

BROOKS TOWN COUNCIL MEETING
MINUTES

Monday, August 15, 2014

Mayor Langford led the Invocation and the Pledge then called the meeting to order.

Council members present: Scott Israel
 Todd Speer
 Jake Kunz
 Lewis Harper

Council members absent: Ted Britt

Prior to tonight's meeting, the proposed Agenda for August 15, 2014 was provided via email to the Mayor and Council Members for review. Scott Israel made a Motion to approve the agenda; Todd Speer offered a second. The vote of the Council was unanimous in favor of the Motion to approve the Agenda for August 15, 2014.

Prior to tonight's meeting, the proposed Minutes of the May 19, 2014 Council Meeting were provided via email to the Mayor and Council Members for review. Todd Speer made a Motion to approve the Minutes as presented and Lewis Harper offered a second to the Motion. The vote of the Council was unanimous, all in favor of the Motion to approve the Minutes of the Council Meeting of May 19, 2014. (Councilman Jake Kunz abstained from vote as he was not present for May 2014 meeting.)

Prior to tonight's meeting, the proposed Minutes of the July 21, 2014 Council Meeting were provided via email to the Mayor and Council Members for review. As there was no quorum vote, this item will be held in abeyance until a quorum is present. (Councilmen Todd Speer and Lewis Harper must abstain as they were not present for July 2014 meeting.)

Public Hearing (7pm):

Councilman Scott Israel made a Motion to open the Public Hearing on the Millage Rate for the Town of Brooks and Todd Speer offered a second to the Motion. Mayor Langford welcomed comment from the public as there were residents in attendance. There being no comments or input Councilman Lewis Harper made a Motion to close the Public Hearing and Scott Israel made a second to the Motion. Mayor Langford offered the proposed rollback Millage Rate for 2014 as 0.899. Councilman Lewis Harper made a Motion to adopt this rate while Todd Speer made a second to the Motion. The vote was unanimous and Mayor Langford announced that the Millage Rate of 0.899 would be adopted for the calendar year of 2014.

Appearances:

Ms. Darilyn Esterline was present with information about a concert the Whitewater High School Orchestra wishes to conduct at the Brooks Chapel on September 27, 2014 at 6:30pm.

Committee Reports:

Mayor's Report – Mayor Langford reported that he was in receipt of the EMA (Emergency Management Agency) Hazard Mitigation letter requesting an updated version for the town every 5 years. Ellen Walls volunteered as our representative for the TOB. Scott Israel made a Motion to execute the GMA letter of support and Todd Speer offered a second. The Council's vote was unanimous.

Planning and Zoning - Planning and Zoning Director, Eddie Lanham, was present for tonight's meeting but had no updates on issues. Lewis Harper made a Motion to table these issues until such time that Mr. Lanham is ready to discuss. Scott Israel seconded that Motion. The vote was unanimous, all in favor of the Motion to table Planning and Zoning issues until further notice.

Recreation – Ty Mueller was present for the Recreation Department. Reported good turnout for the upcoming football and fall baseball season. The Council was in agreement for Ellen Walls to review and update lease, including possible lawn maintenance. Mr. Mueller also requested to be notified if the proposed Charter School will be moving into the old Brooks Elementary building as they occasionally use the school grounds for practice.

Cemetery – Cemetery caretaker Jerry Lynch is having some health issues. Mayor Langford will speak with cemetery director Al Hardy for direction on maintenance during Mr. Lynch's recovery.

Library/VPO – Kim Bradley reports a great ending to the SRP. Circulation numbers are only down approx. 200 from previous years totals (with the closing of BES); audio books are higher in demand. Stamp sales are also steady.

Water and Sewer – Robert Shockley still performing maintenance on septic system twice a year or more often if needed. New town manager Ellen Walls has located town water and sewer maps to familiarize herself with the system.

Financial – Financial materials were provided to the Mayor and Council Members by Ellen Walls for discussion and further review at their convenience.

Unfinished Business:

Library Renovation Status – As the roof which was installed in May 2014 is not wearing properly, a new one is to be installed soon under warranty at no additional cost to the Town. Ellen Walls asked the Council's permission to take over the direction of library renovation.

Signage - It was reported that signs on Brooklet Way and Carrington Lane have been re-installed. Ellen Walls asks Council to please let her know if there are problems with any others.

Environmental Ordinance – Ellen Walls is to draft a revision to the grass cutting ordinance as defined in the “Town Center District”. Councilman Lewis Harper made a Motion to delete the Tree section (article 7) of the Environmental Ordinance in its entirety. Scott Israel offered a second to the Motion. The vote of Council was unanimous.

Railroad Crossing/Maintenance – Cynthia Winkle was not present but left word with Kim Bradley that she spoke with Aaron’s Lawncare about appearance of railroad crossing/track area. They confirmed it would be taken care of. Mayor and Council are not pleased with lawncare service. Ellen Walls will review contract and services being provided.

LMIG Project Planning – Ellen Walls is in contact with Phil Mallon about possible projects. Lewis Harper made a Motion to remove LMIG from the agenda until more information is available for discussion. Scott Israel offered a second to the Motion. The vote was unanimous.

New Business:

Charter School Discussion – Fayette County Board of Education turned down a request by Liberty Tech Charter School to operate in Fayette County, specifically in BES. They have now applied to the state and are awaiting an answer.

TOB Free Concert – As mentioned above, Whitewater High School Orchestra would like to perform for the Town of Brooks in the Brooks Chapel. The student’s parents will supply refreshments. Councilman Scott Israel made a Motion for the TOB to supply the Chapel to WHSO, free of charge for this event, including covering the cleaning fees. Todd Speer offered a second to the Motion. The vote was unanimous.

Fayette Co. Resolution: Pilot Site for Autonomous Vehicle Design, Development & Testing – Lewis Harper made a Motion for Ellen Walls to draft a Resolution to be included in the testing area. Todd Speer made a second to the Motion. The vote was unanimous.

Fayette Co. Water System Leak Protection Program – Fayette Co. Water System will begin charging a \$3.00/month fee for “leak insurance” for customers. They have included a letter with water bills if customers wish to opt out of this coverage.

Any Other Business:

John Setzer brought it to the Council’s attention that there is still a broken window in the back area of Hardy Hall. Ellen Walls thanked Mr. Setzer and asked him to email her the information so she may add it to her list of tasks.

There being no other business, Lewis Harper made a Motion to adjourn which was seconded by Jake Kunz. The Council Members present voted unanimously to adjourn and Mayor Langford closed the meeting.

Respectfully Submitted,

Kim Bradley, Brooks Town Clerk