

Brookland City Council Minutes January 10, 2022

The meeting was called to order at 7:00 PM by Mayor Jones.

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

Mike Bishop made a motion to approve December 13, 2021, Brookland City Council minutes as written. The motion was seconded by Jason Cooper. 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 December 13, 2021, passed 4 Yays to 0 Nays.

New Business

Review meeting procedures: The council reviewed Ordinance 2016-02 (*A.C.A § 14-43-501 - Organization of governing body*). This ordinance gets reviewed each year to see if there are any changes needed to the meeting agenda criteria. After a brief discussion, Mike Bishop made a motion to continue Brookland City Council Meetings as set by Ordinance 2016-02. 2nd by Jason Cooper. 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 conduct city council meeting as set in Ordinance 2016-02, passed 4 Yays to 0 Nays.

Brookland Parks Committee Update:

David Loggins announced there would be a Brookland Parks Committee meeting Monday night on January 17 @ 6pm at City Hall. He said he would like to invite everyone to attend. David noted they would be discussing new ideas and reviewing the new drawing rendered for the area.

Resolution 2022-01 - Amending 2021 General, Street, & Utility budgets:

Attorney Kevin Orr read Resolution 2022-01 in its entirety. This resolution is for approving the final annual General, Street, and Utility fund budgets for 2021 for the City of Brookland. Mike Bishop made a motion to accept Resolution 2022-01 as read. Jason Cooper seconded the motion. Mayor Jones stated motion and second and then opened the motion to the council for discussion. Mayor Jones asked if there is any discussion. Being none, Mayor Jones called for a vote. Mayor Jones announced the motion to accept Resolution 2022-01 has passed by a vote of 4 Yays to 0 Nays.

Old Business

Previous Month's Financials:

Mayor Jones reviewed December's Financial Checking Account Reports. The following are 12-31-2021 ending balances for the main operating checking accounts:

1. General Fund ending balance was \$593,647.28
2. Street Fund ending balance was \$301,326.00
3. Utility Fund ending balance was \$515,093.73

Sewer issue @ 107 N Oak St:

Attorney Kevin Orr notified the council that the legal dispute between the City of Brookland v. Darrin & Karla Block had been resolved. Mr. Orr said that the Blocks have accepted the counteroffer settlement of \$5000 from the city. Legal details will have to be settled between the parties before the matter can officially be closed.

Ward Map change - 2020 Census:

Mayor Jones said that this matter will be addressed at next month's meeting since not all council members were present.

Mayor's Notes:

- ✓ *Planning Commission Chairman Steve Phillips - Discuss 404 W. Matthews zoning options*– Steve Phillips, Chairman of the Planning Commission addressed the council about a proposed development at 404 West Matthews that came before the commission last month. The developer is needing the zoning changed from R-1 to R-2 for duplexes. Mr. Phillips stated the idea is for the development to be for seniors over 55 years of age. However, there are no zoning regulations for units with this stipulation. It had been noted that the city is against the heavier density population in this area. Steve said he was bringing the issue before the council because there wasn't a specific zone for this type of development. The only zone we have currently to work with is R-2 Multi Family. After discussion, it was decided that Attorney Orr and Mayor Jones will investigate the matter more closely.
- ✓ *Kevin Orr - discuss incident on Harper Dr in Brookland Hills Subdivision*- Attorney Orr wanted the council to know about a letter that was sent to him on behalf of the city or Brookland about an incident that happen November 6, 2020, involving a minor. There aren't many details at this time and more information is being gathered. He just wanted the city to beware of the situation.
- ✓ *Discuss location of new city hall/police department building*- Mayor Jones said it would probably be better to discuss this issue with all members present. Tabled until next month.

Mayor Jones ask to add a new item to the agenda for Gary Gibbs-Black Iron. Mike Bishop made a motion to add this item to the agenda. The motion was seconded by Jason Cooper. 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 passed 4 Yays to 0 Nays.

Gary Gibbs- The Gun Shop at Blackiron:

Mayor Jones stated that the new owner of the Gun Shop at Blackiron shooting range, Gary Gibbs was having trouble getting licenses to make and sell ammunition at the range. Mayor Jones added that ammunition has been made and sold by the previous owners at this location since May of 2006. The city has done business with the former owner in the past and would like to have a working relationship with Mr. Gibbs. Approval from the city would help Gary obtain his licenses. Mike Bishop made a motion for the city of Brookland to give their approval for The Gun Shop at Blackiron to make and sell ammunition located at 622 N Holman, Zoned C2. The motion was seconded by Jason Cooper. 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 passed 4 Yays to 0 Nays.

Mayor Jones ask if there is anything from the council?

There was none.

Mayor Jones ask if there is anything from the floor?

George Kennedy, interim superintendent for Brookland Schools was present at the meeting. He stated he was looking forward to working with the city on some issues, mainly traffic in the coming months.

David Loggins made a comment on the development at 404 W. Matthews. He said that the wording on the deed of the property could help legally tie the property to a retirement home. Attorney Orr said he would investigate the matter more closely.

Mike Bishop made a motion for the city of Brookland to pay Martin Crain and Pamela McGee for this month's meeting since they were out due to illness caused by Covid-19. The motion was seconded by David Gambill. 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 passed 4 Yays to 0 Nays.

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 4 Yays to 0 Nays. The meeting was adjourned at 7:42 pm by Mayor Jones.

Kenneth Jones, Mayor

Billy Dacus, City Clerk/Treasurer