

SEPTEMBER 13, 2023

The Brookston Town Council met in regular session with CM Girard and CM Hasser absent.

Minutes of the previous meeting were read and approved. VP North made a motion to approve minutes. Second was made by CM Thomas. Motion carried.

Bills were examined on the Payable Voucher Form. CM Thomas asked about the Comcast bill for 215.58 for police. Clerk-Treasurer explained it is not for police only it is actually separated amongst 4 departments. Not enough room to add them all. CM Thomas moved to pay the bills listed on the Accounts Payable Voucher Register. Second was made by VP North. The bills totaling 89,523.88 unanimously approved.

Public Hearing for 2024 Budget. No attendees. Adoption of 2024 Budget next meeting September 27th. Pres. Butz asked if already met with Budget Representative. Clerk-Treasurer said yes and it looks to be approved. Will need to make change next year to MVH for the fund is low.

New/Old Business

Pres. Butz proposed moving \$2.00 from Storm Water to Sewer utility. In the past it was approved to move \$2.00 from the sewer fund to storm water and now would like to move it back leaving .20 in storm water. VP North made a motion to approve moving the \$2.00. Second by CM Thomas. Clerk-Treasurer will put public hearing in the paper for October 11th meeting and then to be final with Ordinance.

Pres. Butz presented copy of the fire station construction schedule he received. The construction project of new fire station to be done by December 15th and if any days over that there is a \$100.00 a day fee. Asked Fire Chief Jason to give update on any fundraisers. Already approved for \$5500.00 grant and spent \$4800.00 in bills. Have applied for several grants totaling around \$100,000.00. Some grants applied for are through CSX, SIA, Kroger, Carroll White REMC, Casey's, and White County Community Foundation. He will give report at end of month. VP North asked if still putting in a baby box. Fire Chief Jason said after building is complete will apply for reimbursement grant to have one put in. CM Thomas asked how much received so far. Fire Chief said they have been approved for some and still to receive yet.

Jack Brown was present regarding the property next door that is not sealed up and has coons, possums and cats going in and out of there. He's asking if anything can be done about it. Marshal Yeoman will get with Ryan Glover of White County Animal Control and see what can be done. Also can anything be done with the house? They haven't done anything to it in 2 years. Pres. Butz remembered when it all started White County Area Plan showed the owner had a 10 year building permit.

Pres. Butz announced a mix up on color of roof and siding of new fire station. Eng. Ken will asked Construction Company for \$5,000.00 back for the mix up. Eng. Ken left a brochure of samples for the rock trim for front of fire station building. Council approved mission point and will ask Eng. Ken to bring in the sample to look at.

Terry LaOrange reports: electric rate close to 6% increase combined with tracker. There was a study for IMPA to increase also. The 6% increase is good for 4yrs. Pres. Butz said he met with Kathy of REMC and the agreement between REMC and Town is good till 2029. VP North made a motion to move forward with the 6% increase. Second by CM Thomas. Motion unanimous. Will get with Atty. George Loy to rewrite the electric rate structure before putting it in paper.

Pres. Butz mentioned the 2 parks will have borders put in and the color will be neutral. This will be done in October.

Clerk-Treasurer asked about ordering the chairs. She and Deputy Linda went on their road trip checking out chairs at Sam's Club. All they had were black and grey and no brown chairs and they were like the ones Town has already. CM Hasser sent Pres. Butz message he wouldn't be at meeting and he expressed he wanted tall backs and comfortable chairs. Council approved chairs presented from Clerk-Treasurer at last meeting from K-Log catalog.

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Clerk-Treasurer presented the 1st draw for fire station. Amount of draw is \$172,890.22. VP North made a motion to approve the first draw. Second by CM Thomas. Motion unanimous.

Eng. Ken reports: none

Fire Chief Jason reports: none

Supt. Emmett reports: Getting ready for Apple/Popcorn Festival. VP North asked about the dumpsters. They will be here tomorrow. Putting one behind post office, one behind fire station and one at the ballpark will be brought up to the food court. Will remove barricades Saturday evening to open up the street and on Monday will pick everything up. Oxidation ditch motor is beyond repair. If try to rebuild the motor, it wouldn't last more than half the year. Looking for a motor and they are hard to find for it's a 2 speed. Pole to be set at new fire station on the 29th and then put in the electric wire underground. New pole to be set at 502 Brackney St. Will be on vacation next week.

Marshal Yeoman reports: Patrolled 470 miles; 2 crash reports; 2 domestic disputes; 1 disturbance; 1 traffic complaint; 1 criminal history invest; 2 ordinance violations; 1 citation; 1 follow-up ordinance violation; 14 other police services. He and Jason met with EMA getting everything done for festival. EMA will be bringing in a camera tower to check out for it is new and never been used. Will put a resource sign board on 18 E and at intersection SR 43 & 18 W. Presented quotes for radios. Harris radios are \$3200.00 for one with speaker. Motorola's are around \$8,000.00. The ones we have are 15-20 years old and will be obsolete in 2 years. Planning ahead and will apply for grants next year to purchase new radios. Purchased panels for a vest for Deputy Winkler. He has a vest but needs panels.

There being no further business, Meeting to be adjourned.

Pres.

Clerk-Treasurer