

BROOKS TOWN COUNCIL MEETING
MINUTES

Monday, November 18, 2013

Mayor Langford led the invocation and pledge and then called the monthly meeting to order.

Council members present: Lewis Harper
 Scott Israel
 Ted Britt

Council members absent: Jake Kunz
 Todd Speer

Prior to tonight's meeting, the proposed Agenda was provided via email to the Mayor and Council Members for review. Mayor Dan Langford asked that an additional appearance be added. Mr. Randy Weaver contacted Mayor Langford prior to the Meeting to discuss a Chamber of Commerce program. The Council was in agreement to add Mr. Weaver. Scott Israel offered a Motion to approve the Agenda and Lewis Harper offered a second to the Motion. The Council unanimously voted to approve the Agenda for November 18, 2013.

Also prior to tonight's meeting, the proposed Minutes from the October 21, 2013 meeting were provided via email to the Mayor and Council Members for review. There being no comments or revisions, Lewis Harper offered a Motion to approve them and Scott Israel offered a second. The vote was unanimous and the Minutes for October 21, 2013 were approved.

Appearances:

Mr. Randy Weaver appeared before the Council this evening representing the Fayette County Chamber of Commerce and spoke to the Council about a Steering Committee for Fayette Vision. This Committee will be comprised of 40 people from all Fayette County communities. They will discuss the demographics, changes and development of Fayette County. Mr. Weaver asked for a representative from Brooks to participate as a member of the Committee. After some discussion, Scott Israel agreed to represent the Town of Brooks. He also asked that a donation be considered in the future.

Mr. Matt Bergen with the Fayette County Water System also appeared before the Council. Mr. Bergen presented the Council with copies of a proposed Ordinance for "White Lining" projects prior to construction/digging projects. It is the hope of the FCWS that this Ordinance will be approved not only county wide but also state wide to prevent digging mishaps/accidents. Mr. Bergen's visit was strictly informational and no vote is needed at this time.

Committee Reports:

Mayor's Report – Mayor Langford discussed an email he received from Al Hardy concerning cemetery lots. There were several lots that have been marked as unusable due to tree roots

and/or mismarked lots. Mr. Hardy is hoping a few of these “lost” lots can be used as single burial plots and be offered at a reduced rate. After discussion, the Council agreed and recommended that the Cemetery price the lots as they deem appropriate.

Recreation – None

Cemetery – None

Planning and Zoning – None

Library – Kim Morris reported to the Mayor and Council that the VPO is currently taking advance orders for 2013 Christmas/Holiday stamps.

Water and Sewer – Cynthia Winkle provided the Council with a statement from R.W. Shockley for \$300.00 for work done on the septic system at the Ball Field per the agreement of the Town with Shockley. The early switch between systems was due to the excessive amount of rain we had this summer. Next year should be drier and he should be able to switch the system every three months to add longevity to the system.

Financial – Financial materials were provided to the Mayor and Council Members for discussion.

Unfinished Business:

Library Renovation – Cynthia Winkle presented a map of the Downtown Brooks area to review additional parking options. The lot adjacent to the library, an area adjacent to Hardy Hall & Maddock property and an area behind the library owned by Hoke Putnam were discussed. Mayor Langford agreed to speak with Bonnie Maddock concerning this issue as it would benefit the library and Hardy Hall/Church.

2013 LMIG Roadwork – Cynthia Winkle noted that paving has been completed on Church Alley Road. She suggested that Council Members drive thru and advise if any other work needs to be done or additional gravel added for parking purposes.

2014 LMIG Project Planning – At the October 2013 Town Council Meeting Mayor Langford asked for project ideas for 2014 LMIG funds. Projects to be considered are as follows:

- a. Re-pave road/gutter area in front of library
- b. Pave Butler Road between 85 Connector and Brooks Road
- c. Re-do intersection of Brooks Road and 85 Connector
- d. Continued dust control on Julia Crossing

Fayette County resident, John Setzer, is concerned some of the projects may not be covered by the Grant. Cynthia Winkle and Mayor Langford assured Mr. Setzer that all projects are approved by the County ahead of time and estimates are provided by the County and GA DOT.

Town Street Lamp Ornaments – Brooks Town Christmas lights are in place. New LED lights have been placed in wreath across from the library. After some discussion the Council has

decided not to replace any more bulbs with LED lights until we have a better idea of durability. Lewis Harper made a Motion to reimburse Mrs. Leiby \$180 for new bulbs and an additional \$22.17 for an outstanding expense from 2011. Scott Israel made a second to the Motion and the vote was unanimous.

It was also brought to the Council's attention that the brackets (mounted to power poles) holding the Christmas lights are quite rusted. Some lights had to be directly wired to the poles to secure them. Cynthia Winkle will look into replacement of the brackets.

S.P.L.O.S.T - The S.P.L.O.S.T. vote in Fayette County on November 5, 2013 failed to pass. Mrs. Winkle brought it to the Council's attention that there are old S.P.L.O.S.T. funds in an account that were never used. After a brief discussion Lewis Harper made a Motion to seek legal counsel on this issue. Scott Israel seconded the Motion but the vote was not unanimous. It was decided to table the matter since Councilmen Jake Kunz and Todd Speer were not present.

Audit – (status – Winkle) – No new information/status unknown; waiting to hear from auditor.

Soil Erosion and Sedimentation Control – EPD (Status – Winkle) – Mr. Frank Caruba has passed our application on with his recommendation being approval. The decision is in the hands of the director. They are given 60 days to act (approx. Dec. 6, 2013).

New Business:

Proposed Ordinance – Fayette County Water System – See above appearance by Mr. Matt Bergen.

Thrift Shop Business Renewal – The Brooks Methodist Church Thrift Shop located on McIntosh Road is reviewed every 6 months. After a brief discussion Lewis Harper made a Motion to approve renewal. Councilman Scott Israel made a second to the Motion. The vote was unanimous.

Church Building – Marge Counts appeared before the Council with questions concerning the rental costs of the Church Building. Most work on the building is completed. December 1, 2013 will be the Tour of Homes and Tree Lighting at the Church at 5:30 pm followed by the musical group, Music Alive. Cynthia Winkle will provide Mrs. Counts with information regarding operating costs and Mrs. Counts will prepare a presentation for the Council as to possible rental prices of Church Building and or Hardy Hall.

Any Other Business:

Town Manager, Cynthia Winkle, brought it to the Council's attention that the extra laptop computer used by Kim Morris, Town Clerk, has had some problems and needs a new battery at a cost of approximately \$80. The Council agreed that this cost is reasonable.

There being no other business, Lewis Harper made a Motion to adjourn which was seconded by Scott Israel. The Council Members present voted unanimously to adjourn and Mayor Langford closed the meeting.

Respectfully Submitted,

Kimberly A. Morris, Town Clerk