

February 26, 2025

The Brookston Town Council met in regular session with Pres. Butz by phone call in and CM Thomas absent.

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

Bills were examined on the Accounts Payable Voucher Form. CM Girard moved to pay bills listed on the Accounts Payable Voucher Register. Second was made by CM Hasser. The bills totaling \$197,504.85. Unanimously approved.

New/Old Business

White County Commissioner Mike Smolek was present to introduce himself and to observe.

Pres. Butz suggests keeping the fire contract as simple as possible such as percentage of bills between Town and Fire Department already approved and Brookston Fire Department housing in Town fire building. He feels just need an agreement and not a full blown contract. Council agrees. Will follow up with Attorney Rebecca when she gets back.

Clerk-Treasurer presented list of 2 year old stale checks to be voided. CM Hasser feels after a year, Clerk-Treasurer should try and make contact with the person to see if they received the check and if so let them know the check is only good for 2 years. CM Girard made a motion to make a call after one year on any amount on the check and if no answer then void the 2 year old check. Second by CM Hasser. Motion unanimous. Clerk-Treasurer will void checks as presented tonight and will make calls and will write down date and time of the call and leave message if no answer. Those that respond she will print another check to replace old check.

VP North was curious about Pizza King on Pres. Butz statement on the agenda. Pres. Butz said the new owner has purchased a couple business properties here in Brookston and Pres. Butz announced being busy with discussion with one of the Commissioners and plan to meet sometime in April or May to discuss Brookston. He and Eng. Ken have been trying to figure out who to contact on the Waugh Property. He did talk to an administrator and was told they could never sell any Waugh property and the administrator also confirmed the agreement or contract was for infinity. Pres. Butz said conversation didn't produce what he hoped for. He is also concerned in the next few years as expenses and possible taxes climbing without growth the Town will need to increase utility rates and property taxes just to maintain without growth. Commission Mike Smolek said they are getting ready to go through ordinances and will be looking into property between ADM and Popcorn Plant as industrial. He also announced some a chip manufacturing company coming towards Brookston by Krintz's. VP North said back to Pizza King if all the buildings north of it were sold. Pres. Butz said no just Pizza King. Robert Johnson still owns the other buildings.

Eng. Ken reports: has camera for live stream to be installed next week and will do trial run a month before mandatory date in July to start it. Would like Council approval to set up government uYouTube account. CM Hasser made a motion to set up government YouTube account. Second by CM Girard. Motion unanimous.

Terry LaOrange reports: everything going smooth. Finishing up work plan. VP North asked if any money carried over. Terry said yes and has 2 projects that will come out of the project money. When weather warms up they will be changing poles over on Brackney St.

Supt. Emmett reports: sewer going good. Had rusty water issues on Brackney St. due to filling tankers for house fires. Hydrant flushing week of March 17th and sometime in September or October. He will be gone week of March 10th for spring conference. Electric pole to be done in alley between Railroad St. and SR 43. Will be looking for someone in the spring for part-time person to do the mowing. May have a person interested. CM Girard asked how Tim is doing in the water apprenticeship class. He is doing well and if anyone sees Town truck at the fire station it's Tim doing his classes there for they have Wi-Fi and less interruptions. VP North asked about the gas leak at the library. Supt. Emmett said they are still working on it and library has been closed until there was a 0 gas leak read in building.


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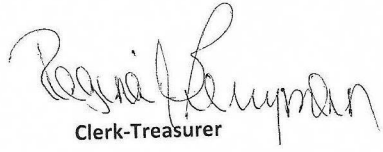
Fire Chief Jason reports: none

Marshall Yeoman reports: Patrolled 442 miles; 1 disturbance; 1 traffic complaint; 1 traffic warning; 1 traffic stop; 8 other police services. His new portable radios were delivered today. VP North asked about the old ones. Troy said they can still be used but if they break down they cannot be repaired. They are obsolete. Had a training luncheon with other Marshals meeting they are all saying hard to get part-time deputies. He did speak to Wayne Winkler who used to be a deputy for Brookston said he would be interested in helping out temporarily for a few months or until Troy finds someone. Council said yes. CM Girard asked why having trouble finding someone. Is it the pay? Marshal Yeoman said yes part of it is.

CM Girard asked Supt. Emmett if he heard if the EMS is still coming in March. Supt. Emmett hasn't heard anything.

There being no further business, Meeting to be adjourned.

Pres. 


Clerk-Treasurer