

Brookland City Council Minutes
December 12, 2022

The meeting was called to order at 7:00 PM by Mayor Jones.

Roll Call: Council present: Mike Bishop, Pamela McGee, David Gambill, Martin Crain, Jason Cooper, Mayor Kenneth Jones, Attorney Kevin Orr, and City Clerk Billy Dacus. Absent: Wilson Shipman.

Mike Bishop made a motion to approve November 14, 2022, Brookland City Council minutes as written. The motion was seconded by Jason Cooper. Mayor Jones said motion and second and then opened the motion to the council for discussion. Being no discussion, Mayor Jones called for a vote. Mayor Jones announced the motion to accept the minutes passed 5 Yays to 0 Nays.

New Business

Proclamation 2022-P2 – Congratulating Brookland High School Boys Golf Team on the 4A State Championship:

Attorney Kevin Orr read Proclamation 2022 P2 in its entirety. This Proclamation congratulates the Brookland Sr. High School Boys Golf team on their 4A State Championship they achieved on October 3rd. Therefore, making October 3, 2022 “Brookland Bearcat Golf Day”.

Proclamation 2022-P3 – Congratulating Brookland High School Dance Team on the 4A State Championship:

Attorney Kevin Orr read Proclamation 2022 P3 in its entirety. This Proclamation congratulates the Brookland Sr. High School Volleyball team on their 4A State Championship they achieved on November 12th. Therefore, making November 12, 2022 “Brookland Bearcat Dance Day”.

Brookland Parks Committee Update:

David Loggins said the bidding would run in the local papers again for the small parks. David did announce that there may not be a Brookland Parks Committee meeting this month due to a lack of members able to be present. David said he would notify the mayor if the meeting will be cancelled. However, if there is a meeting, it will be on Monday night on December 19 @ 6pm at City Hall.

Review 2021 General and Street Funds Audit reports from The Legislative Audit:

Mayor Jones if the council had the chance to review the audit reports from the Legislative Audit that they received in the mail. They council said that they had, and Mike Bishop made a motion to approve the 2021 General Fund and Street Fund Legislative audit report as written. The motion was seconded by Jason Cooper. Mayor Jones said motion and second and then opened the motion to the council for discussion. Being no discussion, Mayor Jones called for a vote. Mayor Jones announced the motion passed 5 Yays to 0 Nays.

Old Business

Pine Log Road (CR 762) – Traffic Signal Light Cost:

Mayor Jones informed the council that the estimated cost to install the traffic light at Highway 49N and CR 762 would cost over a million dollars. Mayor Jones stated the numbers received did not have any state funds showing in the project. Mayor Jones stated he had spoken with ARDOT Brad Smithee district engineer about why there was NO state monies in the project. Mr.

Smithee said he would meet with us and explain to the county and city why it was only Federal, County, and City. Mr. Smithee stated they were taking another look at the estimated figures to make sure they were correct.

Previous Month's Financials:

Mayor Jones reviewed November's Financial Checking Account Reports. The following are 11-30-2022 ending balances for the main operating checking accounts:

1. General Fund ending balance was \$1,272,089.38
2. Street Fund ending balance was \$244,406.45
3. Utility Fund ending balance was \$481,446.82

Mayor Jones asked the council if they would approve the comp-time payout to the employees that were listed on the handout in the packets. Mike Bishop made a motion to approve the payout hours that were built up for the employees that had comp-time listed. The motion was seconded by Jason Cooper. Mayor Jones said motion and second and then opened the motion to the council for discussion. Being no discussion, Mayor Jones called for a vote. Mayor Jones announced the motion passed 5 Yays to 0 Nays.

Mayor Jones asked the council if they had reviewed and were ready to vote to approve the drafted budgets for the 2023 for the General, Street, and Utility funds. The council said they were.

Attorney Kevin Orr asked the mayor to step out so that the council could discuss the matter of his compensation that was discussed in last month's meeting. After a long discussion on the matter, it was decided that the mayor's position would receive a salary increase that would help offset the lack of insurance paid out by the city for the mayor's position. Since the 2023 budgets were to be approved at this meeting, the line items would be adjusted and then an ordinance would need to be approved in January's meeting adjusting mayors pay. Mayor Jones returned to the meeting. Mike Bishop made a motion to make the adjustment to the 2023 budget line items that would change the mayor's salary line item and remove the insurance paid by the city for the mayor from the health insurance line item. The motion was seconded by Jason Cooper. Mayor Jones said motion and second and then opened the motion to the council for discussion. Being no discussion, Mayor Jones called for a vote. Mayor Jones announced the motion passed 5 Yays to 0 Nays.

Resolution 2022-20:

This is a resolution approving the 2023 annual General, Street, and Utility budgets for the city of Brookland, Arkansas.

Kevin Orr read Resolution 2022-20 in its entirety.

Mike Bishop made a motion to accept Resolution 2022-20 as read. Jason Cooper seconded the motion. Mayor Jones stated motion and second, then opened the motion to the council for discussion. Being none, Mayor Jones called for a vote. Mayor Jones announced the motion to accept Resolution 2022-20 passed by a vote of 5 Yays to 0 Nays.

Mayor Jones said that the city would wait to amend the final 2022 General, Street, and Utility budgets at the January meeting.

Mayor Jones asked if the council had looked at the plans for the new city hall building. Council Members agreed they liked the floor plan. Mayor Jones noted that they would move forward if there were no objections. There were none.

Mayor Jones asked the council to pay Wilson Shipman for December's council meeting since he was sick. Mike Bishop made a motion to do so. Jason Cooper seconded the motion. Mayor Jones stated motion and second, then opened the motion to the council for discussion. Being none, Mayor Jones called for a vote. Mayor Jones announced the motion passed by a vote of 5 Yays to 0 Nays.

It was decided to have the County Judge come to city hall to swear in the new elected officials for 2023. A time and date will be announced later.

Mayor reminded the ones that were going to the winter convention in January that he might not get to go because of jury duty. The mayor said he was still in the process of trying to find out if he could be excused.

Mayor Jones asked if there is anything from the council.

There was none.

Mayor Jones asked if there is anything from the floor?

There was none.

David Gambill made a motion to adjourn. It was seconded by Jason Cooper. Mayor Jones stated motion and second, then called for a vote. Mayor Jones announced the motion to adjourn passed 5 Yays to 0 Nays. The meeting was adjourned at 8:06 pm by Mayor Jones.

Kenneth Jones, Mayor

Billy Dacus, City Clerk/Treasurer