

JANUARY 10, 2024

The Brookston Town Council met in regular session with CM Thomas absent.

Clerk-Treasurer introduced the new Town Atty. Rebecca Trent. She presented her agreement with Town and Council will review it for next meeting.

Minutes of the previous meeting were read and approved. CM Hasser made a motion to approve minutes. Second was made by CM Pres. Butz. Motion carried.

Bills were examined on the Payable Voucher Form. Pres. Butz noticed a bill from Alan Georges Excavating for the water and sewer installment and said to pull it for it's to be given to Contractor to pay. Two accounts payable registers presented. One for end of December 2023 and second one for New Year first meeting of January. CM Girard moved to pay the bills listed on the Accounts Payable Voucher Register #1 2023. Second was made by CM Hasser. CM Hasser moved to pay bills listed on the Accounts Payable Register #2-2024. The two bills totaling \$571,194.27 unanimously approved.

New/Old Business

Nominations for Vice President. CM Hasser nominated Terry North for VP. Second by Pres. Butz. Motion unanimous.

Greg Kauffman was present introducing himself as the new Treasurer of the fire department. He is also on the EMS side. Pres. Butz asked how much in donations received. Mr. Kauffman said 101,697.84 and expenditures were 92,533.17 leaving a balance of 3,384.67. CM Hasser asked if everything been bought, answer was yes except for microwave. Still waiting on EDP check and not sure on amount. J&J was here installing wiring for the speakers. Need to add 5 speakers. Was approved for a grant from Firehouse Subs in amount of 37,958.89. Asked if yearly contract was ready. Pres. Butz said not yet, it's possible to only change the date on contract. Did purchase radios and would like to divide the amount 4 ways and if Brookston would approve to pay a portion of 4871.78. CM Hasser made a motion to pay the portion as presented out of Town's appropriated budget for fire equipment. Second by CM Girard. Motion unanimous. Clerk-Treasurer says she needs an invoice to put with payment.

Terry LaOrange reports: having Carroll White REMC Engineering in to check on any improvements of transformers, breakers. There are some poles between houses on Brackney by 8th St that we may have to hire outside company to get it where they are not hard to get to for any repairs. Can pay this out of project money left over then negotiate it to be added to the agreement with Carroll White REMC for these poles are not in agreement.

Pres. Butz received street list from CM Hasser for paving. His list was very similar to Pres. Butz. 6th St from Ripley St to 43, 1st St from Railroad to 43, 2nd St Wood St to Midway St., Brackney St from 18 E to 4th St, 4th St on Brackney to Kent St wide around curve. Replace curbs next to Pickleball Court. Blacktop parking next to Crasian Brewery on South St. CM Girard asked about the drain there. Supt. Emmett said it will be fine. CM Hasser asked about the NipSCO meter there if need to be removed. Emmett said no the issue was NipSCO needed to run gas lines to Crasian Brewery and Fluid Technologies. Put pavement in the recycling area. Pres. Butz thought the paving grant is to be submitted end of January.

Pres. Butz briefly went over wastewater options, waiting for Eng. Ken to explain the options. CM Hasser personally likes option 3. If later the option approved isn't working will look at other options. Treatment plant loan to be paid off this year. Water needs a few things done like put in new water filters, replace old water system. Plan on asking Commissioners for \$1,000,000.00 to help cost.

Supt. Emmett reports: projects getting done. CM Girard asked about a mezzanine. Emmett said it's to store hardware parts and other pieces. To keep it organized. CM Girard said the light on SR43 south of 5th St does not go off and been like that for 6 weeks. Emmett will check it for it depends on where the eye on the light pointing to. CM Hasser asked if he received estimates on the sidewalks for the library and water tower. He did but didn't have them on him and couldn't remember the estimate cost. Schedule for this spring to do the sidewalk at library from SR43 to alley on 2nd St. and next to water tower where curb is broken. Jetter is getting maintenance.

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Pres. Butz received an invite to Commissioners dinner with Mike Smolek on January 17th at 6:00 p.m. CM Hasser said last year they had a good turnout. Let Pres. Butz know if anyone attending to send a count and possible ride together.

Will wait to see if receive anything from White County Area Plan for nominating representative for Brookston.

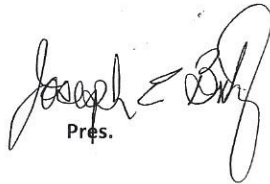
JR Halesma asked when the final date for fire station completion. Eng. Ken said he received an email saying as of now could be next Friday the 19th. They mentioned couldn't lay flooring because fire department was installing wiring. Eng. Ken said Contractor is putting items on building that was not in contract, like roof guards.

Pres. Butz told Eng. Ken Town will be doing option 3 on wastewater and will send over the new list of street for new grant this year. Eng. Ken will let get a hold of person on the bond contract letting them know we will be paying it off this year.

Fire Chief Jason reports: none

Marshal Yeoman reports: Patrolled 311 miles; 1 case report; 1 vin check; 2 criminal arrests; 8 traffic warnings; 9 traffic stops; 2 criminal history invest; 3 other police services. Start of New Year wasn't bad. Had 2 drug busts. IDEA Conference February 21st-23rd.

There being no further business, Meeting to be adjourned.


Pres.


Clerk-Treasurer