



BROOKS TOWN COUNCIL MEETING

MINUTES

September 19, 2022

Council Member Brian Davis led the Invocation, Mayor Langford led the Pledge and called the meeting to order.

Mayor: Daniel Langford

Council Member present: Ted Britt
Kay Brumbelow
Brian Davis

Absent: Scott Israel
Todd Speer

The proposed Agenda for Monday, September 19, 2022, was emailed to the Mayor and Council Members for review before tonight's meeting. Council Member Brian Davis made a Motion to approve the Agenda; Council Member Ted Britt seconded the motion. The vote was unanimous in favor.

The draft minutes for the following meetings were approved as follows:

- a. Monday, August 11, 2022, Public Hearing - Council Member Kay Brumbelow made a motion to approve the minutes, and Council Member Brian Davis seconded the motion. The vote was unanimous
- b. Monday, August 15, 2022, Council Meeting - Council Member Ted Britt made a motion to approve the minutes, and Council Member Brian Davis seconded the motion. The vote was unanimous
- c. Monday, August 15, 2022, Executive Session - Council Member Ted Britt made a motion to approve the minutes with two changes, and Council Member Kay Brumbelow seconded the motion. The vote was unanimous
- d. Monday, August 22, 2022, Public Hearing - Council Member Brian Davis made a motion to approve the minutes, and Council Member Kay Brumbelow seconded the motion. The vote was unanimous
- e. Wednesday, August 24, 2022, Special Council Session – Council Member Ted Britt made a motion to approve the minutes, and Council Member Brian Davis seconded the motion. The vote was unanimous
- f. Wednesday, August 24, 2022, Executive Session – Council Member Kay Brumbelow made a motion to approve the minutes, and Council Member Brian Davis seconded the motion. The vote was unanimous
- g. Monday, August 29, 2022, Public Hearing - Council Member Brian Davis made a motion to approve the minutes, and Council Member Kay Brumbelow seconded the motion. The vote was unanimous

New Business:

Proposed Changes to Chapter 29, Article 2 of the Code of Ordinances, Street, Sidewalks & Parking. – Traffic Control, Access & Calming Devices:

M. Ungaro stated that recent developments and speculation about development within the Town had raised the question of gated neighborhoods. This was discussed at a previous Council meeting, and the direction from Council was not to allow them. The modifications of the existing section of the Code of Ordinances accomplish two things; 1. It defines the area as the entire Town of Brooks, no longer limited to the TMX zoning district, and 2. Prohibits any street, public or private, from being gated or limited access. Mayor Langford asked if any action needed to be taken this evening. M. Ungaro replied that no action was required as this is the first reading. The second reading will occur at the next Council meeting on Monday, October 19, 2022.

Proposed Amended Budget FY2022:

L. Spohr reviewed the proposed amended FY2022 budget. No action is required at this time because this is the first reading; the second reading and request for adoption will be on Monday, October 19, 2022. The FY2022 budget will require using \$63,812 of the unrestricted Fund Balance.

L. Spohr reviewed the proposed amended FY2023 budget. No action is required at this time because this is the first reading; the second reading and request for adoption will be Monday, October 19, 2022. The FY2023 budget reflects the approved millage rate of 1.207.

Committee Reports:

Mayor's Report: None

Planning and Zoning: None

Recreation: None; No Financials

Town Clerk Report: None

Library: None

Farmer's Market: L. Spohr reported that the next market would be held on Saturday, September 24th. M. Ungaro said that F. Quick used old cedar wood from the cemetery to create new posts to hang the market banner sign and that it provides a rustic and nice flare for the market at no cost to the Town.

Finance Officer's Report: L. Spohr reviewed the August financials; LOST and SPLOST are at an increase over the same time last year. SPLOST YTD over this time last year is at an increase of 9.39%, and LOST YTD over this time last year is at an increase of 13.10%. Anticipated tax revenues are tracking well against FY2023 budgets, except for Property Tax revenue.

Town Manager Report:

Transportation – M. Ungaro reported that striping was added today to all three speed cushions' approaches. This was done to increase visibility, particularly when shade can be an issue and during the evening, as headlights will illuminate the strips. The installation of the two new speed cushions has positively affected vehicular speed, especially on Hwy 85 Connector, south of the fire station. Reports show that the bulk of the vehicles are operating within the 25 to 35 mph range. The ceramic domes have also reduced speed when vehicles are turning left onto McIntosh Rd. After requesting a crash report from the Fayette County Sherriff's department for the period between April 15th and September 13th (which corresponds with the installation of the flashing stop and intersection signs), it showed that during that period, zero crash incidents were reported. Resident

D. Britt inquired about a speed table being installed at Brooks and Gable Rd; M. Ungaro replied that he will consider it.

Sanitary Sewer – M. Ungaro reported that Robert Shockley is installing a 2” pipe underneath Hwy 85 Connector that will connect the west side of the road to the main behind the T-Ball fields. This will allow residents to utilize a STEP system to hook up to the Town’s sewer. Currently, the new construction and renovation on Hwy Connector will be the first to utilize the upgrade.

Hardy Hall – M. Ungaro reported that the main room and the bathroom alcove area had been repainted. The flooring is still on backorder until November.

Any Other: None

Any Other Business: Council Member Brian Davis asked about the upcoming 2023 SPLOST and if there was a need to figure out projects that should be included. M. Ungaro replied yes and would like Council to submit, to him, any projects they would like considered for the upcoming SPLOST, which can then be reviewed in October. M. Ungaro shared that he is looking at doing a study for the Brooks Rd/85 Connector using the current SPLOST funds to do the preliminary engineering report and then requesting construction money on the 2023 SPLOST to complete the project. Other items that could be put on the upcoming SPLOST; cemetery upgrades, opening another section of the cemetery, a columbarium, additional sidewalks in concrete, possibly up the Connector to Price Rd, Price Rd to the cemetery, and then crossings at the school and cemetery and maybe come from the ball fields at Railroad Ave to the Post Office, which would make it a safer environment. Possibly upgrade the library, joining the Pines System, which would give vast access to any title in the system statewide, would provide online, hard copy, audible videos, and ancestry.com. Mayor Langford suggested more traffic calming (speed bumps). Council Member Brian Davis asked about the upcoming SPLOST and the water system, and if the current grant that the Fayette County Water System is working on was to come through, could we use SPLOST money as an additional funding source for the water system upgrade that is, if the grant was to go through. M. Ungaro replied that currently, money has been set aside for the water system and can request an increased amount for the 2023 SPLOST. M. Ungaro reported some disappointing news that the water system grant the Fayette County Water System is working on will be directed to impoverished areas. The next SPLOST vote is scheduled for March 2023.

Adjourn: There being no further business to discuss this evening, Council Member Brian Davis offered a Motion to adjourn; Council Member Ted Britt seconded the motion. The vote was unanimous in favor.

Respectfully Submitted,

Lorey Spohr
Town Clerk