

**Brookland City Council Minutes**  
**November 8, 2021**

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

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

Mike Bishop made a motion to approve October 11, 2021, Brookland City Council minutes as written. The motion was seconded by David Gambill. Mayor Jones stated 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 city council minutes from October 11, 2021, passed 5 Yays to 0 Nays.

Mike Bishop made a motion to approve October 14, 2021, Brookland City Council Special Meeting minutes as written. The motion was seconded by David Gambill. Mayor Jones stated 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 city council special meeting minutes from October 14, 2021, passed 5 Yays to 0 Nays.

Mayor Jones asked the council if he could add a new item to the agenda. Jenna Adams from the Municipal League was present at the meeting and needed to address the council. Mike Bishop made a motion to add Jenna Adams to the agenda. The motion was seconded by David Gambill. Mayor Jones stated 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.

**New Business**

**Jenna Adams – Arkansas Municipal League:**

Jenna Adams, Attorney at Law for the Arkansas Municipal League addressed the council about the legal dispute between the City of Brookland v. Darrin & Karla Block. Ms. Adams noted that the plaintiff's attorney has made a settlement offer in the above referenced of \$9,000. She noted that it is her obligation to relay all settlement offers to the city, and this was not a recommendation that the city accept this offer. Jenna said she could answer questions but would be limited because of the ongoing litigation. After some discussion between council members, Mayor Jones, and Ms. Adams, Martin Crain made a motion to make a counteroffer for \$2500. That motion failed for a lack of a second. After a lengthier discussion that included the pros and cons of a counteroffer, Martin Crain again made a motion to offer the Blocks a counter settlement of \$2500. This time the motion was seconded by David Gambill. Mayor Jones stated motion and second and then opened the motion to the council for any further discussion. Being none, Mayor Jones called for a vote. Mayor Jones announced the motion to offer the Blocks a counter settlement of \$2500 passed 4 Yays to 1 Nay.

**Vector Disease Control - Monthly Report:**

Mayor Jones said that he had the final monthly report from Vector Disease Control if anyone wanted to look or read it. He reviewed some of the contents of the report to the council.

**Brookland Parks Committee Update:**

David Loggins announced that there was no major update but did note the Sports Complex property purchase was finalized. He also announced that there would be a Brookland Parks Committee meeting Monday night on November 15 @ 6pm at City Hall. He said he would like to invite everyone to attend.

**Ordinance 2021-19 - Ordinance for Brookland Hills Subdivision Phase 4 Irrevocable standby letter of credit:**

*This is an ordinance accepting street, sewer, water improvements in phase 4 of Brookland Hills subdivision and matter relating thereto.*

Mayor Jones read Ordinance 2021-19 in its entirety. Mike Bishop made a motion to suspend the rules and go to the second reading of Ordinance 2021-19 by title only. David Gambill 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 2021-19 by title only passed 5 Yays to 0 Nays.

Mayor Jones read Ordinance 2021-19 second reading by title only. Mike Bishop made a motion to suspend the rules and go to the third and final reading of Ordinance 2021-19 by title only. David Gambill 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 2021-19 by title only passed 5 Yays to 0 Nays.

Mayor Jones read Ordinance 2021-19 third and final reading by title only. Mike Bishop made a motion to accept Ordinance 2021-19 as read. David Gambill seconded the motion. Mayor Jones stated motion and second, then opened Ordinance 2021-19 to council for discussion. Wilson Shipman asked the mayor what the ordinance meant. The mayor noted that the city was accepting the improvements base on a letter of accreditation from Brookland Hills developers. Being no further discussion, Mayor Jones asked for a roll call vote. Mike Bishop: Y, Wilson Shipman: Y, Martin Crain: Y, David Gambill: Y, Pamela McGee: Y. Mayor Jones announced that Ordinance 2021-19 had passed by a vote of 5 Yays to 0 Nays.

Mike Bishop made a motion to accept the Emergency Clause as read in Ordinance 2021-19. 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 to accept the Emergency Clause as read in Ordinance 2021-19 passed 5 Yays to 0 Nays.

Mayor Jones asked for a short recess to set up the monitor to display the next item on the agenda.

Wilson Shipman made a motion to take a five-minute break. 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 passed 5 Yays to 0 Nays. Council recessed at 7:45 PM.

Mike Bishop made a motion to go back in session. 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 passed 5 Yays to 0 Nays. Council back in session at 7:52 PM.

**Draft Ward changes based on 2020 Census count:** Mayor Jones informed the council that the ward maps would have to change some due to the 2020 Census count. The goal is to have an evenly number of the population in each ward. The mayor showed the council several different options on dividing the wards on the television monitor. He noted that no decision was needed to be made at this time. He hopes to have color printed maps for next month's meeting.

### **Old Business**

#### **Previous Month's Financials:**

Mayor Jones reviewed both October's Financial Checking Account Reports. The following are 10-31-2021 ending balances for the main operating checking accounts:

1. General Fund ending balance was \$496,336.19
2. Street Fund ending balance was \$368,573.70
3. Utility Fund ending balance was \$386,381.43

#### **Update on property at 247 Brady Lane:**

Mayor Jones stated that the property closed last week.

#### **Mayor's Notes:**

- ✓ *2022 Budgets Update*– Mayor Jones passed out the 2022 Budgets to the council. He asked the council to review them and be prepared to vote on them in December's meeting.

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

#### **Mayor Jones ask if there is anything from the floor?**

Rickey Metcalf of 112 Nelms St. addressed the council about a problem his family was having with dogs in the neighborhood without leashes. He said the dogs were somewhat aggressive with growling. He said that he would fill-out and sign an affidavit stating that the dogs were a nuisance. Mr. Metcalf asked the council and the city for their help with the situation. Mayor Jones said that he would let the police department know of the issue. The council thanked Rickey for making them aware of the problem and it would be addressed.

Wilson Shipman made a motion to adjourn. It was seconded by David Gambill. 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 8:19 pm by Mayor Jones.

Kenneth Jones, Mayor

Billy Dacus, City Clerk/Treasurer