

**Brookland City Council Minutes**  
**February 12, 2018**

Meeting called to order at 7:00 PM by Mayor Jones

Roll Call: Council present: Mike Bishop, Jean Gandy, David Gambill, Wilson Shipman, Martin Crain, Maghen Carpenter, Mayor Kenneth Jones, Attorney Kevin Orr, and City Clerk Billy Dacus.

Mike Bishop made a motion to approve January 8, 2018 Brookland City Council minutes as written. The motion was seconded by David Gambill. Mayor Jones stated motion and second and then opened motion to the council for discussion. Being no discussion, Mayor Jones called for a vote. Mayor Jones announced the motion to accept the city council minutes from January 8, 2018 passed 6 yeas to 0 nays.

**New Business**

**State Aid Street Funding update: Hayes, Eason, & Whitten Creek** – The Mayor read a letter from the Arkansas State Aid Street Committee. The letter stated that the city of Brookland was awarded \$250,000.00 dollars for the overlay projects submitted. This includes Hayes Street from E School to E Mathews; Eason Street from Maple Slough Ditch concrete bridge south to Three Notch Road; and Whitten Creek Road from W School to Stevens Street (CR 740). Martin Crain asked if there was a date set on this project. Mayor Jones stated that the Street Committee would send the city more information later.

**W. Matthews Street widening project; Logan St. to S. Oak St. on hold. Discuss opinions** – Mayor Jones stated that W. Matthews Street from Holman to Church St. is 60' wide. However, W. Matthews from Church St. to Oak St. it is only 30' wide. This is a major traffic concern. It was discussed briefly at one time of making W. Matthews a one-way street but there was too much opposition. The mayor said that he has recently spoken to the land owners on the northside of the narrowed area of the street. He thinks they will be willing to give their ok to place a 36" culvert in that area to widen the street. The mayor will send them a newly written request letter. If they refuse to sign, then the city will need to look at other alternatives. It was also discussed about the speed limit being higher on this street. It is set at 30 mph compared to 20 & 25 mph for other streets. The mayor stated that this may need to be addressed if the street cannot be widened. Mayor Jones also said there are other streets that need to be looked at to be widen in the future.

**Ordinance 2018-02 Ordinance amending 2009-9 adding section to deal with the issue of portable storage containers** - Kevin Orr reads Ordinance 2018-02 1st reading. Mike Bishop makes a motion to suspend the rules and go to the second reading of Ordinance 2018-02 by title only. David Gambill seconds motion. Mayor Jones states motion and second opens motion to suspend the rules to council for discussion. Martin Crain & Wilson Shipman asked questions about the ordinance. City Attorney Kevin Orr pointed out to them that discussion should be about the second reading and the ordinance itself would be discussed after the 3rd and final reading. Being no further discussion Mayor Jones calls for roll call vote. Mike Bishop: Y, Jean Gandy: Y, David Gambill: Y, Wilson Shipman: N, Martin Crain: Y, Maghen Carpenter: Y. Mayor Jones announces the motion to suspend the rules has passed by a vote of 5 yeas to 1 nay; with Wilson Shipman being against.

Kevin Orr reads Ordinance 2018-02 second reading by title only. Mike Bishop makes a motion to suspend the rules and go to the third and final reading of Ordinance 2018-02 by title only. David Gambill seconds motion. Mayor Jones states motion and second opens motion to suspend the rules to council for discussion. Being none, Mayor Jones calls for roll call vote.

Mike Bishop: Y, Jean Gandy: Y, David Gambill: Y, Wilson Shipman: N, Martin Crain: Y, Maghen Carpenter: Y. Mayor Jones announces the motion to suspend the rules has passed by a vote of 5 yeas to 1 nay; with Wilson Shipman being against.

Kevin Orr reads Ordinance 2018-02 third and final reading by title only. Mike Bishop makes a motion to accept Ordinance 2018-02 as read. David Gambill seconds motion. Mayor Jones states motion and second opens Ordinance 2018-02 to council for discussion. Martin Crain asked if there was going to be a variance or grand-fathering in of the units that were already in place inside the city. It was stated by Attorney Kevin Orr that would be decided by the city as to how to handle that situation. Wilson Shipman was confused on what type of building would be included in this ordinance. Attorney Orr read the sections of the ordinance that described the type of portable buildings that were to be prohibited. Being no further discussion Mayor Jones calls for roll call vote. Mike Bishop: Y, Jean Gandy: Y, David Gambill: Y, Wilson Shipman: N, Martin Crain: Y, Maghen Carpenter: Y. Mayor Jones announces Ordinance 2018-02 passed by a vote of 5 yeas to 1 nay; with Wilson Shipman being against.

