

Brookland City Council Minutes
May 08, 2017

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

Roll Call: Aldermen present: Mike Bishop, Jean Gandy, David Gambill, Wilson Shipman, Martin Crain, Maghen Carpenter, Attorney Kevin Orr, Mayor Kenneth Jones, and City Clerk Billy Dacus.

Mike Bishop made a motion to approve April 10, 2017 Brookland City Council minutes as written. 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 motion to accept the city council minutes from April 10, 2017 passed 6 yeas to 0 nays.

New Business

Vector Disease Control – Jim Stark: – Jim Stark was not present at the meeting due to medical reasons. He called Mayor Jones with an update. Jim stated that Vector was larviciding and have the traps out. With all the water that has been received from the recent rains, Vector is monitoring the situation before making a decision as when to start spraying.

Holman/49B – Discuss partnership with AHTD: – Mayor Jones stated that he was waiting on more information from the Highway Department. He asked the Council if this topic could wait until June’s meeting so that he could share his findings. The council agreed.

Resolution 2017-11 – *this is a resolution amending the 2017 budgets for the General, Street, and Utility Funds for the city of Brookland.*

City Attorney Kevin Orr read Resolution 2017-11 in its entirety. Alderman Bishop made motion to accept Resolution 2017-11 as read. The motion was seconded by Alderman Gambill. Mayor Jones stated motion and second and opened motion to council for discussion. Being none, Mayor Jones then called for a roll call vote.

Mike Bishop: Yes; Jean Gandy: Yes; David Gambill: Yes; Wilson Shipman: Yes; Martin Crain: Yes;
Maghen Carpenter: Yes

Mayor Jones announced the motion to accept Resolution 2017-11 had passed by a vote of 6 yeas to 0 nays.

Get approval to destroy records prior to 2007: – Mayor Jones stated per AR Code § 14-59-114 (2015) the city can destroy certain records up to the year 2007. The city is asking the council for their approval to start going thru these old records and destroy the ones that can be omitted by the state statue. He stated that the city needs the approval from the council and for this to be noted in the council’s minutes. Alderman Crain made a motion to give the city of Brookland the permission to destroy the records prior to 2007 that is allowed by the state statue. The motion was seconded by Alderman Gambill. Mayor Jones stated motion and second and then opened motion to the council for discussion. The council questioned that it would only be going back 10 years and where the records were located. The Mayor answered both questions to the satisfaction of the council. Being no more discussion, Mayor

Jones called for a vote. Mayor Jones announced the motion to destroy the records had passed 6 yeas to 0 nays.

Condemnation of properties – Doug Frederick: – City Inspector Doug Frederick proposed (5) properties for condemnation.

100 S. Bernis: This house has set empty for some time. There has been no attempt to remodel or occupy. Crystal Foley addressed the council asking for some extended time so that she can find out more information about this property. She stated that she might be interested in purchasing the property to remodel and live in the home. The council agreed to give her 90 days to find more information before acting on the condemnation process.

306 W. Matthews: This residence is in fair condition on the outside, but is in very poor condition on the inside. It was in foreclosure and recently purchased and the new owner had talked to Alderman Shipman and said that he planned to fix the home, but it was decided by the council to start the process of condemnation. Alderman Gambill made a motion to condemn the building at 306 W. Matthews. The motion was seconded by Alderman Crain. Mayor Jones stated motion and second and then opened motion to the council for discussion. The council was assured that the owner would be given the chance to address the council once the letter has gone out. Being no more discussion, Mayor Jones then called for a roll call vote.

Mike Bishop: Yes; Jean Gandy: Yes; David Gambill: Yes; Wilson Shipman: Yes; Martin Crain: Yes; Maghen Carpenter: Yes

Mayor Jones announced the motion to condemn the house at 306 W. Matthews had passed by a vote of 6 yeas to 0 nays.

102 Hayes Street: This mobile home cannot be occupied without complete plumbing overhaul. The inside of the trailer also poses a health risk. It was decided by the council to start the process to condemn on this residence also. Alderman Gambill made a motion to condemn the mobile home at 102 Hayes Street. The motion was seconded by Alderman Crain. Mayor Jones stated motion and second and then opened motion to the council for discussion. Being no discussion, Mayor Jones then called for a roll call vote.

