



City of Brookland, Arkansas City Council Meeting Minutes

Date of Meeting: December 10, 2024

Type of Meeting: Regular

Called to order at 7:00 PM by Mayor Kenneth Jones

| COUNCIL MEMBER ATTENDANCE: (P = Present A = Absent) | | | | | |
|------------------------------------------------------------|----------|----------------|----------|---------------------------|----------|
| David Gambill | A | Jason Cooper | P | Mayor Kenneth Jones | P |
| Pamela McGee | P | David Loggins | P | Attorney Kevin Orr | P |
| Candice Bishop | P | Wilson Shipman | P | Clerk/Treas. Julie Thomas | P |

Previous meeting minutes:

Motion by: David Loggins

Second by: Jason Cooper

To: Approve the Brookland City Council meeting minutes dated November 12, 2024, as presented, with corrections of roll call votes added for Ordinance 2024-21 and Ordinance 2024-22

Discussion: None

For: 5 Against: 0 Motion: Passed 5-0

Approve Amended Regular Meeting Agenda:

Motion by: David Loggins

Second by: Jason Cooper

To: Approve regular meeting amended agenda as presented

Discussion: None

For: 5 Against: 0 Motion: Passed 5-0

New Business:

1. Proclamation 2024-P-2 for Brookland Lady Volleyball State Champions:

Motion by: David Loggins

Second by: Candice Bishop

To: Approve Proclamation 2024-P2 as read

Discussion: None

For: 5 Against: 0 Motion: Passed 5-0

2. Update on HWY 49 & School St. intersection; Pine Log Rd. intersection:

Mayor Jones notified the council of no changes or updates on these items.

3. Ordinance 2024-24 – Ordinance for placement of stop signs on W. School and N. Hickory:

*Attorney Kevin Orr read aloud Ordinance 2024-24 entirely for the 1st reading

Motion by: David Loggins

Second by: Pamela McGee

To: Suspend the rules and go to the 2nd reading of Ordinance 2024-24 by titles only

Discussion: None

For: 5 Against: 0 Motion: Passed 5-0

*Attorney Kevin Orr read aloud Ordinance 2024-24 for the 2nd reading by titles only

Motion by: David Loggins

Second by: Jason Cooper

To: Suspend the rules and go to the 3rd and final reading of Ordinance 2024-24 by titles only

Discussion: None

For: 5 Against: 0 Motion: Passed 5-0

*Attorney Kevin Orr read aloud Ordinance 2024-24 for the 3rd and final reading by titles only

Motion by: David Loggins

Second by: Jason Cooper

To: Adopt Ordinance 2024-24 as read

Discussion: None

For: 5 Against: 0 Motion: Passed 5-0

| ROLL CALL VOTE: | | | | | |
|-----------------|-----|----------------|-----|----------------|-----|
| David Gambill | | Candice Bishop | Yes | David Loggins | Yes |
| Pamela McGee | Yes | Jason Cooper | Yes | Wilson Shipman | Yes |

Motion by: David Loggins

Second by: Jason Cooper

To: Adopt emergency clause in Article 2 of Ordinance 2024-24 as read

Discussion: None

For: 5 Against: 0 Motion: Passed 5-0

| ROLL CALL VOTE: | | | | | |
|-----------------|-----|----------------|-----|----------------|-----|
| David Gambill | | Candice Bishop | Yes | David Loggins | Yes |
| Pamela McGee | Yes | Jason Cooper | Yes | Wilson Shipman | Yes |

4. Form a depository board – Mayor, Clerk, and council member chosen by city council:

Mayor Jones informed the council of the need to create a depository board. The depository board must consist of the mayor, city clerk, and one council member. Jones asked the council to nominate any council member who would like to participate. After discussion, council members who were nominated were: Pamela McGee, Candice Bishop, and David Loggins. The following votes were received: Pamela McGee – 4 votes, Candice Bishop – 3 votes, and David Loggins – 3 votes. Pamela McGee accepted the position after receiving the most votes.

5. Vector Disease Control – 3-year contract:

Mayor Jones informed the council that it is time to consider the renewal of the Vector Disease Control mosquito abatement contract. However, due to errors contained in the presented contract from Vector Disease Control, this issue will be reconsidered next month. Jones stated that he would contact Vector to clarify and amend the length of the contract, as well as, the proposed cost.

6. Resolution 2024-25 – Request 15’ ROW for Craighead Electric to build line:

*Attorney Kevin Orr read aloud Resolution 2024-25 entirely

Motion by: David Loggins

Second by: Pamela McGee

To: Adopt Resolution 2024-25 as read

Discussion: None

For: 5 Against: 0 Motion: Passed 5-0

7. Resolution 2024-26 – Adopting 2025 General, Street, and Utility Fund Operating Budgets:

*Attorney Kevin Orr read aloud Resolution 2024-26 entirely

Motion by: David Loggins

Second by: Pamela McGee

To: Adopt Resolution 2024-26 as read

Discussion: None

For: 5 Against: 0 Motion: Passed 5-0

8. Food Trucks in City:

Mayor Jones informed the council about the draft ordinance to allow food trucks to operate within the City of Brookland. Jones asked the council to review the draft ordinance for changes and possible adoption at a later date. Steve Phillips, chairman of the Brookland Planning and Zoning Commission, spoke to the council about the ongoing interest in food truck operation from businessmen and women at planning and zoning meetings. After some discussion, it was decided that this issue will be tabled until next month, giving the council time to review the draft ordinance.

