



## City of Brookland, Arkansas City Council Meeting Minutes

**Date of Meeting:** September 9, 2025

**Type of Meeting:** Regular

**Called to order at:** 7:00 PM by Mayor Kenneth Jones

COUNCIL MEMBER ATTENDANCE: (P = Present A = Absent)					
David Gambill	P	Jason Cooper	P	Mayor Kenneth Jones	P
Pamela McGee	P	Lachelle Sipes	P	Attorney Kevin Orr	P
Candice Bishop	P	Wilson Shipman	P	Clerk/Treas. Julie Thomas	P

### **Previous meeting minutes:**

**Motion by:** Jason Cooper

**Second by:** David Gambill

**To:** Approve the Brookland City Council meeting minutes dated August 12, 2025, as written

**Discussion:** None

**For:** 6      **Against:** 0      **Motion:** Passed 6-0

### **New Business:**

#### **1. Vector Disease Control – Mosquito Report:**

Mayor Jones presented the council with the most recent mosquito report received by Vector Disease Control. No questions or comments on this report.

#### **2. Destiny Rackley – Crosswalk at HWY 49N and W. School Street intersection:**

Destiny Rackley, Brookland resident, came before the council to discuss safety concerns for pedestrians wishing to cross over the HWY 49N and W. School Street intersection on foot. Rackley presented a letter to the council stating her concerns and asking about possible available funding for sidewalks being installed in this area. Mayor Jones explained that HWY 49 is a state highway, making sidewalks and crosswalks at that intersection the jurisdiction of Arkansas Department of Transportation. Jones explained to Rackley that TAP grants are dedicated funds provided for specific projects and cannot be used for other needs.

#### **3. Discuss UTV/Side-by-side law on city streets:**

Mayor Jones asked the council to consider the issue of UTV and side-by-side type vehicles being driven on city streets. Jones mentioned some of the potential risks of allowing these types of vehicles on city streets. Council member Wilson Shipman asked if this had become an issue within the city and Jones responded that it has. Jones asked the council to consider how to proceed with this issue and if there needs to be an ordinance created to ensure compliance. Council member Jason Cooper

asked if the ordinance were created, would the police department enforce it? Jones responded that they would. Jones urged the council to ask citizens their thoughts on this issue.

**4. Chad Waggoner – regarding bill for water meter damage at 113 S. Oak Street:**

No one was present to speak on this issue. Mayor Jones reminded the council that Waggoner was sent a bill after last month’s meeting regarding a damaged water meter at his rental property in Brookland. Jones noted that the city would proceed with collecting the bill.

**Old Business:**

**1. Sportsplex Update:**

Mayor Jones gave the council an update on the sportsplex project. Jones reminded the council about the city’s recent application for a grant and mentioned that the application deadline is approaching, so the city will find out some time after if they have been awarded the grant and will have a better idea on how to move forward with this project.

**2. Municipal Building Project update:**

Mike Bishop, engineer for the City of Brookland, gave the council an update on the progress of the municipal building project. Bishop went over the major components that have been completed. Bishop informed the council about the cost of installing a new natural gas line and said the city is looking at the possibility of propane as a more cost-effective option.

**3. Monthly financials for General, Street, and Utility Funds:**

August 2025	General Fund:	Street Fund:	Utility Fund:
<b>Beginning Balance:</b>	\$552,251.02	\$151,898.36	\$548,126.03
<b>Ending Balance:</b>	\$571,029.12	\$128,369.77	\$562,554.28

\*Jones explained extra expenses in the General Fund for the Brookland School SRO reimbursement that came due in August and was not received until September. That is why the revenue under SRO Reimbursement, it shows zero in the General Fund Report for August.

\*Jones explained expenses in the Street Fund for repair & maintenance for the Massey tractor that needs to be repaired in order to sell it.

**Mayor’s Notes:**

**4. Review Gridsmart videos of school traffic issues at HWY 49N/W. School Street:**

Video was not available, however, Mayor Jones explained some of the traffic issues discovered from the videos, as well as a recent change in the Brookland Primary Building morning drop off time, which has helped move traffic off of HWY 49N better in the mornings.

**5. Upcoming ARDOT meeting:**

Mayor Jones informed the council about an upcoming meeting with ARDOT and local elected officials, including County Judge Marvin Day, to discuss the intersections of HWY 49N and School Street and HWY 49N and Pine Log Road, set for November 13 @ 3:00, at the Brookland High School Auditorium. It will then be open to the public @ 4:30. Jones encouraged everyone to attend.

**6. Brookland Public Schools:**

Superintendent George Kennedy gave the council an update on the progress of the new Intermediate school.

**7. Mayor Jones asked for anything from the floor:**

Tony Davis, Brookland resident, asked about the city fixing some culverts located on S. Oak Street. Davis said they present a hazard to children playing or riding their bikes in the area. Mayor Jones responded that the city would do a work order and look into it. Davis asked about putting up a fence around the detention pond on Stevens Street. Jones responded that the city would be putting up a fence when work in that area is completed. Davis also asked about getting some of his items back that the city removed during a recent cleanup. Jones mentioned that the things the city removed during the cleanup were rubbish and were taken to the landfill. Council member Jason Cooper notified Davis that he had plenty of time, and had received ample notice, prior to the cleanup, to set aside any items he wished to keep and failed to do so. Attorney Kevin Orr reminded Davis that the council followed the proper protocol for the cleanup and debris removal, according to city ordinance, and he had been given ample time to take care of things he wanted to keep.

Mayor Jones asked for a motion to adjourn the meeting.

**Motion by:** Wilson Shipman

**Second by:** Jason Cooper

**To:** Adjourn the meeting

**For:** 6      **Against:** 0      **Motion:** Passed 6-0

**Meeting adjourned at: 7:50 PM**

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Kenneth Jones, Mayor

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Julie Thomas, City Clerk/Treasurer