

TOWN OF BROOKLET  
COUNCIL MEETING  
MAY 18, 2006

1. CALL MEETING TO ORDER: Mayor Grooms  
Members present: Russell Davis, Annette Wilson, Randy Newman, Sylvia Prosser, William Hendrix, and Attorney Hunter.
2. INVOCATION: Mayor Grooms
3. APPROVAL OF APRIL MINUTES: Councilwoman Prosser made a motion to accept the minutes as presented. Motion seconded by Councilman Davis and passed with all ayes.
4. APPROVAL OF APRIL FINANCIAL STATEMENTS: Councilman Newman made a motion to accept the statements as presented. Motion seconded by Councilman Hendrix and passed with all ayes.
5. RECOGNITION OF GUEST:
  - 1) BRIAN BAKER, Representative from E.P.D. Mr. Baker introduced himself to Council as the Program Manager for the Environmental Protection Division in the Savannah office. His reason for being here is to let the Municipalities know who they are and what they do. He has recently met with other counties in his area which has at least one permit. Brooklet has two permits: a drinking permit and a permit to use ground water from the Floridan Aquifer and Brooklet has no issues with E.P.D. He has checked our files and reports. Our system seems to be well maintained and looks as if Brooklet has some room in their permit for growth. Mr. Baker offered his help if we felt we had anything facing us in the next few years. Councilman Hendrix advised Mr. Baker that at this time we were experiencing growth inside the City Limits and are hesitant to offer water outside the City Limits and exceed our withdrawal limit of 0.215 million gallons per day monthly average and 0.200 million gallons per day annual average. Our current permit is good through December 2006. Councilman Newman asked about the penalty if we pumped water over our limit. Mr. Baker advised we have 2 limits on our permit. One is an Annual Average which he looks at mostly and the other is a monthly average which is a higher monthly average permit limit. If you go over the permit limit at this time he does not have an enforcement strategy in place. If the reports show a peak and then it comes back down to normal you will be ok. If we start seeing a gradual steady increase we need to contact E.P.D.
  - 2) CHIEF MINCEY was asked to present his report at this time. All Council Members were provided a copy of his Police Report concerning citations, accidents, and a rash of entering autos and thefts. Citizens have noticed that newly painted car going around Town. The second car will soon be finished. Officer Mascarello turned down the full time officer position but Chief Mincey has hired De Hagan who will sign a two year contract with the town. He will start Monday May 22 but will be attending the Police Academy beginning July 11<sup>th</sup> for 10 weeks.

Chief Mincey spoke on a couple of incidents that have happened in the past few weeks and several arrests were made. He wants Council to know what is going on and what a good job has been done by Officer Buchan by solving those crimes in a very short time. Mr. William DeChristopher sent a letter out to Mayor Grooms and Chief Mincey commending Officer Buchan for the great job he has done for the Town of Brooklet. Chief Mincey presented Officer Buchan with a Certificate of Appreciation in recognition of a valuable contribution to the citizens of the Town of Brooklet in which he showed great dedication and diligence in the performance of his duties in solving the cases.

- 3) **BARNEY SINEATH-** Ordinances and Zoning. He feels the ordinances need some adult supervision and added that Mr. DeChristopher held a productive presentation on the ordinances. The question he has about the inconsistencies of specific points such as tying paving driveways back to issuing permits. Such as having the driveway paved to the Baptist Church on Hwy 80 West. He thinks they were of conforming use. Another example is Angie's Restaurant. He also mentioned the remodeling job going on at the corner of E. Lee and Warnock St. not meeting the setback requirements. The Lanier property was two non conforming lots combined and then redivided into two conforming lots. One is a commercial lot and the other residential and asked for a variance on the set backs. Mr. DeChristopher feels we are trying to make the best use of the available property and 75% are nonconforming. Mr. Sineath agreed this was a fair statement and asked why we let members of the Methodist Church, park on the grass and gravel without paving the front area.
- 4) **DAN McCORKLE:** Request Council to consider annexation of 120 acres in to the City Limits, also if the Town would furnish water to the property. Mr. McCorkle passed out copies of the property which is on Buie Road where he would like the town to annex into Brooklet City Limits. A portion of this property (7.8 acres) is already in Brooklet City Limits with the remaining 111 acres in Bulloch County. He is concerned about services such as Fire Department and Police Department and it seems logical to annex this property and enable Brooklet to receive the Tax Revenue. Mr. McCorkle asked if the town would consider modifying the R-1 Single Family Dwelling lot size requirement from 30,000 square feet to 25,000 square feet, if they agree to the annexation. Councilman Newman does not mind the property being annexed but we do not need to reduce the lot size. Councilwoman Prosser agrees with Councilman Newman about annexation but keep the lot size 30,000 square feet. Councilman Newman asked Attorney Hunter about the procedure for annexation. Mr. Hunter advised there are different annexation procedures and since he is requesting the annexation we would use 100% method which is simple. You have to pass an ordinance and get approval from the Justice Department.

Councilman Newman made a motion that upon application by Mr. McCorkle, the town will authorize Attorney Hunter to proceed to follow the procedure for the 100% Method which includes drafting an Ordinance and seeking pre clearance by the Justice Department. Motion seconded by Councilman Hendrix and passed with all ayes.

