

Brookland City Council Minutes
May 11, 2020

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, Lacey Elder, David Gambill, Mayor Kenneth Jones, Attorney Kevin Orr, and City Clerk Billy Dacus.

Mike Bishop made a motion to approve March 9, 2020 Brookland City Council minutes as written. The motion was seconded by Lacey Elder. 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 March 9, 2020 passed 6 Yays to 0 Nays.

There were no minutes for April because the meeting was canceled due to the Covid-19 Virus issue.

New Business

Darrell Pipes @ 302 Emma Dr in Brookland Hills wants to discuss no parking in streets ordinance:

No one was present at the meeting for Mr. Pipes.

Review 2019 General and Street Audit from Legislative Audit:

Mayor Jones reviewed the 2019 General and Street audit that was done by the Legislative Audit. He read the review to the council and then asked if there were any questions or comments. There was none. Mike Bishop made a motion to accept the Legislative Audit for 2019. The motion was seconded by Lacey Elder. 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 Legislative Audit for 2019 passed 6 Yays to 0 Nays.

Resolution 2020-05 - State Aid Street Fund - School Street overlay and Eason Street Repair overlay projects:

Attorney Kevin Orr read Resolution 2020-05 in its entirety. This is a resolution is for the State Aid Street Fund for School Street overlay and Eason Street Repair overlay projects. Mike Bishop made a motion to accept Resolution 2020-05 as read. Jason Cooper seconded the motion. 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 Resolution 2020-05 has passed by a vote of 6 Yays to 0 Nays.

Old Business

David Loggins – Brookland Hills request speed bumps in subdivision:

No one was present at the meeting for Mr. Loggins.

Kevin Orr – Update AR-DOT project #100935. Sidewalk from Stevens St. to Holman St:

Attorney Kevin Orr addressed the council with information about the sidewalk project. He stated that AR-DOT (Arkansas Department of Transportation) will not recognize the statue of the law that was discussed at March's meeting. After a lengthy debate on the issue, it was decided to try and contact the owner of the lot at 615 Holman one last time to see if he will give his consent before proceeding with the process of acquiring the needed space by eminent domain.

Previous Month's Financials:

Mayor Jones reviewed both March's Financial Checking Account Reports. The following are 3-31-2020 ending balances for the main operating checking accounts:

1. General Fund ending balance was \$132,855.70
2. Street Fund ending balance was \$176,112.78
3. Utility Fund ending balance was \$364,861.25

Mayor Jones reviewed both April's Financial Checking Account Reports. The following are 4-30-2020 ending balances for the main operating checking accounts:

1. General Fund ending balance was \$170,718.66. *Mayor Jones noted check received for destroyed tornado siren March 28, 2020 from insurance company.*
2. Street Fund ending balance was \$180,073.71
3. Utility Fund ending balance was \$374,343.87.

Mayor's Notes:**PUD – Planned Unit Development:**

Mayor Jones and Attorney Orr updated the progress of the proposed PUD development at 404 W. Matthews. They informed the council the issue may come to them for approval soon. It was noted that some steps in the PUD process may have been skipped. The issue is being investigated further.

Missouri Street property:

Mayor Jones told the council that the property on Missouri Street belongs to the city now. The deal was closed in March. The city is looking to improve the building and landscaping now.

Effects of COVID-19:

Mayor Jones discussed COVID-19 and its effects on the city. He noted that revenue is going to be down a lot in the coming months. The city has already begun ways to cut spending and will do so in the immediate future.

2020 Census:

Mayor Jones reminded everyone that the 2020 Census is in full swing and he noted how important it was to get everyone counted. State and Federal aid is based on population of the city.

March 28, 2020 Tornado:

The Mayor talked about the tornado that struck the area on March 28, 2020. He told the council that there were around 175-200 people that came to the storm shelter. He noted that there was damage on the east of town as well as Busch-Agri and Cotter Cox Seed Company.

Payment for March's City Council Meeting:

Mayor Jones said that there was some question to whether the council would get paid for April's canceled meeting. Some of the members thought that the council should get paid for the canceled meeting because of it being of no fault of anyone individual. After a lengthy discussion, Wilson Shipman made a motion for the council (along with the city clerk and the mayor) to receive pay for April's canceled meeting. The motion was seconded by Martin Crain. Mayor Jones stated motion and second and then opened the motion to the council for discussion. Mike

Bishop stated he didn't think the council should get paid. David Gambill agreed. Clerk Dacus and Mayor Jones asked to be removed from the motion to receive payment. Attorney Orr noted that the motion has already been made and seconded. Being no further discussion, Mayor Jones called for a vote. Mayor Jones announced the motion for the council, city clerk, and the mayor to receive pay for April's canceled meeting failed 4 Nays to 2 Yays.

Mayor Jones ask if there is anything from the council?

Martin Crain asked about the house and property located across from Jim Dooley (206 Eason). Mayor said that he thought someone was living there. The mayor noted that not much can be done if someone was still living at the residence.

Martin Crain said that the moving pod located on N. Oak that is blocking the view of residents trying to pull out onto the road has not been moved. Mayor Jones stated he was aware of the situation. The Police Department has asked the owner to move the pod but due to the wet conditions, they have not been able to do so. The matter will be looked at again.

Martin Crain asked if there would be a "Clean Sweep" this year since the spring sweep was canceled due to the coronavirus. Mayor Jones noted that there would probably not be a clean sweep this year.

Jason Cooper noted that he thought that someone was living out of a camper on E. Hinkley street. He wanted the Mayor to be aware of the situation.

Wilson Shipman made a motion to adjourn. It was seconded by Jason Cooper. 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 8:09pm by Mayor Jones.

Kenneth Jones, Mayor

Billy Dacus, City Clerk/Treasurer