



CITY OF BROOKLET

104 CHURCH ST. BROOKLET, GA 30415 *(912) 842-2137 *FAX (912) 842-5877

Joe Grooms III, Mayor
Nicky Gwinnett, Mayor Pro-Tem
Bradley Anderson, Councilman
Greg Schlierf, Councilman
Jim Stanoff, Councilman
William Griffith, Councilman

City Attorney
Hugh Hunter

City Clerk
Lori Phillips

**CITY COUNCIL MEETING
AUGUST 19, 2021 - 7:00 PM
104 CHURCH STREET
BROOKLET COUNCIL CHAMBERS**

MINUTES

- 1. Call to order and welcome - Mayor Grooms**
 - A. Invocation

- 2. Pledge of Allegiance to the United States Flag - Mayor Grooms**

- 3. Amend or approve Proposed Agenda**

Motion made to approve the proposed agenda.

Motion: Brad Anderson
Second: Jim Stanoff
Ayes: Brad Anderson, Nicky Gwinnett, Jim Stanoff, Bill Griffith, Greg Schlierf
Motion carried 5-0

- 4. Amend or approve the minutes listed below:**
 - A. City Council meeting of July 15, 2021
 - B. City Council Special Called meeting of July 15, 2021

Motion made to approve the minutes as written.

Motion: Jim Stanoff
Second: Bill Griffith
Ayes: Brad Anderson, Nicky Gwinnett, Jim Stanoff, Bill Griffith, Greg Schlierf
Motion carried 5-0

- 5. Amend or approve the July Financial Reports**

Motion made to approve the financial reports as presented.

Motion: Brad Anderson
Second: Nicky Gwinnett
Ayes: Brad Anderson, Nicky Gwinnett, Jim Stanoff, Bill Griffith, Greg Schlierf

Motion carried 5-0

6. Recognition of Guest:

A. James Holloway – Police Services

- 1) Mr. Holloway has two issues, the first issue he would like to express his concerns about is the fact that the Officer on duty in the mornings will park for an hour to an hour and a half twice a day in front of the school just to watch people go around to drop kids off, this is the time that the majority of traffic that we have in the city is when people are going to work, school, or even coming home, we have the only officer on duty sitting in the one place when there are other areas that need to be patrolled.
- 2) The second issue is concerning the speed radar sign sitting on North Cromley road and he would like to request that it be moved to the entrance coming into Brooklet off of Alderman Road due to the speed limit changing from 55 to 35 and people aren't slowing down.

B. Rebecca Kelly – Street Maintenance

- 1) Ms. Kelly is asking that Public Works mow the two sides of the ditches of West Lane Street, the grass is very high and she is concerned about snakes.

7. Committee Members Reports:

A. Mayor Pro-Tem Nicky Gwinnett

- Wesley Parker, the City Engineer, is continuing to work on the sewer project. We have received a letter from the county approving the use of the right-of-way, where the bike trail should have been, allowing us to pump to Statesboro. The project is estimated to be around a 3-million-dollar project, we will be applying for grants in order to help with the funding.

B. Councilman Brad Anderson

- Budget 2021 will need to be amended, we exceeded in certain areas, it appears we would have not spent more than we brought in, which is good, but it will be very close, we are still in good shape and should walk away at the end of FY21 with near \$165,000.00 in reserves, which is good.

C. Councilman Jim Stanoff

- Drones' are becoming more popular as the years go by and the Federal Aviation Administration noted on April 21 that two new final rules governing drone operations are now in effect: one requiring remote identification of drones, while the other allows operators of small drones to fly over people and at night under certain conditions.
- 80% of the safety grant has been done, all he needs now is for Mayor Pro-Tem Gwinnett, Chief Gary Roberts, and himself to get together and make a list of safety items that they need for the departments.

