



City of Brookland, Arkansas

City Council Meeting Minutes

Date of Meeting: March 10, 2026

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 February 10, 2026, as written

Discussion: None

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

New Business:

1. Michael McBryde w/Stephens Inc. – discuss sportsplex options:

Michael McBryde, with Stephens, Inc., was present to discuss the bonds from the 2% sales tax that the City of Brookland passed in 2021, along with steps for moving forward to complete future projects. McBryde reminded the council that the bonds purchased from the extension of the sales tax in 2021 are nearing the 5-year redemption mark. McBryde also noted that because of the growth experienced by the City of Brookland over the past 5 years, the bond note has been paid down significantly. McBryde then explained that, in September of this year (2026), the City of Brookland would be able to ask voters for an extension of the 2% sales tax, once again, in order to complete various projects around the City that have been difficult to complete due to inflation and other economic factors.

McBryde presented the council with a schedule that outlined a few different scenarios of borrowing and repayment potential, using revenue from another 2% sales tax extension, if the city decides to pursue that route-and assuming that voters would approve it once again. McBryde explained the borrowing formula and the report he prepared outlined 3 different scenarios to possibly consider. McBryde reminded the council about the timeline for getting the issue on the ballot for the November 3 election. Mayor Jones then presented the council with a report that outlined 6 priority jobs the city needs to focus on in the next 1-2 years. Mayor Jones discussed pros and cons of the different ways to present the projects to voters in order to secure the 2% sales tax extension. The council agreed with moving forward on this issue.

2. Review 2024 General/Street Audit reports:

Mayor Jones asked the council if they had reviewed the 2024 Legislative Audit for the General/Street Fund accounts, which they received in the mail, and if they had any questions. None were asked.

Motion by: Jason Cooper

Second by: David Gambill

To: Accept the 2024 Legislative Audit for the General/Street Fund accounts as presented

Discussion: None

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

3. Ordinance 2026-03 – Accepting infrastructure in Phase 3 of Hidden Creek Subdivision:

*Attorney Kevin Orr read aloud Ordinance 2026-03 in its entirety for the first reading.

Motion by: Jason Cooper

Second by: David Gambill

To: Suspend the rules and go to the 2nd reading of Ordinance 2026-03 by titles only

Discussion: None

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

*Attorney Kevin Orr read aloud Ordinance 2026-03 by titles only for the 2nd reading.

Motion by: Jason Cooper

Second by: David Gambill

To: Suspend the rules and go the 3rd and final reading of Ordinance 2026-03 by titles only

Discussion: None

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

*Attorney Kevin Orr read aloud Ordinance 2026-03 by titles only for the 3rd and final reading.

Motion by: Jason Cooper

Second by: David Gambill

To: Adopt Ordinance 2026-03 as written

Discussion: None

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

ROLL CALL VOTE:					
David Gambill	Yes	Candice Bishop	Yes	Lachelle Sipes	Yes
Pamela McGee	Yes	Jason Cooper	Yes	Wilson Shipman	Yes

Motion by: Jason Cooper

Second by: David Gambill

To: Adopt the Emergency Clause in section 4 of Ordinance 2026-03 as written

Discussion: None

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

ROLL CALL VOTE:					
David Gambill	Yes	Candice Bishop	Yes	Lachelle Sipes	Yes
Pamela McGee	Yes	Jason Cooper	Yes	Wilson Shipman	Yes

4. **Transfer equipment between Street and Utility Departments:**

Mayor Jones presented a list of equipment transfers between the Street and Utility Departments. The list of equipment being moved:

***Moved to Brookland Utility Department:**

1. 2015 Bobcat Skid Steer valued at \$30k. Vin: AUG13030

***Moved to Brookland Street Department:**

2. 1997 International Flat Bed w/dump value \$10k. Vin: 1HTSCAAM6VH441120

3. 2022 Dump Trailer valued at \$12.5k. Vin: 4MWBD1222PNO59817

4. 2011 Chevrolet Silverado 1500 Pickup. Value \$7.5k. 1GCRKREA3BZ341222

Motion by: Jason Cooper

Second by: David Gambill

To: Approve the transfer of equipment between the Street and Utility Departments as listed

Discussion: None

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

Old Business:

1. **Sportsplex update:**

This issue was discussed previously (item #1) in the meeting.

2. **Municipal Building Project update:**

Michael Bishop, City of Brookland Engineer, updated the council on the status of the Municipal Building project. Bishop detailed what has been completed thus far on the project.

3. **Ordinance 2026-02 – 2nd reading – to rezone property @ 501 Stevens Street from R-2 to C-2:**

Shawn Dacus, City of Brookland Inspector, came before the council, on behalf of the property owner, Said Elbastawisy, to discuss the issue of traffic congestion created at this property with a potential rezoning. Dacus said that the property owner agreed to move the driveway to the west side of the property, thereby moving it out of the Stevens and S. Oak Street intersection. This would help with future traffic congestion issues at that intersection.

Mayor Jones asked for a motion to suspend the rules and read aloud Ordinance 2026-02 by titles only for the 2nd reading.

Motion by: Jason Cooper

Second by: David Gambill

To: Suspend the rules and read aloud Ordinance 2026-02 by titles only for 2nd reading

Discussion: None

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

*Attorney Kevin Orr read aloud Ordinance 2026-02 by titles only for 2nd reading.

Motion by: Jason Cooper

Second by: David Gambill

To: Suspend the rules and read aloud Ordinance 2026-02 by titles only for 3rd and final reading

Discussion: None

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

*Attorney Kevin Orr read aloud Ordinance 2026-02 by titles only for 3rd and final reading.

Motion by: Jason Cooper

Second by: David Gambill

To: Adopt Ordinance 2026-02 as read

Discussion: None

Motion: Failed due to lack of support by a vote of: For: 3 Against: 3

ROLL CALL VOTE:					
David Gambill	Yes	Candice Bishop	Yes	Lachelle Sipes	No
Pamela McGee	Yes	Jason Cooper	No	Wilson Shipman	No

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

February 2026:	General Fund:	Street Fund:	Utility Fund:
Beginning Balance:	\$522,432.26	\$192,123.64	\$538,462.49
Ending Balance:	\$450,337.27	\$200,714.07	\$530,969.66

*Mayor Jones explained some of the expenses impacting the General Fund: There was a payment of \$70k to ARDOT for the new sidewalks, which Jones reminded the council, is reimbursable. Additionally, there was an annual payment made for body cameras for police officers.

Mayor’s Notes:

- State of the City Report: Mayor Jones gave the State of the City Report for 2025. Jones highlighted many of the accomplishments made during 2025, discussed the continued growth of the city and of Brookland Public Schools, and mentioned some of the things that still need to be completed as the city continues to move forward.

Mayor Jones asked the council if they had anything to add. No response.

Mayor Jones asked if there was anything from the floor. Jones commented to Superintendent George Kennedy about the recent results for the millage increase. George Kennedy made some comments and thanked the council for their continued support.

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: 8:08 PM

Kenneth Jones, Mayor

Julie Thomas, City Clerk/Treasurer