

Brookland Parks Committee Meeting
Thursday, April 22, 2021 @ 6:00 pm
613 Holman At Brookland City Hall

6:04 Meeting called to order. Members present were Sharon Hopkins, Julie Thomas, David Loggains, Bobby Bishop, Wilson Shipman, and one other city council member. Mayor Jones was present. Juan Cavazos was absent.

6:06 Minutes were read from last month's meeting. A motion was made by David Loggains to approve last month's minutes as presented. A second was made by Sharon Hopkins.

A sample ballot for the upcoming election was presented by Mayor Jones for all members present to preview. Mayor Jones discussed that the citizens of Brookland must vote YES to the first (2) items in order for the remainder of the projects to be completed.

Mayor Jones reminded all present that the upcoming meeting for Brookland Citizens to ask questions about the different projects was set for Monday, May 17 @ 7pm at the Brookland High School Auditorium. He discussed how this is a great opportunity for people to learn all about the projects for the city and to ask questions about any part of it.

6:15 David Loggains discussed that he created a Facebook page for the Brookland Parks projects called Friends of Brookland. The page will show pictures/diagrams of the proposed parks projects and include some information about what is happening with them all.

There was discussion about having someone serve as a spokesman/spokeswoman for the parks projects. There were questions about who would stand up and discuss the parks projects at the next meeting and who would take questions.

There was also discussion about how to get the word out to Brookland residents about the upcoming city meeting. It was mentioned about spreading the word through Facebook, on KAIT 8, KJNB radio, to include a line on the upcoming water bills mailed out to residents, put notice up at city hall building, and by word of mouth.

There was further discussion from those present about how these parks would benefit the citizens of Brookland and be an improvement to their quality of life. It was mentioned that Brookland citizens would need to vote YES (5) times for completion of all the proposed projects on the ballot.

6:20 Mayor Jones opened discussion about the need for the city hall and police station to be together in one building because of the inefficiency created by being

separated at the present time. He mentioned that down the road, there would possibly be need for an animal control officer in the city. He mentioned that it works well to get the money through taxes and bonds rather than through loans. He mentioned that the location of city hall, being so close to the train tracks that it causes issues while the workers are trying to do their jobs inside the building. He said it can be hard to hear while on the phone and can be a distraction.

There was discussion about the total cost that would be spent on the (3) different parks. It was mentioned that the estimate is approximately \$4.37 million as the total cost for all three park facilities. Mayor Jones reiterated that any excess funds received through this sales tax extension would go towards paying off the bonds early. He said that the city does not receive any excess funds.

- 6:30 Discussion continued with mentioning that the three projects needed are city parks, a city hall and police station, and the addition of a sewer main down HWY 49. The next meeting time and date were mentioned so that everyone present was clear. Next meeting is scheduled for Monday, May 17, 2021 @ 7pm in the Brookland High School Auditorium.
- 6:39 Mayor Jones asked if there was anything else. There was no further discussion or questions. A motion was made by Wilson Shipman to adjourn the meeting. Second by Sharon Hopkins. Motion to adjourn the meeting passed 6 to 0. Meeting adjourned at 6:39 pm.