

TOWN OF BROOKER
REGULAR MONTHLY COUNCIL MEETING
AUGUST 13, 2024

Present: Gene Melvin, Chris Caldwell, Linda Bennett, Steve Acree, Joe Tolleson, Charlene Thomas, John Maines – Zoom
Community: Diane Andrews – Bradford County Commissioner, Terry Thomas, Carol Mosley-Bradford County Telegraph, Doug Sanders – Andy Easton & Associates.

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

A motion was made by Joe Tolleson to approve the July 9th minutes as presented. Seconded by Steve Acree. Motion passed.

Second Reading Ordinance 2024-01

Motion called for to enact and read by title only. Motion died lack of a motion. John Maines, Attorney, advised council that if this MSBU that Bradford County Commissioners recommended comes back before town council the whole process starts over.

FRDAP – Doug Sanders:

Resolution 2024-02. A motion was made by Steve Acree to enact and read by title only.

Town Clerk read Resolution 2024-02. Second by Chris Caldwell. Vote called for: 5 yes

Resolution 2024-03. A motion was made by Linda Bennett to enact and read by title only.

Town Clerk read Resolution 2024-03. Seconded by Steve Acree. Vote called for: 5 yes

Approval of FRDAP grant consulting agreement: A motion was made by Steve Acree to approve Andy Easton and Associates as Consulting/Administration Services. Second by Joe Tolleson. Motion passed.

Doug Sanders reported a possible \$20,000 to \$30,000 could be used for Engineering Service. The FRDAP grant total is \$200,000.00. New pickleball court with fencing, lighting and associated engineering costs. Half court basketball was mentioned and a restroom. Doug was meeting with new principal at Brooker Community School to get a letter of support signed. 30 points is needed and right now we have 29. The grant cycle ends September 30, 2024.

Fire Department – Steve Acree:

1. Diane Andrews mentioned that Bradford County Commissioners canceled the MSBU this year.
2. Gene Melvin mentioned that Clay Electric was contacted about moving the pole in the middle of the property (Castner).
3. Council mentioned to Diane Andrews that the communication tower located on Town property belongs to the County and needs to be cleaned up around.

Town Clerk – Charlene Thomas:

1. Past due water report passed out. Still out \$350.16. 4 meters locked. One is still locked.
2. Ethics information passed out to council.

3. Received an email from Glen Ward, Code Enforcement. He said place on Parker Street is ready for the town to have cleaned.
4. The Mayor and I met with Lauren Tingle, Division of State Fire Marshal, Florida Dept. of Finance Services, concerning Fire apparatus grant and new fire station grant. The clean up of the property we just purchased can be paid from new fire station grant. If the cancel agrees we can go ahead and bid out the clean up and pay from the Fire Account we have. A motion was made by Steve Acree to bid clean up project out and pay from Fire Account. Seconded by Chris Caldwell. Motion passed. The Town will be reimbursed from the new fire station grant amount.
5. Community Center will be used on Tuesday, August 20th for the County Election.
6. Terry Thomas installed "Road Closed" signs at the end of Melvin Street.
7. Survey was completed on (Castner property). Copy of survey was given to each councilmember.
8. Maria Geer complained about the trees growing over road and onto her fence at the corner of Ward/Olive. This needs to be cleaned up. It was mentioned to Diane Andrews to see if she can get county to come out and clean up several areas for us.
9. Clint Adkins came by and thanked the town for allowing him to clean up baseball field. The team didn't work out so they want be using our field. He did return his key.
10. Extra pay for Town Clerk was mentioned. Council asked clerk to come back next month and let them know an amount.

Finance/Budget/Insurance – Charlene Thomas:

1. Revenue and Expenditures for July 2024 were passed out for council review.
2. We received the bill from Pat Welch for survey. Cost is \$2500.00. Do we want to pay for it from Fire Department funds or General Fund? General Fund was decided.
3. Working on new budget for 2024/25. No one added anything else to budget.
4. Roll back rate is set at 0.2503. First Public Hearing on Millage and Budget will be Tuesday, September 10th at 7p.m.

Water Department – Gene Melvin:

1. Gene mentioned he had spoke with Bernard and a censor module is going bad on generator.

Sanitation, Road/Streets, Ground Maintenance/Mowing – Nothing to Report.

Community Center: Gene Melvin:

Clerk reported the building is rented on August 24th and 25.

Old Business:

1. Fire Modular Building and culvert on Michigan still needs to be handled. Diane said she would check into this.

New Business:

1. Annual review of water rates needs to be discussed. This is done every year. Right now water rate is \$25.00 for up to 3000 gallons. A motion was made by Steve Acree to raise

the water rate to \$26.00 starting October 1st. Seconded by Chris Caldwell. Motion passed. Clerk will present Resolution at next meeting.

Checks approved: GF – 8411 – 8426, WF – 6069-6076

Joe Tolleson made a motion to pay the bills. Seconded by Steve Acree. Motion passed.
Gene Melvin made a motion to adjourn. Time: 8:12p.m.

Cecil E. (Gene) Melvin, Mayor

Charlene Thomas, Town Clerk