6. COMMITTEE REPORTS:

COUNCILMAN DAVIS- No Report

COUNCILWOMAN WILSON gave out bank balances from the General Fund and Water Fund. She would like to go over the proposed budget in New Business. COUNCILMAN NEWMAN presented a drawing from D.O.T. to correct the transition between Cromley Road and Brooklet Denmark Road. He has 3 bids and 3 options. Option one is doing the intersection, re-surface, re-stripe, and put up signs: Option two would include covering the first repair; and Option 3 would be going all the way down to the second repair. Councilman Newman would like to have the complete job re-done which is Option 3. Councilman Newman made a motion to accept the bid from Ellis Wood, Option 3 of \$20,510.00 to do the paving past the second repair. Motion seconded by Councilman Davis and passed with all ayes. Councilman Newman also had 3 bids for paving the road through the cemetery. Ellis Wood would give us a break if he was awarded the job for both bids. Councilwoman Prosser made a motion to have Ellis Wood Paving to the road through the cemetery also. Motion seconded by Councilman Davis and passed with all ayes. Councilman Newman has talked to the attorney concerning the paving of Julius Circle and asked Mr. Hunter to give a review. Mr. Hunter passed out a map of the Julius Circle Road showing lots 1A and 1B which has already been deeded to the City without excessive condemnation and this looks ok. Lots 2 and 3 have gone through the condemnation process and nothing else needs to be done. Noise Mae Tillman owns lot #4 and the City needs to acquire the small triangle strip. Mr. Hunter has talked to Donnell Tillman who advised him that they were unable to locate a deed for one of the lots but they are willing to deed the lot they have a good title on to the City for some price. To clear up the other lot would be to do a condemnation so that the City could acquire fee simple title for that portion. Lot #5 is the property of James E. Smith, Jr. Attorney Hall had prepared Right of Way Deeds for them to sign but never had them signed. Councilman Newman asked if we want to proceed with the condemnation of the two lots. Mr. Hunter advised that it might be the easiest way to do both lots 4 & 5 while we are there. A deed was prepared for the Smith property in 2003, but not signed. Councilman Newman made a motion to proceed on the condemnation of the two properties. Motion seconded by Councilman Davis and passed with all ayes.

COUNCILWOMAN PROSSER- No Report

COUNCILMAN HENDRIX was happy to hear the information from E.P.D. BILL DeCHRISTOPHER had provided a letter to Council Members. Coastal Georgia RDC has been contacted concerning our Ordinances. They do not furnish this service because they do not have the service of an attorney. Neither does GMA.

Municipal Code sent a copy of a Code Ordinance Book from Lavonia Georgia. Mr. Hunter advised he was very familiar with Municode Company and they will do a good job and it would be money well spent. We will get more information so we will know how this works. Mr. DeChristopher is compiling a list of Ordinance Violations to send out letters after they are reviewed by Council.

7. CONSENT AGENDA:

Motion to have a Called Meeting on Thursday June 1, 2006 at 7:00 PM for a Public Hearing on the FY 07 Budget in order to adopt the budget at the regular meeting on June 15<sup>th</sup>. Councilman Davis made a motion to accept the motion for a called meeting on June 1. Motion seconded by Councilwoman Wilson and passed with all ayes.

8. OLD BUSINESS:

- 1) Nomination of a new member for the Zoning Commission. Councilwoman Prosser made a motion to nominate Linda Kimball to the Zoning Commission in the place of Janie Ruth Smith. Motion seconded by Councilwoman Wilson. Following a brief discussion a vote was taken and passed with all ayes. Linda Kimball accepted the position and thanked Mayor and Council.
- 2) Lawn Maintenance. Councilman Newman read the bid from Mike Buchan for doing the City Hall yard and the Police Department yard for \$125.00 per trip. Councilman Hendrix made a motion to accept the bid from Mr. Buchan. Motion seconded by Councilwoman Prosser and passed with all ayes.
- 3) Storage Barn. Councilman Hendrix presented a quote from Smith Steel for the same size building as we discussed last month. Smith Steel :\$14939.00 Southeast Pole Barn: \$10,033.90 plus \$160.00 for a 24 foot header. Councilman Newman made a motion to accept the bid from Southeast Pole Barn Specialist. Motion seconded by Councilman Davis and passed with all ayes.

9. NEW BUSINESS:

Review Proposed Budge for FY 2007. Mayor Grooms advised we talked about this earlier. Councilman Newman asked if we do this at the Public Hearing on June 1<sup>st</sup> and Mayor advised that was correct, some of this has been discussed already.

10. PUBLIC PARTICIPATION ON AGENDA ITEMS:

CHARLES MALLARD: Requesting clarification on Public Participation.

Following a brief discussion, clarification is as follows: During the discussion of any item on the agenda the person signed up to speak should raise their hand and be recognized by the mayor to speak for not more than 5 minutes.

11. MOTION TO ADJOURN:

Councilman Newman made a motion to adjourn. Motion seconded by Councilwoman Prosser and passed with all ayes.