

TOWN OF BROOKER
REGULAR MONTHLY COUNCIL MEETING
November 11, 2025

Present: Gene Melvin, Chris Caldwell, Linda Bennett, Randy Starling, Joe Tolleson,
Charlene Thomas, John Maines – Zoom
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 October 14th Public Hearing meeting and the Regular monthly council meeting minutes as presented. Seconded by Linda Bennett. Motion passed.

John Maines – Zoom

We had problems with zoom with John. However, he did say everything was okay on his end.

New Fire Station:

Gene Melvin reported he did attend the Legislative Delegation meeting with Chuck Brannon in Starke, FL. A ground breaking at the new Fire Station was scheduled for November 12th but was postponed due to Mr. Brannon unable to attend. A tentative ground breaking is scheduled for December 5th or December 16th. A confirmation of which date should be sent out to the Town so clerk can let all council members know. Mr. Melvin said he thanked the Legislative Delegation for their support for our community in fy 2023/24. He asked them to consider there continued partnership to finish what we started. Phase 2 we are requesting \$500,000.00 to complete construction of Fire Station #8. Also, requesting \$514,620.00 to complete the apparatus purchase for the new fire station. We should receive the new fire truck in February 2026. This will be paid for from Phase 1 funding. We will have \$110,380 left over from Phase 1 and this will go towards Phase 2.

Charlene Thomas – Town Clerk:

1. Past due water report was passed out. Still out \$358.65.
2. I was contacted by two different people about possibly buying the Old Fire Station on Pine Street. I called John Maines, Attorney, and he said the Town will have to declare the property surplus before selling it. After surplus declared then we would have to advertise it and request bids. A motion was made by Chris Caldwell to declare the property located at 11770 Pine Street surplus. Seconded by Linda Bennett. Motion passed. The Town Clerk said she would write up a bid and have Mr. Maines look over before advertising.
3. Class "C" Operator, Bernard Carter, two year contract will be up on December 31st. I will type up bid and advertise. Bids will be open on December 9th meeting.
4. Reminder Ethics needs to be completed before December 31st. Chris Caldwell and Randy Starling still need to complete this.
5. Town Hall will be closed on Friday, November 28th.

6. We had a meter break at Bragg's Branch. The owner of the subdivision called and said water is spewing. I contacted Josh Davis, Swamp Cutters, and he said a 4-wheeler ran over the meter. We have ordered markers so we can put one beside the meters and hopefully this will keep people from running over meter.
7. Went over Revenues and Expenditures for October 2025. I did explain why Executive – Misc. Expense on the General Fund side was high for the month. (Contracts – Billy Hall, Web site, and Sage.) Also, on the Water Fund side paying for the maintenance on the water tower throws our expenditures high for the month.
8. I have been receiving training from textmygov.

Gene Melvin – Water Department:

1. Ring Power has been contacted several times about alarm going off at Generator. No one knew how long we have had that Generator? Bernard is going to check with Florida Rural Water about the possibility of getting a Caterpillar Generator. This is what Hampton has.
2. Gene asked with the new meters do we have a way to know if someone has a leak before the monthly reading? Town Clerk will check into this.

Chris Caldwell – Sanitation:

Nothing to report. Linda Bennett said her cart is broken. Town Clerk will contact Waste Pro and have them replace her cart.

Road/Streets – Randy Starling:

1. Joe Tolleson mentioned that the "Road Closed" sign at the west end of Melvin has been knocked down and broke off. He was asked if the EMT mowing could possible handle this. He was told to get a price and report back. There was some confusion on this. Terry Thomas usually handles this for Town. Joe is suppose to get a price on how much EMT would charge us to put up Street signs as needed.

Recreation/Parks – Linda Bennett:

1. Nothing to report.
2. Chris Caldwell mentioned he had covered the water fountains before the freeze we just had. He mentioned we might need to get some insulation foam put on the spickets, etc. before next year.
3. Four-wheelers are tearing up our property. We have signs posted "NO ATV's". We have reported this to Glenn Ward, Code Enforcement.
4. It was mentioned about checking into putting cameras on property. (Entrance, playground, and tennis court). We don't have anyone to enforce anything.

Town Council/Mayor:

1. It was mentioned that the property belonging to Isaac Coleman, 18757 Charlotte Ave., needs to be cleaned up. Town Clerk will send him a letter.
2. Gene Melvin mentioned our property behind Community Center needs cleaning up. Maybe Bradford County can help us with this.

Old Business:

1. Gene Melvin mentioned that Jason Dodds will be moving the Radar sign on the West end of Charlotte Avenue.

Checks approved: GFund – 8724-8742, WFund – 6253-6261

A motion was made by Joe Tolleson to pay the bills. Seconded by Chris Caldwell. Motion passed.

Gene Melvin made a motion to adjourn. Time: 7:57p.m.

Everyone wished a Happy Thanksgiving!!

Cecil E. (Gene) Melvin, Mayor

Charlene Thomas, Town Clerk