9. Resolution 2024-27 – Resolution Expressing the willingness of the City of Brookland to utilize state aid street monies for the following project:

*Attorney Kevin Orr read aloud Resolution 2024-27 entirely

Motion by: David Loggins

Second by: Jason Cooper

To: Adopt Resolution 2024-27 as read

Discussion: None

For: 5 Against: 0 Motion: Passed 5-0

Old Business:

10. Parks Committee Update:

David Loggins, Parks Committee Chairman, was present to give the council an update on the status of the city parks. Loggins explained that there are still a few things to be done, however, there has been significant progress, and the small parks should be opened to the public soon.

11. ARDOT sidewalk project 101143 updates:

Mayor Jones informed the council that there is a way to complete the sidewalk project and bypass the ROW on the properties where owners required payment. Jones explained that because of a manhole along the path of the proposed sidewalk, the city is investigating a different way to complete the project. Jones added that ARDOT approval is required. This issue will be addressed at a later meeting when more information is available.

12. Ordinance 2024-21 – Setting water rates starting 1/1/2025 (3rd and final reading by titles only):

Motion by: David Loggins

Second by: Pamela McGee

To: Suspend the rules and read aloud Ordinance 2024-21 - 3rd and final reading by titles only

Discussion: None

For: 5 Against: 0 Motion: Passed 5-0

*Attorney Kevin Orr read aloud Ordinance 2024-21 for 3rd and final reading by titles only

Motion by: David Loggins

Second by: Jason Cooper

To: Adopt Ordinance 2024-21 as read

Discussion: None

For: 5 Against: 0 Motion: Passed 5-0

| ROLL CALL VOTE: | | | | | |
|-----------------|-----|----------------|-----|----------------|-----|
| David Gambill | | Candice Bishop | Yes | David Loggins | Yes |
| Pamela McGee | Yes | Jason Cooper | Yes | Wilson Shipman | Yes |

13. Ordinance 2024-22 - Setting wastewater rates starting 1/1/2025 (3rd and final reading by titles only):

Motion by: David Loggins

Second by: Jason Cooper

To: Suspend the rules and read aloud Ordinance 2024-22 - 3rd and final reading by titles only

Discussion: None

For: 5 Against: 0 Motion: Passed 5-0

*Attorney Kevin Orr read aloud Ordinance 2024-22 for 3rd and final reading by titles only

Motion by: David Loggins

Second by: Jason Cooper

To: Adopt Ordinance 2024-22

Discussion: None

For: 5 Against: 0 Motion: Passed 5-0

| ROLL CALL VOTE: | | | | | |
|-----------------|-----|----------------|-----|----------------|-----|
| David Gambill | | Candice Bishop | Yes | David Loggins | Yes |
| Pamela McGee | Yes | Jason Cooper | Yes | Wilson Shipman | Yes |

14. Monthly financials for General, Street, and Utility Funds:

| November 2024 | General Fund: | Street Fund: | Utility Fund: |
|---------------------------|---------------|--------------|---------------|
| Beginning Balance: | \$970,285.61 | \$346,914.12 | \$511,461.15 |
| Ending Balance: | \$920,696.33 | \$356,545.71 | \$513,644.71 |

*Mayor Jones explained to the council why the General Fund has decreased. The City of Brookland was awarded a mitigation grant to clean out the Maple Slough ditch. The grant is a refundable grant in the amount of \$300,000.00, with a 25% match. To date, the City of Brookland has not been reimbursed any funds that have been paid for work completed. The City has spent around \$160,000.

Mayor's Notes:

- **Discuss Park Hours open at sunrise, close at sunset:**
Mayor Jones advised the council that the proposed park hours for the city parks will include opening at sunrise and closing at sunset. The council had no opposition to this.

- **Mayor Jones asked the council to pay David Gambill for absence of regular monthly meeting. Gambill was sick and could not attend. This is per Ordinance 2023-22, Setting Council Pay, Section 4:**
Motion by: David Loggins
Second by: Jason Cooper
To: Pay Council member David Gambill for absence of regular monthly meeting
Discussion: None
For: 5 Against: 0 Motion: Passed 5-0

- **City of Brookland Police Chief, Jon Moore (PD open positions and salaries):**
Jon Moore, City of Brookland Police Chief, was present to speak to the council about the current police department shortage of 2 full-time officers. Moore explained that one of the full-time officers went back to work for the department that BPD had just hired them from because of a better salary package. Moore went on to say that the BPD had been asked to look at hiring a 3rd SRO by Brookland Public Schools. Moore urged the council to consider amending the existing salary package in order to recruit and retain qualified officers with a competitive benefits package. Moore explained that the Arkansas State Police, Arkansas State University Police Department, Craighead County Sheriff's Department, and two other larger cities have increased the salary package for their police officers. The council asked Moore to present the current salary range as well as a proposal for salary and benefits package that could be more lucrative to current and prospective police officers.

Mayor Jones asked for a motion to adjourn the meeting.

Motion by: Wilson Shipman

Second by: David Loggins

To: Adjourn the meeting

For: 5 Against: 0 Motion: Passed 5-0

Meeting adjourned at: 8:40 PM

Kenneth Jones, Mayor

Julie Thomas, City Clerk/Treasurer