

Brookland City Council Minutes
August 12, 2019

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

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

Mike Bishop made a motion to approve July 8, 2019 Brookland City Council minutes as written. The motion was seconded by Jason Cooper. 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 July 8, 2019 passed 6 Yays to 0 Nays.

New Business

Vector Disease Control – Jim Stark –

Mr. Stark passed out the Mosquito Surveillance and Control Report for the month of July. He stated that they set several traps trying to gauge the mosquito population. He noted that when the temperature is very high, the spraying doesn't work as efficiently. Jim said they would probably wait a few days to being spraying again. Andrea Alley a visitor asked if the spray affects trees. Jim noted that it did not harm the trees.

NEA Transportation presentation –

Alan Pillow was here representing the Northeast Arkansas Regional Transportation Planning Commission (N.A.R.T.P.C.) that serves as the Metropolitan Planning Organization (MPO) for the region. He stated that they are responsible for helping plan and program federal planning funds for transportation improvement projects within the region. He asked the council and the other people present to participate in an exercise before they left that would help identify the people's opinion of needs for the region.

Review Ordinance for animal waste clean-up -

Mayor Jones passed out a copy of the newly drafted ordinance that establishes requirements for the proper disposal of pet solid waste in the city of Brookland. He asked the council to review it and if there is anything that needs to be amended, it can be discussed at next month's meeting.

Discuss removing stop signs on Stevens, Lynch, & S. Oak -

Council member Wilson Shipman brought up the possibility of removing the stop signs on Stevens street to allow the traffic to be continuous. Mr. Shipman stated that he had been approached by different citizens asking if this could be addressed. There were where several patrons, council members, and Brookland officers that thought this would be a bad idea. It was noted that even though traffic sometimes doesn't always stop like they should, it did slow the traffic down. After a lengthy discussion of the pros and cons; and considering that there is a lot of pedestrian traffic, it was decided to leave the signs up.

Ordinance 2019-08 - Allow the city of Brookland Administration, Street, & Utility to do business with Blair Auto Sales. Jerry Blair serves on the Planning Commission.

Kevin Orr read Ordinance 2019-08 in its entirety. Mike Bishop made a motion to suspend the rules and go to the second reading of Ordinance 2019-08 by title only. Lacey Elder seconded the motion. Mayor Jones stated motion and second, then opened the motion to suspend the rules to council for discussion.

Being no discussion, Mayor Jones called for a vote. Mayor Jones announced the motion to suspend the rules and go to the second reading of Ordinance 2019-08 by title only passed 6 Yays to 0 Nays.

Kevin Orr read Ordinance 2019-08 second reading by title only. Mike Bishop made a motion to suspend the rules and go to the third and final reading of Ordinance 2019-08 by title only. Lacey Elder seconded the motion. Mayor Jones stated motion and second, then opened the motion to suspend the rules to council for discussion. Being no discussion, Mayor Jones called for a vote. Mayor Jones announced the motion to suspend the rules and go to the third and final reading of Ordinance 2019-08 by title only passed 6 Yays to 0 Nays.

Kevin Orr read Ordinance 2019-08 third and final reading by title only. Mike Bishop made a motion to accept Ordinance 2019-08 as read. Lacey Elder seconded the motion. Mayor Jones stated motion and second, then opened Ordinance 2019-08 to council for discussion. Being no discussion, Mayor Jones asked for a roll call vote. Mike Bishop: Y, Lacey Elder: Y, David Gambill: Y, Wilson Shipman: Y, Martin Crain: Y, Jason Cooper: Y. Mayor Jones announced that motion to adopt Ordinance 2019-08 had passed by a vote of 6 Yays to 0 Nays.

Mike Bishop made a motion to accept the Emergency Clause as read in Ordinance 2019-08. Jason Cooper seconded the motion. Mayor Jones stated motion and second, 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 Emergency Clause as read in Ordinance 2019-08 passed 6 Yays to 0 Nays.

Resolution 2019-09 - Amending General, Street, & Utility Budgets -

Attorney Kevin Orr read Resolution 2019-09 in its entirety. This resolution is to amend the General, Street, and Utility fund budgets for 2019 for the city of Brookland, Arkansas. Mike Bishop made a motion to accept Resolution 2019-09 as read. Jason Cooper seconded the motion. Mayor Jones stated motion and second, then opened the motion to the council for discussion on each fund. Being none, Mayor Jones called for a vote. Mayor Jones announced the motion to accept Resolution 2019-09 passed by a vote of 6 Yays to 0 Nays.

Steve Beck – Re: yard damaged/ruts due to water leak repair @102 Adam -

Steve Beck was sitting in the attendance and stated that the damage has been fixed and that the utility department did a good job on the repairs.

