

TOWN OF BROOKER
REGULAR MONTHLY COUNCIL MEETING
JANUARY 14, 2020

Present: Linda Bennett, Steve Acree, Joe Tolleson, Gene Melvin, Tony Stalnakar, John Maines, Charlene Thomas.
Community: Terry Thomas, Kara Wainwright, Chris Caldwell.
Meeting called to order by Gene Melvin, Mayor.
Pledge of Allegiance!

A motion was made by Joe Tolleson to approve the minutes as presented from the December 10th meeting. Seconded by Steve Acree. Motion passed.

Kara Wainwright – Reddish & White:

She presented the audit for year ending 09/30/19. She said the audit went well, was very organized, and went smooth. She said she looks forward to doing the Towns audit each year. She thanked Charlene Thomas, Clerk, for all the hard work she does on getting the audit ready for her review. She reported on the General Fund Revenue side we budgeted \$160,148.00 but only received \$148,765.00. We had budgeted to spend the \$50,000.00 FRDAP but only spent \$26,441.00. On the Expenditure side we budgeted \$164,403.00 but only spent \$116,715.00. We had an excess of \$32,050.00. General Fund is Healthy.
On the Water Fund Revenue side our total operating revenues was \$81,694.00 and total Operating expenses was \$91,834.00. The increase we had on October 1, 2018 is helping. She presented a handout showing past six years for council to review. Handout attached. Water Operating loss is improving. If we would raise water rates to \$33.00 with a minimum of 3000 gallons we would break even.
The Town Clerk had asked Kara about paying volunteer fire fighters per run before meeting? She said it can be done. They would not be considered an employee but would receive a 1099MISC if they received more than \$600.00 a year. We would need a separate line item on Budget. John Maines, Attorney, spoke about the City of Lake Butler being sued over this same issue. The problem is, are they considered an employee or are they contracted labor? The Council did not make any decisions on this.

Fire Department – Tony Stalnakar:

1. The Tanker was taken from Brooker by Bradford County and sent to Hillborn Springs. The reason was not enough calls in Brooker.
2. The Brush Truck pump motor would not crank. County took this truck and replaced with another truck.
3. We are starting to receive more call outs for medical services. County is still providing us with equipment on their trucks.
4. Gene Melvin asked about Operation Roundup application funded by Clay Electric. Tony said he has several items he would like to put on application. He hopes to start working on the application.

Town Clerk – Charlene Thomas:

1. Past due report passed out. Still out \$266,23

2. There will be no election in February. Linda Bennett qualified for Seat # 1 with no

opposition. Chris Caldwell qualified for Seat #2 with no opposition. Both will be

sworn in at the March meeting. If the council desires they can appoint Chris to fill

Seat #2 at the February meeting and then swear him in officially in March.

3. Went over Revenues and Expenditures for December 2019.

4. W2's and 1099's were passed out.

5. We received an email from Randy Andrews, Bradford County Zoning, letting us

know that AT & T has submitted an application to place fiber optic cable, both

overhead and underground, East on SR CR 18 to the front of Braggs Branch.

6. We received a bill from Bernard Carter in the amount of \$700.00 for extra work he

did on December 15th when water tower ran over and messed up water building. I

spoke with Forest Scott, Florida League of Cities, he said we should pay Bernard and

they will reimburse us.

7. We received a Condition Assessment Report from Utility Service Co., Inc., on water

tank.

8. Clerk gave new council members a pocket guide to Florida's Government-in-the-

Sunshine Laws: Open Meetings and Public Records. She mentioned to new council

members that they have to be very careful not to meet with other elected officials

and discuss city business. If anyone saw them together they could accuse them of

discussing city business even if they were not. Any questions they have need to be

brought to the council meeting for discussion. You can speak to each other but you

don't want to be caught together at each other's home. John Maines agreed with

this.

Sanitation – Steve Acree:

1. He called Waste Pro about the concern's council had at last meeting. He spoke with

Driving Supervisor and was told he will take care of our concerns.

Road/Streets – Joe Tolleason:

1. County needs to come out and patch some pot holes in road.

2. Ballfield light is still out. Clerk has contacted them twice on this. She will call again.

Recreation/Parks – Linda Bennett:

1. She has not heard from Joe Robinson on when he will build pavilion.

2. Steve Acree suggested a gate be put in from Baseball field side going to Tennis Court.

We can see if FRDAP can cover this.

Attorney – John Maines:

1. The clerk received an email from Robert Pierre-Louis, Department of

Transportation. The email was in reference to Bradford County School Zone –

Maintenance Agreement. The clerk forwarded the email to Mr. Maines on how to

handle this. Mr. Maines instructed clerk to send an email back letting them know

that the school zone light is located on CR 18 in Brooker. Bradford County maintains

this county road. More information would be needed. We are not in a position to enter into a Construction & Maintenance Agreement with DOT. The clerk has not heard back from anyone on this. A motion was made by Steve Acree to table this until whenever or when or if we hear back from them. Seconded by Linda Bennett. Motion passed.

Old Business:

- 1. Town Clerk and Councilman Joe Tolleson met with Jason Dodds on the closing of Melvin Street. He plans on having everything ready and close Street this month.

New Business:

- 1. Gene Melvin, homeowner, would like to have water meter relocated on his property. The meter sits behind the Hollingsworth house and he said it has been ran over several times. A motion was made by Linda Bennett for Gene Melvin to call Quality Plumbing and work with them on locating lines so they can move meter. Seconded by Steve Acree. Motion passed.

Checks approved: 7132 - 7150, 5445 - 5455

A motion was made by Steve Acree to approve the bills. Seconded by Linda Bennett. Motion passed.
A motion was made by Gene Melvin to adjourn. Time: 8:22p.m.

Cecil E. (Gene) Melvin, Mayor



Charlene Thomas, Town Clerk

