



# City of Brookland, Arkansas City Council Meeting Minutes

**Date of Meeting: May 14, 2026**

**Type of Meeting: Regular**

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

**Council Member Attendance:**

**Present:** David Gambill, Pamela McGee, Candice Bishop, Jason Cooper, Lachelle Sipes, Wilson Shipman, Attorney Kevin Orr, Mayor Kenneth Jones, Clerk/Treasurer Julie Thomas

**Absent:** None

**Approve an amended meeting agenda:**

**Motion by:** Jason Cooper

**Second by:** David Gambill

**To:** Approve the amended meeting agenda with additions as presented

**Discussion:** None

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

**Move Michael McBryde ahead on meeting agenda:**

**Motion by:** Wilson Shipman

**Second by:** David Gambill

**To:** Approve moving Michael McBryde up to #1 on meeting agenda

**Discussion:** None

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

**1. Sportsplex update-2027 Bond 2% restructure:**

Michael McBryde, with Stephens, Inc., came before the council to present a potential bond financing option in order to complete various capital projects throughout the city. McBryde included an analysis of the funds generated from a proposed 2% sales and use tax bond extension. The analysis includes a two-phase bond issue, between 2026-2030, allowing the city time for anticipated growth and an increase in sales and use tax collections, allowing the city to fully finance all proposed capital projects. Mayor Jones included a document with a breakdown of proposed projects and estimated costs for council members to review. Council members agreed to move forward with this plan.

**Previous meeting minutes:**

**Motion by:** Jason Cooper

**Second by:** Candice Bishop

**To:** Approve the Brookland City Council meeting minutes dated April 14, 2026, as written

**Discussion:** None

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

## **New Business:**

### **2. Jim Dedman – Dedman’s Sanitation is requesting \$2.00 per month rate increase on trash service:**

Jim Dedman, with Dedman’s Sanitation, came before the council to ask for a rate increase of \$2.00 per month, per household for trash service for the residents of Brookland. Dedman explained that his costs of operations have increased over the past couple of years and added that he has held off on asking for an increase as long as he was able to. Dedman appealed to the council that he does not ask for an increase on an annual basis, instead, he keeps his prices steady for a few years, even when his costs of operations go up. Council member Lachelle Sipes asked Dedman about the total costs per household for trash service. Mayor Jones stated the current prices are: \$16 per household and \$14 for senior citizens. Council member Wilson Shipman asked about the increase in new households within the city, potentially generating more revenue for Dedman. Council member Pamela McGee asked about the total number of cans currently in use in Brookland. Mayor Jones responded that there are currently about 1700 water meters (households) within the city and each household is issued a can when their water service is turned on.

Attorney Kevin Orr asked Dedman to verify that the gross revenue generated for trash service from residents of the City of Brookland at approximately \$27k per month (1700 households x \$16-the lesser amount). Dedman confirmed that estimate. Attorney Orr also asked Dedman about his recent claim that the tipping fees for Legacy Landfill have recently increased. Orr added that he is also the attorney for Legacy Landfill and stated that there is currently no increase in tipping fees. Orr continued by asking Dedman to provide somewhat of an explanation of his operating expenses to support his request for an increase in fees. Dedman explained how the number of days per week of trash pickup has increased over the years, as the number of households has continually increased. He added that there has been an increase in labor, equipment, fuel, and other expenses in order to accommodate the growth within the City of Brookland. Orr questioned Dedman about his services and fees in surrounding cities, asking if he had requested increases for those residents as well. Dedman confirmed that he had asked and received increases in other cities that he services.

Mayor Jones asked Dedman to clarify what the residents of Brookland would receive for the \$2 per month increase. Jones wanted to know if that amount would include the pick up of extra trash put out at the curb, whereby Dedman would come around regularly and pick up large items that aren’t normally picked up. Dedman explained that he could do a regular pick up of extra trash put at the curb if residents paid an extra \$1 per month, for a total of \$19 and \$17. Mayor Jones explained that the City of Brookland would seek comparative service providers to ensure residents are receiving competitive rates.

**Motion by:** Jason Cooper

**Second by:** David Gambill

**To:** Approve the \$2.00 per household per month trash service increase for Dedman’s sanitation

**Discussion:** None

**For:** 5      **Against:** 1      **Motion: Passed 5-1 (Wilson Shipman voted against)**

### **3. Kaylin Wood – Wants to discuss the possibility of a community garden:**

Kaylin Wood came before the council to discuss the possibility of creating a community garden. Wood presented the council with a proposed startup budget for the garden, including 3 different levels or tiers of quality to compare. Wood’s proposal also included examples of written rules for

garden conduct, volunteer expectations, and examples of possible signage to display her ideas. Wood informed the council that she plans to apply for grant funds to assist with getting the garden up and running but wanted to secure the approval of the city before getting started. Council members all expressed interest in the idea and gave Wood their approval to move forward.