D. Councilman Bill Griffith

- The Hydro-dig is still out of service, the company is having personnel shortages due to Covid and they haven't had time to look at it. Councilman

Anderson believes that as a Council, we need to investigate because since the purchase of the machine, it has been repaired 2 – 3 times and shortly, the one-year warranty will expire, Mayor Pro-Tem stated that the company did add two months to the warranty. Councilman Anderson believes we should investigate any extended warranty options and then trade it in as soon as possible. Councilman Griffith and Mayor Pro-Tem Gwinnett are planning on taking a trip to the dealership next week to investigate what is going on with the machine and what our options are at this point.

E. Councilman Greg Schlierf

- No reports at this time.

8. Chief of Police Report:

A. Chief Gary Roberts

- Responded to 70 calls this past month, we had 98 self-initiated calls for service which gives us a total of 168 calls which is not the big issue, the big issue is that we have had an increase in violent crime and we just found out this past week, that Bulloch County will no longer be helping us out with our investigations, they said that they do not have the man power, therefore, he and Lieutenant Stock has been working together to put together their own criminal investigations and have been working on that in order to have our own Detective Division.
- There has been an increase in fraud, involving gift cards, which are being made via telephone calls.

9. Building Inspector/Code Enforcement Report:

A. Bobby Hoch

- 8 new permits were issued, 41 inspections performed, and 4 co.'s have been approved.

10. Old Business:

**A. Discussion and consideration of a motion to amend the FY2021 Budget.
Motion to approve the FY21 amended budget as presented.**

Motion: Nicky Gwinnett

Second: Brad Anderson

Ayes: Brad Anderson, Nicky Gwinnett, Jim Stanoff, Bill Griffith, Greg Schlierf

Motion carried 5-0

B. Discussion and consideration of a motion to approve the list of surplus items from all departments for auction on Govdeals.

Motion to approve the surplus list as presented.

Motion: Greg Schlierf

Second: Nicky Gwinnett

Ayes: Brad Anderson, Nicky Gwinnett, Jim Stanoff, Bill Griffith, Greg Schlierf

Motion carried 5-0

C. Discussion and consideration of a motion to approve the purchase of a generator for well #2.

Mrs. Jan Tankersley has been speaking with the Georgia Forestry about getting us two generators, but we have not heard anything from them. Councilman Anderson is not optimistic about us getting the generators before this season is up, we have the money to purchase the generators, we only have a one-day capacity in the water tank and this is something that we need to provide to the City residents, this is something we need to get on top of and stay after until we get the generators.

Motion made to table this item to next month's Council meeting.

Motion: Brad Anderson

Second: Nicky Gwinnett

Ayes: Brad Anderson, Nicky Gwinnett, Jim Stanoff, Bill Griffith, Greg Schlierf

Motion carried 5-0

D. Discussion and consideration of a motion to approve a quote to move the fence at Public Works.

Three quotes were received and they are listed below:

- 1) Middle Ground Construction = \$6,358.00
- 2) Central Fence Company, Inc. = \$9,509.00
- 3) JW Fence Company = \$6,400.00

Councilman Anderson feels like the purchase of the generators is a high priority and this item can wait until December. Mayor Pro-Tem Gwinnett agreed. No action was taken.

E. Discussion and consideration of a motion to approve a quote for the landscaping/maintenance of City Hall.

One quote was received and it is listed below:

- 1) Steve's Lawn & Landscape Services = \$4,200.00

After a brief discussion, Council decided this item can wait until a later time. No action was taken.

F. Discussion and consideration of a motion to approve a resolution for the recommendation from Parker Engineering for the Warnock Street repairs project to be awarded to Ellis Wood Contracting, Inc., in an amount equal to the base bid amount \$49,906.00, this is an LMIG project.

Motion to approve the resolution as presented.

