granting in part plaintiffs’ motion for Preliminary Injunction from Alachua County, Senior Assistant County Attorney, Robert Swain. The Preliminary Injunction pertains to how Elections are handled and who is responsible for administering them. The Court ordered the Secretary of State to order the supervisors of elections of 32 counties to make available a facsimile ballot in Spanish to voters who fall within the ambit of Section 4(e) of the Voting Rights Acts. The Court also ordered Spanish signage and the mailing, publication, or advertising of the Spanish language sample ballots to the extent the supervisor of elections mails, publishes, or advertises sample ballots. On page 5 the Secretary argues that municipal elections may be outside the scope of her power because some municipalities run their elections autonomously from the county supervisor of elections. The Secretary has the power to “enforce the performance of any duties of a county supervisor or *any official performing*” election administration duties. The Secretary maintains ample power over municipal elections, at least with regards to the issue here—compliance with federal law. Brooker’s election date in February may have to be changed to go with dates the county has elections. John asked for a motion to authorize him and the clerk to work with Terry Vaughan, Supervisor of Elections, on this. A motion was made by Joe Tolleson. Seconded by Steve Acree. Motion passed. John will forward a copy of the Preliminary Injunction to clerk. As of typing these minutes the clerk received an email from Terry Vaughan advising her there were 32 counties (Bradford not among them) that deem to fall under Section 4E. However, the Governor has indicated that he may proceed with uniform implementation, so it is something we will continue to monitor.

**Recreation/Parks – Pam Johnson:**

1. FRDAP grant budget line items were discussed. Steve Acree would like to see a pole be put against tennis court fence and add a basketball court. He felt like this would be used. The budget line items need to be done first before we do any other items. The clerk reported that if we don’t use all the money on an item the remainder can be added to another item.

**Ground Maintenance/Mowing – Steve Acree:**

1. Mowing contract will be up the end of July. A pre bill tour date will be Saturday, June 15<sup>th</sup> at 9:00a.m. Several changes were made to the bid. The twice of month was changed to within 2 days before the 15<sup>th</sup> of month and within 2 days before end of month.

**Road/Streets – Joe Tolleson:**

1. Mayor Melvin mentioned the county will be coming in to remove clay dirt pile and doing some tree trimming.

**Old Business:**

1. Closing of Melvin Street next to Kangaroo Store. The clerk did speak with Caitlin & Andrew Eaton and they are all for closing that end. Mayor Melvin said he has spoken with Jason Dodds, Supervisor, County Road Department, and he will be coming out and evaluate how we should handle this closing.

**New Business:**

1. The 2018/2019 budget needs to be amended to add \$50,000.00 FRDAP. A motion was made by Pam Johnson to amend. Seconded by Steve Acree. Motion passed.
2. Clerk asked council if they want to go ahead and have Andy Easton apply for another \$50,000.00 FRDAP due in October. Council said yes.

Checks approved: 6962 – 6985, 5353 – 5362

A motion was made by Joe Tolleson to approve the bills. Seconded by Steve Acree. Motion passed.

A motion was made by Mayor Melvin to adjourn the meeting. Time: 8:30p.m.

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Cecil E. (Gene) Melvin, Mayor

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Charlene Thomas, Town Clerk