

TOWN OF BROOKER
REGULAR MONTHLY COUNCIL MEETING
MAY 12, 2026

Present: Joe Tolleson, Chris Caldwell, Gene Melvin, Linda Bennett, Charlene Thomas, John Maines – Zoom
Absent: Randy Starling
Community: Terry Thomas, Maria Geer

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

A motion was made by Chris Caldwell to approve the minutes as presented from the April 14th meeting. Seconded by Joe Tolleson. Motion passed.

John Maines – Attorney:

Mr. Maines mentioned that he had spoke with Charlene Thomas, concerning the Resolution presented at the last meeting by Carol Mosely. Due to Bradford County Commissioners deciding to not let the building be used as a Detention Center the Resolution is not needed. Also, she spoke with him about an MOU with Bradford County for debris removal. The Town Clerk told Mr. Maines she does have a copy of an MOU that she needs for him to look over.

New Fire Station: Charlene Thomas

Ben Carter, Chief of Fire Rescue, said the progression of the building is right on track. The Town Clerk did send in a request for the advancement of funds. Once funds are received the \$46,000.00 invoice from M&R Construction will be paid. Also, Ben Carter did come by and pick up the check for the purchase of the new Fire Truck. He will be going to Ocala to pick up the truck. The truck will be brought to Brooker for everyone to see before being put into service.

Town Clerk – Charlene Thomas:

1. Past due water report was passed out. Still out \$402.15
2. We received our new water maps from Florida Rural Water. The book is kept on bottom shelf of bookcase in office if anyone needs it.
3. CCR letter is due to customers on July 1st. Working on getting envelopes ready. Waiting on Bernard Carter to send me the letter so I can get it xeroxed.
4. Lead & Copper has to be done this year.
5. FDOT – I ok'd for them to adjust the 3 valves located at the intersection of Melvin St/SR 231. They will lower the valves for paving and raise them back up after.
6. We received the boundary survey from Pat Welch. I sent the re-plat application to NCFRPC for review and a copy of the boundary survey to Mark Williams.
7. I did mention the trimming of limbs behind Community Center to Jason Dodds. He said he would handle this.
8. I am still working with Brad Witt on trying to finalize the MOU for debris removal during a hurricane. I have typed it up and will send a copy to Brad and a copy to John Maines.

9. Recreation – I am getting a quote for a shade to go over playground equipment. I would like to see this added to 2026/27 Budget.
10. Went over Revenues & Expenditures for April.
11. I received two proposals for 2025/26 audit. Powell & Jones submitted a cost of \$21,000.00. If a single audit is needed an additional \$5,000.00 will be added. James Moore submitted a cost of \$30,000.00. The proposal was for one year plus an additional four years. A motion was made by Joe Tolleson to go with the Powell & Jones proposal in the amount of \$21,000.00 and the additional fee of \$5,000.00 if single audit required. Seconded by Linda Bennett. Motion passed.
12. I will need to do a budget amendment to add the \$552,120.00 for the purchase of the Fire Truck. I have also requested the \$250,000.00 for the new fire station. As soon as I receive the \$250,000.00 then we can do one amendment to include both.

Water Department – Gene Melvin:

1. He reported there was a chlorine leak and Bernard Carter fixed it.

Sanitation, Road/Streets – Nothing to report

Recreation/Parks – Linda Bennett:

1. She mentioned the ballfield is being used. It is being cleaned up after usage.

Ground Maintenance/Mowing – Joe Tolleson:

1. He mentioned the sidewalk on left side going into Shady Oaks is grown up. He spoke with EMT Affordable Lawn Care and they said they would clean it up for \$350.00. A motion was made by Chris Caldwell to have them do the clean up. Seconded by Linda Bennett. Motion passed. The Town Clerk will need an invoice before payment can be rendered.

Old Business:

1. Gene Melvin asked Town Clerk to contact Glenn Ward about 11649 Parker Street place needing to be cleaned up. Barry Krajnovich moved and left the place in a mess. She referred it to Glenn Ward.

New Business:

1. Gene Melvin mentioned several other places in Brooker that need to be cleaned up: 11790 Line Street, 11774 S. Ward Street, 11752 Ward Street, 18757 Charlotte Avenue. The Town Clerk said she would contact Glenn Ward about these properties.

Checks approved: GFund – 8849-8872, WFund – 6323-6333

Cecil E. Melvin, Mayor

Charlene Thomas, Town Clerk