Mike Bishop: Yes; Jean Gandy: Yes; David Gambill: Yes; Wilson Shipman: Yes; Martin Crain: Yes; Maghen Carpenter: Yes

Mayor Jones announced the motion to condemn the mobile home at 102 Hayes Street had passed by a vote of 6 yeas to 0 nays.

21 Keith Road: This is a camper trailer that has not moved in many years. It has a hole in the roof where the air conditioner unit has fallen in. This is an eye sore for the city and there had been many complaints about the property. Alderman Crain made a motion to condemn the camper trailer at 21 Keith Road. The motion was seconded by Alderman Gambill. Mayor Jones stated motion and second and then opened motion to the council for discussion. Being no discussion, Mayor Jones then called for a roll call vote.

Mike Bishop: Yes; Jean Gandy: Yes; David Gambill: Yes; Wilson Shipman: Yes; Martin Crain: Yes; Maghen Carpenter: Yes

Mayor Jones announced the motion to condemn the camper trailer at 21 Keith Road had passed by a vote of 6 yeas to 0 nays.

503 Stevens (Apt. # 4): This apartment is an add-on to the main structure. The roof on the backside has collapsed leaving a large hole. The structure is full of mold and dead animals. Poses a severe health hazard to the occupants in the rest of the building. The question was raised by Mr. Frederick if part of the building can be condemned? It was decided by the council to bring back the condemnation request at next month's meeting for the whole building at 503 Stevens.

Old Business

WIP 2016-01 - well & tank-field project update from Jason MacDonald with Civil Engineering Associates— Jason MacDonald updated the council on the new well process. He stated that the contractor was done with the footing and piers. The tank sections are starting to arrive and the erecting of the tank should start soon. Once the tank is erected (hopefully around the end of May), the painting will start on the tank. Construction of the well and well house has been moved out 5 weeks while the elevated water tank is being built. Phoenix, the contractor of the tank does not want the well/well house contractors working around the area below at the same time the tank is going up. Rainwater Plumbing has started laying down of the lines on the west side of the town.

Jail Bill Defrayment Ordinance – Attorney Orr reported that there was an increase 5 to 6 years ago by District Court Judge Blackmon of \$20 to misdemeanor tickets in every city or town in Craighead County. That money was to help the county jail with expenses that they might incur. The fee comes out of each misdemeanor ticket and is labeled as a jail defrayment fee. That \$20 fee cannot be collected by the city of Brookland, as per Ordinance 2015-33, because it doesn't have a district court inside the city. The fee can only be collected by the district court. It was decided by the council that Ordinance 2015-33 needs to be repealed at next month's meeting.

177 Brady Lane – The house has been moved but is still on blocks. It is safer now and is waiting for the block layers. It was decided by the council to wait and see what the outcome will be on the home before pursuing any further. The matter will be discussed at next month's meeting.

Previous Month's Financials – Mayor Jones reviewed April's Financial Reports. The following are 4-30-17 ending balances for the main operating checking accounts:

1. General Fund ending balance was \$200,825.18
2. Street Fund ending balance was \$117,638.43
3. Utility Fund ending balance was \$355,615.53

Mayor's Notes –

Summer AML Convention (June 14-16) – Mayor asked for a final head count of the people that were going to attend the meeting in June. He stated he needed to know to registered everyone.

Southern Bank Closing – Mayor Jones announced that the Southern Bank branch that is in the city of Brookland is closing as of 4:00 PM on July 31, 2017. The Mayor stated that there are some other banks that are interested in coming to Brookland and talks are underway.

Possible drainage ditch in the N. Oak area – Alderman Crain brought up the drainage ditch topic that was discussed back in the January 2017 meeting. He stated that he had spoken with land owner, Rocky Gilley, and that he could be possibly be interested in allowing for a drainage ditch to be dug on his property. However, it was pointed out by the Alderman Gambill and City Attorney Kevin Orr that a drainage easement must be provided to the city from the land owner as well as the other land owners where the ditch was to be dug. Alderman Crain stated that he did not think Mr. Gilley would give a drainage easement. He also stated that the area really did not flood, but the property remained wet for several days following a rain.

Alderman Shipman made a motion to adjourn. It was seconded by Alderman Gambill. Mayor Jones stated motion and second, called for a vote. Mayor Jones announced motion passed 6 yeas to 0 nays. Meeting adjourned at 8:00 PM by Mayor Jones.

Kenneth Jones, Mayor

Billy Dacus, City Clerk/Treasurer