

CITY OF BROOKLET

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Joe Grooms III, Mayor
Bradley Anderson, Mayor Pro-Term
Nicky Gwinnett, Councilman
Rebecca Kelly, Councilwoman
James Harrison, Councilman
Johnathan Graham, Councilman

City Attorney
Hugh Hunter

City Clerk
Lori Phillips

JULY 13, 2023

WORK SESSION

6:30 PM

MINUTES

1. Call to order and welcome - Mayor Grooms, III
 - a. Invocation

2. Consideration of a motion to approve or amend the agenda
Motion to amend the agenda to add item #3.11. Hydro-Dig Discussion per Councilman Gwinnett and item #3.0. Bill Griffith to address Mayor and Council regarding Planning & Zoning per Mayor Grooms.
Motion: Rebecca Kelly
Second: Johnathan Graham
Ayes: Rebecca Kelly, James Harrison, Brad Anderson, Nicky Gwinnett, and Johnathan Graham
Nays: None
Motion carried 5-0

3. DISCUSSION ITEMS:
 - 3.0. Bill Griffith - Planning & Zoning
 - Mr. Griffith is currently the Planning & Zoning Chairman for the City of Brooklet and he would like to address a lack of communication between P&Z members, himself and Planning & Zoning Administrator, Lori Phillips. Mr. Griffith would like to apologize for the disrespect that the three members have given her due to not responding to her emails and letting her know if they would be present or not, or waiting until the very last minute to respond. It takes time for her to send out text and emails as well as the notice for the public hearings just to get no response back. Another issue he would like to address is the comment that was made about Planning & Zoning making recommendations without research or asking for guidance is no help for city council, this is not a true comment, three of the members do discuss and research before a recommendation is made to the council.

Clerk Phillips will also call and ask for Attorney Hunters advice and guidance when it comes to a matter that requires more information when no one else has the answer. Mr. Griffith also submitted his resignation from his position as Planning & Zoning Commission effective immediately. He thanks the council and the mayor for allowing him to serve for the city for the last 13 ½ years.

3.1. FY 2023 Amended Budget

- Per Mayor Pro-Tem Anderson, two of the departments over spent their initial budget, so that we do not get an audit finding, we will have to amend the budget for 2023, it reflects our total revenues, which was \$1,474,300.00, and total expenditures are \$1,474,300.00; so, what we did was round up to the nearest whole of \$10,000.00. This will be on next week's agenda.

3.2. Liquor by the Package Referendum

- Per Mayor Pro-Tem Anderson – we have been able to accept a roll back rate for taxes for the last three years, which has been very good for the citizens of Brooklet considering the growth that we have had, we're also getting a new well out of it, and we are making more progress towards the sewer system than has ever been made before, so there have been several positives, but we continue to struggle to make ends meet with the budget, we do not have the local option sales tax that goes to the school system and we will never get that back, we have not had a lot of success at this point, getting an extra 0.01 cent added back to the city, so the only other thing we have that does not cost the citizens money is the alcohol tax, and that allows you to tap that other revenue stream.

3.3. Zoning Ordinance Review

- Mayor Pro-Tem Brad Anderson will have Clerk Phillips email the mayor and council members the current zoning ordinance for them to review and mark any changes that need to be changed and updated. Then we can all work together on one draft to give to Attorney Hunter to review and draft. The target date for this to be done by will be January.

3.4. RCR Services Invoice# 3004 in the amount of \$3,379.55 for replacing the wheel seal on the Sanitation Truck

- Add to the consent agenda for July 20, 2023

3.5. Review of a quote received from John Deere for a tractor, loader, root grapple, and a fixed pallet fork in the amount of \$55,875.00

- Public Works needs new equipment, Councilman Gwinnett suggested that T-SPLOST funds could be used to purchase street equipment. Mayor Pro-Tem Anderson agrees that new equipment is needed however, he disagrees with using the T-SPLOST funds to do so, when T-SPLOST was put on the ballot to be voted on, it was on the ballot to be used to repair streets, not for the purchase of equipment. Mayor Pro-Tem suggested looking into a lease purchase for a tractor, Councilman Gwinnett suggested it is time for the city to have another auction, then those funds can help towards the purchase of the new equipment.

- 3.6. **Review of a quote received from East Main Equipment for a modern ag 10' right hand offset flex predator roadside rotary cutter in the amount of \$22,994.00**
 - Discussed under item 3.5.

- 3.7. **Review of a quote received from Low Country Machinery for a 10.51 batwing in the amount of \$20,172.00 and a 12 batwing in the amount of \$23,813.17**
 - Discussed under item 3.5.

- 3.8. **Review of a quote received from Core & Main for a 3" C2 Omni Chamber in the amount of \$1,190.00**
 - Add to the Consent Agenda for July 20, 2023

- 3.9. **Relocation of the Brooklet Precinct for conducting the County Elections**
 - The county would like to start using the Randy Newman Community Center for holding the elections for the county, beginning 2024. Mayor Pro-Tem Anderson suggested that this item be added to the July 20, 2023 agenda for more discussion.

- 3.10. **Survey for 416 North Cromley Road, the Brooklet Voting Precinct needed to get a plat to attach to the legal description**
 - Mayor Pro-Tem Anderson recommends that we get quotes to survey the property and ask Attorney Hunter to draft an Intergovernmental Agreement between Brooklet and the Bulloch County Recreation Department. The quotes will be presented at the August 17, 2023 city council meeting.

- 3.11. **Hydro-Dig**
 - The hydro-dig needs to be repaired and the cost to repair it is \$3,018.00; it may still be under warranty, if it is, the warranty will take care of it, if it is not, we will need to pay for it to be repaired. Low Country Machinery will be looking into it and will let Councilman Gwinnett know. This item will go on the July 20, 2023 agenda for discussion and possible motion.

4. ADJOURNMENT

Motion to adjourn

Motion: Johnathan Graham


Second: Nicky Gwinnett

Ayes: Rebecca Kelly, James Harrison, Brad Anderson, Nicky Gwinnett, and Johnathan Graham

Nays: None

Motion carried 5-0

Approved this 17th day of August, 2023.



 Joe A. Grooms, III, Mayor



 Lori Phillips, City Clerk

