



City of Brookland, Arkansas City Council Meeting Minutes

Date of Meeting: October 14, 2025

Type of Meeting: Regular

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

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

Previous meeting minutes:

Motion by: Jason Cooper

Second by: David Gambill

To: Approve the Brookland City Council meeting minutes dated September 9, 2025, as written

Discussion: None

For: 6 **Against:** 0 **Motion: Passed 6-0**

New Business:

1. Vector Disease Control – Mosquito Report:

Mayor Jones explained that there is no monthly report available to review, however, he said he would try to get an end of season report to review next month.

2. Destiny Rackley – wants to speak to the council:

Destiny Rackley, Brookland resident, was present to thank the council for their support for sidewalk additions around the city. Rackley also asked the mayor and council about the possibility of Immigration and Customs Enforcement (ICE) working in the Brookland area in the future. Mayor Jones said he has not been notified of the possibility for that to happen at this time.

3. Julia Childers – wants to speak to the council:

No one was present to speak on this issue.

4. Jason Jackson – Discuss cleanup of 127 Brady Ln:

No one was present to speak on this issue.

5. Brittaney Lane – SRO Officer – discuss K-9 for high school:

Brittaney Lane, Brookland High School SRO, came before the council to ask for support to pursue the addition of a K-9 unit to work alongside her at the high school. Lane spoke about her pride in working to ensure the safety of all Brookland students and explained some of the potential benefits from

utilizing a K-9 unit. Lane also discussed the desire to be proactive in the efforts of ensuring safety at school, rather than just being punitive. Lane informed the council that she is willing to work and raise 100% of the funds needed to help with the purchase and upkeep of a K-9 unit. Lane stated that she has received verbal support from Brookland School faculty, parents, and community partners. Council members asked about the costs, upkeep, handling, and service life of a K-9. Lane explained some of the expenses in obtaining a K-9 unit, both upfront and ongoing, and added that a K-9 has an average service life of 6-8 years.

Jon Moore, Chief of Police for the City of Brookland, joined the conversation and helped answer some questions. Council member McGee asked if the K-9 would be used only for the school or the community, or both. Lane answered that it would mainly be for the school, however, the potential for both school and community is possible. Council member Sipes asked Lane what would happen to the K-9 unit should Lane decide to leave her employment with the City of Brookland. Moore answered and Mayor Jones added that in that situation, the K-9 unit would belong to the city.

Jansen Settlemoir, Captain of the Brookland Police Department, joined the conversation to advise the council about the process of acquiring, training, and implementing a K-9 unit. Settlemoir noted that this process could take over a year or more to complete. Settlemoir also discussed that the police department and Officer Lane have just begun this process and still have some investigating to do regarding the legalities of search procedures by the K-9 unit. Council member Shipman asked about using money from the City of Brookland to fund the K-9 unit. Mayor Jones answered that, at this time, the city currently has expenses for one K-9 unit and is not able to budget for an additional one. Officer Lane reiterated that she is willing to raise the funds needed to implement a K-9 unit and has already been given verbal support from the community.

George Kennedy, Brookland School District Superintendent, joined the conversation to address the council and others present. Kennedy noted that the school currently has a K-9 unit they are funding and added that the school board has stated that, although the board is always in support of student safety and wellbeing, they cannot commit to funding an additional K-9 unit at this time or in the near future. Council member Shipman asked Kennedy about the length of time remaining for the school's current K-9 and the cost of possible replacement. Kennedy answered that their K-9, Ozzy, should have another couple of years of service remaining. Kennedy also added that upon retirement of Ozzy, the board would then have to consider whether or not to replace him with another K-9 unit. The council asked Officer Lane to attend the next regular monthly meeting, in November, to update on questions that were raised over the legalities of search procedures and any other information obtained. Lane agreed.

6. Resolution 2025-18 – setting real estate and personal property millage:

Kevin Orr read aloud Resolution 2025-18 aloud in its entirety.

Motion by: Jason Cooper

Second by: David Gambill

To: Approve Resolution 2025-18 as read

Discussion: None

For: 6 **Against:** 0 **Motion:** Passed 6-0

Old Business:

1. Sportsplex update:

Mayor Jones gave the council an update on the Sportsplex project. Jones indicated that he had not yet heard from the Community Assistance Grant. Jones stated that the city should find out something next month regarding the grant.

2. Municipal Building Project update:

Michael Bishop, City of Brookland Engineer, updated the council on the status of the Municipal Building project. He went over the hard structures that have been added and the components that are complete.

3. ARDOT – November meeting reminder:

Mayor Jones reminded the council about the ARDOT meeting on November 13 at the Brookland High School Auditorium regarding intersection upgrades. Jones added that city leaders, city council members, school administrators, board members, and county officials are invited from 3:00-4:00 PM, and the meeting will open to the public from 4:30-6:00 PM.

4. Chad Waggoner – water meter box lid:

Mayor Jones told the council that Chad Waggoner, property owner in the City of Brookland, had recently submitted a check for replacement of a damaged water meter lid. Jones indicated that Waggoner still believes he is not responsible for the damaged lid but asked Mayor Jones to appeal to the council about liability. Council members all agreed that Waggoner, as the property owner, is solely responsible for the cost to replace a damaged lid, in accordance with city Ordinance.

5. Monthly Financials for General, Street, and Utility Funds:

September 2025	General Fund:	Street Fund:	Utility Fund:
Beginning Balance:	\$571,029.12	\$128,369.77	\$562,554.28
Ending Balance:	\$522,503.83	\$139,480.03	\$504,891.62

*Jones explained expenses coming out of the General Fund for the completion of a detention pond and surrounding area which cost approximately \$19,000. Jones added the cleanup for property located at Brady Lane was roughly \$11,000 and annual insurance for all buildings was paid, costing a little over \$12,400.

*Jones explained expenses coming out of the Utility Fund of \$37,000 for 48 Ally water meters, a 2-inch meter for Whitten Creek, and insurance for Utility Department buildings for around \$34,000.

Mayor Jones asked for a motion to adjourn the meeting.

Motion by: Wilson Shipman

Second by: Jason Cooper

To: Adjourn the meeting

For: 6 **Against:** 0 **Motion:** Passed 6-0

Meeting adjourned at: 7:41 PM

Kenneth Jones, Mayor

Julie Thomas, City Clerk/Treasurer