Policy for Storm Shelter-

Mayor Jones noted to the council that a Storm Shelter Policy needs to be set in place. He stated that people who have pets might want to bring them inside the shelter during the storms. The Mayor noted there could be other things that may need to be considered also. After input from several people and council members, it was decided to check into other towns policies before making one for the city of Brookland. This will be discussed again at a later meeting.

Resolution 2019-10 Outdoor Recreation Grant from AR Dept. of Parks-Bernis.

Due to this item not being ready, this will be discussed at a special meeting Monday, August 19, 2019 at 7:00 pm.

Resolution 2019-11 Parks Grant - Nelms.

Due to this item not being ready, this will be discussed at a special meeting Monday, August 19, 2019 at 7:00 pm.

Old Business

Previous Month's Financials – Mayor Jones reviewed July's Financial Checking Account Reports. The following are 7-31-19 ending balances for the main operating checking accounts:

1. General Fund ending balance was \$131,403.00
2. Street Fund ending balance was \$124,343.17
3. Utility Fund ending balance was \$349,649.87

Mayor's Notes:

✓ **Tear down and remove the traveling bridge filter:**

The Mayor noted to the council that the old traveling bridge filtration system needed to be dismantled and removed. This device was used for filtering the wastewater in the past. He stated that it is no longer in use and is taking up room. The city has tried in the past to sell the traveling bridge to no avail. Since the unit is now rusted and old, it would be better to have someone cut it up for scrap and take it away. He was asking for the council permission to bid this process out.

Martin Crain made a motion to allow Mayor Jones to bid the process of tearing down and removing of the traveling bridge filter. David Gambill seconded the motion. Mayor Jones stated motion and second, then opened the motion to the council for discussion. Martin Crain asked how much scrap iron might be in this filter. It was noted that there probably won't be a lot, no one new exactly how much at this time. Being no further discussion, Mayor Jones called for a vote. Mayor Jones announced the motion passed by a vote of 6 Yays to 0 Nays.

✓ **Veterans Memorial: Location?**

Mayor asked the council they had thought of a place for the Veterans Memorial location. There were several ideas mention including putting the memorial at the future site of the city ball parks. It was noted that buying land along Highway 49 would be very expensive for the size of the fields needed.

✓ **2020 Census: Form Correct Count Committee.**

Mayor Jones stated that a Correct Count Committee needed to be formed for the 2020 Census. This committee would help oversee that the 2020 census count here in Brookland runs smoothly. Mayor Jones had three names he would like to submit for the committee for now, with others added later. The names on the Mayor's list was Lacey Elder, Samantha Sparks, and Billy Dacus.

Martin Crain made a motion to allow Lacey Elder, Samantha Sparks, and Billy Dacus to serve on this committee. David Gambill seconded the motion. Mayor Jones stated motion and second, then opened the motion to the council for discussion. Being no discussion, Mayor Jones called for a vote. Mayor Jones announced the motion passed by a vote of 6 Yays to 0 Nays.

Mayor Jones ask if there is anything from the council? There was none.

Mayor Jones ask if there is anything from the floor? Kimberly Shelby addressed the council about a city ordinance dealing with privacy fences and the zoning and planning book. Attorney Kevin Orr reminded Mrs. Shelby that if she has a dispute with an adjacent property, that it is a civil matter. The city is not allowed to be involved. Mrs. Shelby stated it is not about the current fence. I want the city to enforce Article 6 when commercial land connects to residential. In this section there is a requirement that Visual screening such as fencing or vegetation of at least 6 ft. in height is required for those portions of the commercial property adjacent to the residential district. In addition, all exterior lighting shall be

designed and directed such that it will not project into adjacent residential districts. City Attorney Kevin Orr stated he had just received the complaint form filled out by Mrs. Shelby when he arrived at city council meeting tonight. Mayor Jones stated it was after 4 pm when it was received by city hall. City attorney Kevin Orr said he would review complaint. Mayor Jones stated he had asked Attorney Orr to meet with him on Friday to discuss this issue.

Andrea Alley asked when the new parks were going to be built. Mayor Jones said that it was in the process and that's the reason for getting the grants finished before September.

Water/Wastewater Superintendent Tim Harrington introduced Shane Rebel Isaacson to the council. Rebel is the newest city employee that helps in the utility department.

Wilson Shipman made a motion to adjourn. It was seconded by Martin Crain. Mayor Jones stated motion and second, then called for a vote. Mayor Jones announced motion to adjourn passed 6 Yays to 0 Nays. The meeting was adjourned at 8:13pm by Mayor Jones.

Kenneth Jones, Mayor

Billy Dacus, City Clerk/Treasurer