Mike Bishop makes a motion to accept Emergency Clause as read in Ordinance 2018-02. David Gambill seconds motion. Mayor Jones states motion and second opens to council for discussion. Being none, Mayor Jones calls for a roll call vote: Wilson Shipman: N, Mike Bishop: Y, David Gambill: Y, Martin Crain: Y, Maghen Carpenter: Y, Jean Gandy: Y. Mayor Jones announces vote has passed by a vote of 5 yeas to 1 nay; with Wilson Shipman being against.

### **Old Business**

#### **WIP 2016-01 – well & tank-field project update from Jason MacDonald with Civil Engineering**

**Associates**– Jason MacDonald updated the council on the process of the new well. He stated that the well work of the housing should be done in mid-March and that the line work should be completed by the end of March. Mr. MacDonald stated that the council needs to be thinking about the left-over funds of the project. They need to decide if they want to use the money to do more up-grades to the system or if they want to return the left-over money back to the bond. He stated he could make a list of needed projects and pricing for next meeting, so the council can make their decision. Martin Crain asked if he could list the project in an order of need also.

**Purchase of 401 Holman – Update** – Mayor Jones said land contract was signed Tuesday, February 6, 2018. Ordered appraisal that will be completed next week, and this should be ready for March's meeting.

**Auction of home located at 307 Bernis & other misc. items** – Mayor Jones stated Phillips Auction has given the city a reduced percentage to hold the sale. David Phillips said he would give the city a 10% fee for sale whereas the normal rate would be at 20%. Mr. Phillips also said it would be better to have the auction on April 3, which is a Tuesday because there is not a lot of items and it would be hard to compete against a bigger auction if it was held on a Saturday. There were reserves placed on (3)

different items to be auctioned. Five thousand on the Case 580K backhoe, three thousand on the 2040 John Deere, and twenty-five hundred on the Ford Explorer. The council agreed to these terms.

**Previous Month's Financials** – Mayor Jones reviewed January's Financial Checking Account Reports. The following are 1-31-18 ending balances for the main operating checking accounts:

1. General Fund ending balance was \$198,963.21
2. Street Fund ending balance was \$149,557.33
3. Utility Fund ending balance was \$310,543.71

**Mayor's Notes:**

**State of the City Address** - The Mayor gave his State of the City Address. It is listed below:

*"The City of Brookland took steps to improve the quality of life for its citizens in 2017. Several infrastructure issues were addressed. Land was purchased for a larger park. Water Improvement Project 2016-01 was the largest of these projects and supported by the citizens of Brookland by voting in a two-cent sales tax to pay for the project. Based on a 30-year bond at current revenue from the sales tax, payoff of this note is now at around Twelve years, sewer was extended to Gambill Subdivision by Brookland Utility Department without a rate increase or tax, while maintaining a positive bank balance. Two retention ponds were added on East School Street. These two retention ponds have eliminated widely spread flood events even in a small rain event. The Street department continued to work on street widening, street drainage ditch issues, and overlays.*

*Brookland School added a 1,200-seat auditorium. Brookland School plays a vital role in the stability of Brookland's future. Because it's academically solid, it continues to bring families into our city and community.*

*Brookland is working on its first Tornado Storm Shelter. Sidewalks are being installed to insure children have a safe way to school and our citizens can move around our city without being in traffic. F*

*With all these projects already in process. Our financial reports improving monthly. With the 2020 Census a couple years away. City of Brookland future is solid and bright."*

**Petition Annexation** - Mayor Jones told the council he laid two sheets on the table for them to review. One is the Petition Annexation that Judge Hill signed on February 1, 2018 and the second is a sheet with date, time, and place of the public hearing in the matter of the annexation. The day will be March 12, 2018 at 9:00 am in Room 119 at the Craighead County Courthouse at 511 Union Street in Jonesboro.

**HAVE-A-HEART WISH-A-THON** – Mayor Jones announced that the Northeast Arkansas Make-A-Wish Foundation would be holding their annual Have-A-Heart Wish-A-Thon this Friday, February 16. There would be road blocks set-up in Brookland and if anyone wanted to help to see Shelby Pfeifer before Friday.

**Mayor Jones ask if there is anything from the council?** Martin Crain brought up that there was a problem with the appearance of the recycling place in Brookland. He claimed it was very unsightly and thought that there needed to be a fence put up to hide it. David Gambill agreed with Mr. Crain in saying it was mess to view. Mayor Jones stated he would contact the owners the let them know something was needed to be done.

**Mayor Jones ask if there is anything from the floor?** There was no discussion.

Wilson Shipman made a motion to adjourn. It was seconded by Maghen Carpenter. Mayor Jones stated motion and second, then called for a vote. Mayor Jones announced motion to adjourn passed 6 yeas to 0 nays. Meeting adjourned at 8:05 PM by Mayor Jones.

Kenneth Jones, Mayor

Billy Dacus, City Clerk/Treasurer