



City of Brookland, Arkansas City Council Meeting Minutes

Regular Meeting:

Date of Meeting: June 10, 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			Attorney Kevin Orr	P
Candice Bishop	P	Wilson Shipman	P	Clerk/Treas. Julie Thomas	P

Previous meeting minutes:

Motion by: Wilson Shipman

Second by: Candice Bishop

To: Approve the Brookland City Council meeting minutes dated May 20, 2025, as written

Discussion: None

For: 4 Against: 0 Motion: Passed 4-0

Motion by: David Gambill

Second by: Candice Bishop

To: Approve the Brookland City Council work session minutes dated June 3, 2025, as written

Discussion: None

For: 4 Against: 0 Motion: Passed 4-0

***Mayor Jones read aloud a resignation letter from David Loggins to the council.**

Motion by: David Gambill

Second by: Wilson Shipman

To: Approve the resignation of council member David Loggins, effective May 31, 2025

Discussion: None

For: 4 Against: 0 Motion: Passed 4-0

***Discuss appointment of new council member – Ward 3 Position 1:**

Mayor Jones informed the council that Lachelle Sipes, Brookland Ward 3 resident, is interested in filling the position vacated by council member David Loggins, for the remainder of his term.

Motion by: David Gambill

Second by: Candice Bishop

To: Approve the election by majority vote of the city council, Lachelle Sipes, to fill the vacated position.

Discussion: None

For: 4 Against: 0 Motion: Passed 4-0

ROLL CALL VOTE:					
David Gambill	Yes	Candice Bishop	Yes		
Pamela McGee	Yes	Jason Cooper		Wilson Shipman	Yes

****Mayor Kenneth Jones swore in Lachelle Sipes after the majority vote.**

New Business:

1. Vector Disease Control – Mosquito Report:

Mayor Jones presented the council with the mosquito report received by Vector Disease Control.

2. Witcher Auctions Sale – Massey Ferguson tractor reserve was \$22,000; final bid was \$19,250:

Mayor Jones discussed the sale of the 2012 Massey Ferguson tractor through Witcher Auctions. Jones told the council that the reserve bid was set at \$22,000, which came about through a trade-in valuation received on the tractor. Jones notified the council that the final bid received was \$19,250.

Motion by: David Gambill

Second by: Candice Bishop

To: Approve the bid for \$19,250 for the sale of the 2012 Massey Ferguson tractor

Discussion: None

For: 5 Against: 0 Motion: Passed 5-0

3. Resolution 2025-14 – Community Assistance Grant Program:

*Attorney Kevin Orr read aloud Resolution 2025-14 for the Community Assistance Grant. The grant allows the City of Brookland to seek grant funding for the sportsplex project.

Motion by: David Gambill

Second by: Pamela McGee

To: Adopt Resolution 2025-15 to accept Arkansas Community Assistance Program Grant.

Discussion: None

For: 5 Against: 0 Motion: Passed 5-0

Old Business:

1. Sportsplex – Discuss bid and options:

Mayor Jones discussed with the council the latest bid received for the sportsplex project. Jones reminded the council that he felt several components of the latest bid were inflated, when compared to the original bid.

Motion by: David Gambill

Second by: Wilson Shipman

To: Reject the bid for the sportsplex project received by Olympus Construction Company

Discussion: Wilson Shipman asked about redoing the bid at a later date. Mayor Jones indicated that the city has begun the process of applying for the Community Assistance Grant and will hopefully receive more funding in order to complete the sportsplex project. Jones stated that if more funding is received, the project can be completed closer to the original plan, with 5 fields, a walking track, fishing pond, concession stand, and parking. Jones added that the only thing that should not be included from the original plan is lighting for the 2 small fields.

For: 5 Against: 0 Motion: Passed 5-0

2. Phase 1 – Brookland Municipal Building update:

Mayor Jones gave the council an update on the municipal building project, phase-1. Jones stated that some progress has been made by laying chat down on the road. Jones added that progress will continue as soon as weather permits.

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

May 2025	General Fund:	Street Fund:	Utility Fund:
Beginning Balance:	\$724,502.21	\$246,563.77	\$556,997.52
Ending Balance:	\$679,908.25	\$201,471.69	\$546,996.80

Mayor's Notes:

- **Discuss District Court:**

Mayor Jones informed the council that there is no update to report at this time.

- **Grand Opening of two new city parks:**

Mayor Jones told the council that the new city parks are close to being done, with fencing set to be installed soon. Jones added that once fencing is done, a grand opening ceremony will be set.

- **Pay Jason Cooper for this month's meeting:**

Motion by: David Gambill

Second by: Candice Bishop

To: Approve paying Jason Cooper for missing this month's regular meeting

Discussion: Wilson Shipman made a comment about the council not abiding by a rule created previously about missing meetings. Jones stated that the council votes to pay for missing meetings. Attorney Kevin Orr added that the rule had been changed, giving the council the opportunity to decide on whether or not to pay a member for their absence. Jones added that, at times, council members have to miss a meeting for work-related obligations which cannot be helped, however, the council still has the decision to pay or not pay them.

For: 5 Against: 0 Motion: Passed 5-0

- **Mayor Jones thanks Superintendent Brett Bunch:**

Mayor Jones invited Superintendent Brett Bunch to the podium to formally thank him for his work at Brookland Public Schools and for his dedication to working alongside the City of Brookland to see progress happen that benefits both the city and the school district. Bunch thanked the Mayor and council members for their service and support to the school district.

Mayor Jones asked for a motion to adjourn the meeting.

Motion by: Wilson Shipman

Second by: Candice Bishop

To: Adjourn the meeting

For: 5 Against: 0 Motion: Passed 5-0

Meeting adjourned at: 7:38 PM

Kenneth Jones, Mayor

Julie Thomas, City Clerk/Treasurer