

Brookland City Council Minutes
September 12, 2022

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

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

A moment of silence was held in remembrance of Street Supervisor, Billy Pirtle who passed away September 2, 2022.

Mike Bishop made a motion to approve August 8, 2022, Brookland City Council minutes as written. The motion was seconded by David Gambill. 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 6 Yays to 0 Nays.

New Business

Brookland Parks Committee Update:

David Loggins announced that there would be a Brookland Parks Committee meeting Monday night on September 19 @ 6pm at City Hall. He also noted that the opening bids for the sports complex would be held at the City Hall on September 13 at 2 pm.

Vector Disease Control - Jim Stark:

Jim Stark passed out the reports for the month of August. He summarized the information to the council. Jim noted that things were starting to slow down for the year since most of the rice fields have been drained. He said that they would keep spraying with the company trucks while needed but the aerial spraying was done.

Act 605 of 2021(The Water Bill) requires mandatory training for municipal water provider board (City Council); exception is 10 years prior service:

Mayor Jones told the council that there would be an upcoming training session for the newer council members pertaining to the water bill process of the city in the coming months. The council members who had been in office longer would be exempted from the process.

Old Business

Previous Month's Financials:

Mayor Jones reviewed August's Financial Checking Account Reports. The following are 8-31-2022 ending balances for the main operating checking accounts:

1. General Fund ending balance was \$1,060,613.16
2. Street Fund ending balance was \$461,659.23
3. Utility Fund ending balance was \$472,894.89

Concrete trucks blocking streets while pouring concrete; can city require a permit:

Since Attorney Kevin Orr couldn't attend the meeting, this item was tabled until later. No action was taken.

Food trucks in the city:

Since Attorney Kevin Orr couldn't attend the meeting, this item was tabled until later. No action was taken.

Campers in the city:

Since Attorney Kevin Orr couldn't attend the meeting, this item was tabled until later. No action was taken.

Ordinance 2022-14 - Amend number of Planning Commission members to allow 6:

This is an ordinance to amend section 1 of Ordinance 2008-18 to allow more than five members to the city of Brookland Planning Commission.

Mayor Jones read Ordinance 2022-14 in its entirety.

Mike Bishop made a motion to go to the second reading of Ordinance 2022-14 by title only. 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 go to the second reading of Ordinance 2022-14 by title only passed 6 Yays to 0 Nays.

Mayor Jones read the second reading of Ordinance 2022-14 by title only.

Mike Bishop made a motion to go to the third and final reading of Ordinance 2022-14 by title only. 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 go to the third and final reading of Ordinance 2022-14 by title only passed 6 Yays to 0 Nays.

Mayor Jones read the third and final reading of Ordinance 2022-14 by title only.

Mike Bishop made a motion to accept Ordinance 2022-14 as read. Jason Cooper seconded the motion. Mayor Jones stated motion and second, then opened Ordinance 2022-14 to council for discussion. Being none, Mayor Jones asked for a roll call vote. Mike Bishop: Y, Wilson Shipman: Y, Martin Crain: Y, David Gambill: Y, Pamela McGee: Y, Jason Cooper: Y. Mayor Jones announced that Ordinance 2022-14 had passed by a vote of 6 Yays to 0 Nays.

Mike Bishop made a motion to accept the Emergency Clause in section 2 as read in Ordinance 2022-14. 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 2022-14 passed 6 Yays to 0 Nays.

Mayor's notes

The mayor noted that the 2020-2021 Utility Fund audit was a success. The final report would be coming out soon.

The mayor also noted that the Legislative audit for the Street and General Funds was scheduled to begin Monday, September 19, 2022.

Danny Stallings the new Animal Control/Code Enforcement Officer introduced himself to the council. He noted that he was retired from the Jonesboro Police Department and was looking forward to working in the Brookland system.

K-9 Officer Josh Whitley gave the council an update on the K-9 dog that the city would be getting in the future. He said that the dog would have to be trained first and the city was hopeful that the K-9 could be on the force at the beginning of the new 2023 year. Josh said about half of the money has been raised and the process was still on going to raise the other half. Mayor Jones stated that Brookland Police Department had raised over 2/3 of the money. However, in order to get the police dog on order, Brookland PD had to pay half of the cost to order the dog for the next deliveries. The K-9 Fund needed a little help to cover the cost to order the dog. Brookland PD has a couple fund raisers scheduled and officers were concerned about committing to purchasing the K-9, not knowing for sure if there would be adequate funds available when the final amount came due. Mayor Jones said he committed to city covering funds to finish paying for dog in case they came up lacking on their final amount owed. Mayor Jones asked the council to support his position of support for the K9 police dog. All council members agreed to cover balance of payment on police dog if funds were not there from fund raising efforts.

Mayor Jones asked if there is anything from the council?

Pamela McGee asked about a problem she heard about with the sewer backing-up at the school. The mayor noted that it wasn't a major problem; it had to do with the school construction going on in their area.

Mayor Jones asked if there is anything from the floor?

There was none.

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 the motion to adjourn passed 6 Yays to 0 Nays. The meeting was adjourned at 7:37 pm by Mayor Jones.

Kenneth Jones, Mayor

Billy Dacus, City Clerk/Treasurer