Motion: Brad Anderson

Second: Nicky Gwinnett

Ayes: Brad Anderson, Nicky Gwinnett, Jim Stanoff, Bill Griffith, Greg Schlierf

Motion carried 5-0

11. New Business:

- A. First reading of a proposed ordinance to amend the code of ordinances of the City of Brooklet to authorize package sales by retailers of malt beverages and wine on Sundays between the hours of 12:30 p. m. and 11:30 p. m. if such Sunday sales of both malt beverages and wine are approved by referendum.** City Attorney Hugh Hunter stated that this is an odd procedure, the ordinance has to be approved before the referendum election and then it is subject to the referendum passing, and if it does not pass, then the ordinance is just void.

Motion made to approve the proposed ordinance as a first reading.

Motion: Nicky Gwinnett

Second: Brad Anderson

Ayes: Brad Anderson, Nicky Gwinnett, Jim Stanoff, Bill Griffith, Greg Schlierf

Motion carried 5-0

- B. Discussion and consideration of a motion to approve a resolution of the Mayor and Council of the City of Brooklet to call for referendum that the governing authority of the City of Brooklet hereby calls for a referendum election for the purpose of determining whether or not package sales by retailers of malt beverages and wine on Sundays between the hours of 12:30 P. M. and 11:30 P. M. is approved or disapproved by the voters, and that said election shall be held in accordance with O.C. G. A. § 21-2-540 on November 2, 2021.**

Motion made to approve the resolution as presented.

Motion: Nicky Gwinnett

Second: Bill Griffith

Ayes: Brad Anderson, Nicky Gwinnett, Jim Stanoff, Bill Griffith, Greg Schlierf

Motion carried 5-0

- C. Discussion and consideration of a motion to approve a resolution of the Mayor and Council of the City of Brooklet to call for Special Election regarding whether or not to authorize the issuances of licenses to sell distilled spirits by the drink for consumption only on the premises where sold.**

Motion made to approve the resolution as presented.

Motion: Nicky Gwinnett

Second: Brad Anderson

Ayes: Brad Anderson, Nicky Gwinnett, Jim Stanoff, Bill Griffith, Greg Schlierf

Motion carried 5-0

- D. Discussion about placing NO PARKING signs on West Lane Street.** Councilman Schlierf has been contacted by two concerned residents about cars parking in front of the school on the side of the road which is causing an interference with traffic. The Mayor and Council would like for City Attorney, Hugh Hunter, to develop a no parking ordinance as soon as we get together a designated street list for the ordinance.

- E. Discussion and consideration of a motion to appoint Lori Phillips as the Absentee Ballot Clerk for the Municipal Election.**

Motion: Brad Anderson

Second: Nicky Gwinnett
Ayes: Brad Anderson, Nicky Gwinnett, Jim Stanoff, Bill Griffith, Greg Schlierf
Motion carried 5-0

12. Motion to move to Executive Session to discuss “personnel matters”:

Motion: Bill Griffith
Second: Greg Schlierf
Ayes: Brad Anderson, Nicky Gwinnett, Jim Stanoff, Bill Griffith, Greg Schlierf
Motion carried 5-0

13. Motion to return to General Session:

Motion: Brad Anderson
Second: Nicky Gwinnett
Ayes: Brad Anderson, Nicky Gwinnett, Jim Stanoff, Bill Griffith, Greg Schlierf
Motion carried 5-0

14. Motion to hire Silver Leshner as a full-time Police Officer to begin September 1, 2021 with a starting pay of \$15.05 per hour with benefits.

Motion: Greg Schlierf
Second: Bill Griffith
Ayes: Brad Anderson, Nicky Gwinnett, Jim Stanoff, Bill Griffith, Greg Schlierf
Motion carried 5-0

15. Motion to adjourn:

Motion: Bill Griffith
Second: Greg Schlierf
Ayes: Brad Anderson, Nicky Gwinnett, Jim Stanoff, Bill Griffith, Greg Schlierf
Motion carried 5-0

Approved this ____ day of _____, _____.

Joe A. Grooms, III, Mayor

Lori Phillips, City Clerk