**4. Correction to August 4, 2025, Special City Council Meeting minutes regarding Ordinance 2025-16 – Minutes should read “currently zoned as R-3 (apartment/residential); rezone to C-2 General Commercial” (see enclosed copy of minutes and ordinance):**

Mayor Jones informed the council that there was an error discovered in the Special City Council Meeting minutes dated August 4, 2025. Jones noted that the meeting minutes erroneously stated: “Rezone 2 acres located @ 9500 HWY 49N – currently zoned as R-3 (apartment/residential); rezone to C-3 (general/commercial),” and it should have stated: Rezone 2 acres located @ 9500 HWY 49N – currently zoned as R-3 (apartment/residential); rezone to C-2 (general/commercial). Jones presented the council with a copy of Ordinance 2025-16, which states the change from R-3 (apartment/residential) to C-2 (General Commercial)

**Motion by:** Jason Cooper

**Second by:** David Gambill

**To:** Approve the amended Special City Council Meeting minutes dated August 4, 2025

**Discussion:** None

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

**5. Craighead County Inter-Local Agreement:**

Mayor Jones explained that this agreement is for surrounding municipalities to share the costs for a district court. Jones added that the City of Jonesboro no longer wants to rent a building for district court use and stated that municipalities within the county will need to obtain a building. Jones included that the inter-local agreement provides direction for funds to be collected by the county clerk and disbursed on a prorated basis. Attorney Kevin Orr provided a brief explanation of how the fund collection and distribution should work and asked the council for time to fully review the inter-local agreement. The council agreed to continue this item at next month’s regular meeting.

**6. Approve purchase of 2026 Kubota M-6 tractor to replace 2022 Kubota M-5 tractor that was damaged/totaled while clearing snow from streets on 01/26/26:**

Mayor Jones informed the council that the city would like to purchase a 2026 Kubota M-6 tractor to replace the 2022 Kubota M-5 tractor that was damaged and totaled while clearing snow this past winter. Jones explained that the city is paying a \$41,000.00 down payment and with the Sourcewell discount provided by Kubota, the loan balance with Arvest Bank is \$63,991.43. Jones added that he found a competitive interest rate through Arvest Bank.

**Motion by:** Jason Cooper

**Second by:** David Gambill

**To:** Approve the purchase of a 2026 Kubota M-6 tractor to replace the damaged/totaled 2022 Kubota M-5 tractor

**Discussion:** Council member Wilson Shipman asked about the city’s current payments/financial obligations and ability to pay the monthly note. Mayor Jones confirmed that the City of Brookland is financially sound and the monthly note for the newer tractor is actually less than the older one.

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

**Old Business:**

**1. Sportsplex update-2027 Bond 2% restructure:**

See #1 above

**2. Monthly Financials for General, Street, and Utility Funds:**

<b>April 2026:</b>	<b>General Fund:</b>	<b>Street Fund:</b>	<b>Utility Fund:</b>
<b>Beginning Balance:</b>	\$409,602.03	\$241,857.62	\$554,289.11
<b>Ending Balance:</b>	\$376,427.07	\$204,280.22	\$567,196.57

\*Mayor Jones explained some of the expenses in the following fund accounts:

**General Fund:** the City received \$80k from ARDOT (this was expected)

**Street Fund:** Jones said he recently spoke with Lance Powell who said it should be possible to move mitigation money from Maple Slough ditch cleanout to Shirley Street cleanout.

**Mayor’s Notes:**

- Mayor Jones announced that he will be seeking a 5<sup>th</sup> term as Mayor of Brookland. Jones said he would like to see several projects completed that are important for the future of Brookland. Jones explained that the city has complete transparency on it’s financial decisions, for anyone who may have questions about those projects.
- Captain Jansen Settlemoir spoke to the council about the new Municipal Building housing the Brookland Police department. Settlemoir talked about some upcoming training and financial assistance the Police Department will be pursuing for the officers.

Mayor Jones asked the council if they had anything to add. No response.

Mayor Jones asked if there was anything from the floor. No response.

Mayor Jones asked for a motion to adjourn the meeting.

**Motion by:** Wilson Shipman

**Second by:** Candice Bishop

**To:** Adjourn the meeting

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

**Meeting adjourned at: 8:22 PM**

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Kenneth Jones, Mayor

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Julie Thomas, City Clerk/Treasurer