

Brookland City Council Minutes May 13, 2019

Meeting called to order at 7:00 PM by Mayor Jones

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

Mike Bishop made a motion to approve April 8, 2019 Brookland City Council minutes as written. The motion was seconded by David Gambill. Mayor Jones stated motion and second and then opened 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 April 8, 2019 passed 6 Yays to 0 Nays.

New Business

Tim Harrington: Address the council about purchase of 247 Brady –

Tim Harrington was not present at the meeting. However; Mayor Jones addressed the council about Mr. Harrington wanting to purchase the house @ 247 Brady that is currently owned by the city of Brookland. A brief discussion took place, then Martin Crain made a motion that the council take no action at this time. David Gambill seconded the motion. Mayor Jones stated that motion and second and opened the motion to the council for discussion. Being no additional discussion, Mayor Jones called for a vote. Mayor Jones announced the motion passed 6 Yays to 0 Nays.

Old Business

Franchise Bond for upgrade HWY 49 & School St. –

Mayor announced that he had no updates or drawings for this project. It is still a work in progress. The Mayor did note that AR DOT was still interested in the city of Brookland taking ownership of Highway 49B. There was a lengthy discussion of the pros and cons of the maintenance cost, then it was decided to wait and discuss the matter at a later meeting.

Previous Month's Financials – Mayor Jones reviewed March's Financial Checking Account Reports. The following are 4-30-19 ending balances for the main operating checking accounts:

1. General Fund ending balance was \$137,177.93
2. Street Fund ending balance was \$97,925.80
3. Utility Fund ending balance was \$348,703.10

Mayor's Notes:

✓ Discuss care of city ditches, lots, lift stations, etc:

Mayor Jones announced to the council the cost of maintaining the care of the city ditches, lots, lift stations, etc. for the past 3-years. The council had questioned this in the past and the Mayor gave them the figures.

✓ School Board Election here at City Hall, May 21, 2019:

Mayor Jones announced that the school board elections would be held May 21, 2019. City Hall in Brookland will be the place for voters to cast their ballots.

✓ **Senior Citizens May Potluck lunch moved to Tuesday, May 14, 2019:**

With the school board elections being held on May 21, 2019, the Seniors May potluck was moved to Tuesday, May 14, 2019.

✓ **AML 2019 Annual Convention:**

Mayor Jones asked for a head count for the ones that were still interested in attending the AML convention. He wanted to register the individuals.

Mayor Jones ask if there is anything from the council? Martin Crain noted he was approached by a concerned citizen in his ward about the flooding on Brooks Street. Mr. Crain explained the situation to the council. Mayor Jones told the council that Brooks Street Project was to be addressed later in the season. Some prep-work has been done already on this project. Due to the rainy season this far and a few more pressing matters, Brooks Street will be addressed later.

Mike Bishop asked about the proposed conceal and carry request that was addressed at an earlier meeting. Mayor Jones noted it was still a work in progress, along with the restructuring of the employee handbook.

Wilson Shipman asked if the saferoom was being used by the citizens. He also asked if it was finished. Mayor Jones said the saferoom is always open when any severe weather approaches. The Mayor also noted that the saferoom is completed and there is still work being done on the backroom.

Mr. Shipman asked about the Tahoe that was in an automobile accident. Chief Jon Moore explained to the council about the police vehicle that was wrecked. The SUV has been repaired and no one was injured.

David Gambill asked Mayor Jones about the new bill that was enacted earlier in the year. The Mayor noted that starting in July, all council meetings would be recorded (at least audible) and are to be kept at least for one-year. The meetings had been recorded before for recordkeeping; but now the recordings are required to be kept on record for a full year due to Act 1028.

It was noted by Wilson Shipman that some of the volunteer firemen might be driving a little too fast for the small streets inside the city limits. Fire Chief Wayne Reece, who was in attendance said he would take note and pass the information on.

Mayor Jones ask if there is anything from the floor? There was none.

Wilson Shipman made a motion to adjourn. It was seconded by Lacey Elder. Mayor Jones stated motion and second, then called for a vote. Mayor Jones announced motion to adjourn passed 6 Yays to 0 Nays. The meeting was adjourned at 7:45pm by Mayor Jones.

Kenneth Jones, Mayor

Billy Dacus, City Clerk/Treasurer