



## BROOKS TOWN COUNCIL MEETING

### MINUTES

January 26, 2026

The Mayor Pro Tem Israel delivered the Invocation, led the Pledge, and called the meeting to order at 6:30 p.m.

Mayor Pro Tem: Scott Israel

Council Members Present: Ted Britt  
Brian Davis  
Sara Nelson  
Bishop Watts

Special Guests: Judge Fletcher Sams and Deborah Bell, Director of Fayette County Planning & Zoning

Absent: Mayor Daniel Langford

#### **Agenda:**

The proposed agenda for Monday, January 26, 2026, was emailed to the Mayor and Council Members for review before tonight's meeting. L. Spohr requested that the agenda be amended to remove item "e" under New Business, as the presenter would not be attending this evening's meeting. Mayor Pro Tem Israel asked for a motion to approve the amended agenda, removing item "e" from New Business; Council Member Ted Britt motioned to approve the agenda with the omission of item "e" under New Business; Council Member Sara Nelson seconded the motion. The vote was unanimous.

#### **Council Meeting Minutes:**

The draft Council Meeting Minutes for Monday, December 15, 2025, were emailed to the Mayor and Council Members for review before tonight's meeting. Mayor Pro-Tem Israel asked for a motion to approve the Council Minutes; Council Member Sara Nelson motioned to approve the December 15, 2025, minutes, as presented; Council Member Brian Davis seconded the motion. Council Member Ted Britt abstained.

#### **Swearing in of Bishop Watts, Post 1, and Scott Israel, Post 2:**

Judge Fletcher Sams was present to swear in the newly elected Council Member for Post 1, Bishop W. Watts, and the newly re-elected Council Member for Post 2, Scott Israel. Judge Sams asked Bishop Watts to repeat the oath of office after him; upon completing the oath, Bishop Watts was officially sworn in and became an active Council Member for the Town of Brooks, serving Post 1. Judge Sams asked Scott Israel to repeat the oath of office after him; upon completing the oath, Scott Israel was officially sworn in as Council Member for the Town of Brooks, serving Post 2. Congratulations to both newly elected Council Members.

**Proclamation No. 2026-01 – Mayor’s Reading Club**

Mayor Pro-Tem Israel read the proclamation recognizing the Mayor’s Reading Club on behalf of Mayor Langford, who was unable to attend this evening. The proclamation noted that literacy is not just an education issue; it is an economic, workforce, and quality-of-life issue, and that children who can’t read proficiently by the end of third grade are more likely to experience poor health, behavioral issues, and drop out of school. Currently, 68% of Georgia fourth graders are not reading proficiently, and collaborative efforts and strategic partnerships are needed to address literacy challenges. The goal of the program is to improve literacy skills and early reading success among children and youth in Georgia. The adoption of the proclamation will proclaim that the Mayor of the Town of Brooks, Daniel Langford, does hereby join the Mayor’s Reading Club and proclaims January 26, 2026, as Mayor’s Reading Club Day.

Mayor Pro-Tem Israel asked for a motion to approve Proclamation No 2026-01, Recognizing The Mayor’s Reading Club, as presented; Council Member Bishop Watts motioned to approve Proclamation 2026-01, Recognizing The Mayor’s Reading Club, as presented; Council Member Sara Nelson seconded the motion.

**Public Hearing: Amendment of the CIE and CWP and Resolution 2026-02 Transmittal to ARC/DCA: Opened at 6:38 p.m. / Closed at 6:40 p.m.**

Deborah Bell, Director of Fayette County Planning and Zoning, provided an overview of the FY2025 CIE (Capital Improvement Elements) and CWP (Community Work Program) for the Fayette County Fire Services Impact Fees. The FY2025 financial reports presented reflect impact fees collected and associated costs for Fayette County, the Town of Brooks, Tyrone, and Woosley. In addition to CIE and CWP, Deborah provided a summary of the annual update to the CIE and STWP (Short-Term Work Program). The annual update has been prepared in accordance with the Development Impact Fee Compliance Requirements and the Minimum Planning Standards and Procedures for Local Comprehensive Planning. These improvements will span FY2026 to FY2030. The proposed resolution for CIE and STWP (Resolution 2026-02) will be submitted to the Atlanta Regional Commission and the Georgia Department of Community Affairs for regional review upon approval.

Mayor Pro Tem Israel opened the Public Hearing at 6:38 p.m. and asked whether there were any questions or comments from the Council; hearing none, Mayor Pro Tem Israel asked whether there were any questions or comments from the public; hearing none, Mayor Pro Tem Israel closed the public hearing at 6:40 p.m.

**New Business:**

**Town of Brooks Capital Improvement Element and Short-Term Work Program:**

Mayor Pro Tem Israel asked if there were any questions from Council or the public, hearing none, proceeded to item “b” under New Business.

**Resolution 2026-02 – CIE & STWP Transmittal Resolution:**

Mayor Pro Tem Israel asked if there were any questions from Council or the public, hearing none, Mayor Pro Tem Israel asked for a motion to approve Resolution 2026-02 CIE & STEP Transmittal Resolution as presented. Council Member Brian Davis made a motion to approve Resolution 2026-02 CIE & STWP Transmittal Resolution as presented; Council Member Ted Britt seconded the motion. The vote was unanimous.

**Fayette County Hazard Mitigation Plan 2025-2030:**

Council Member Brian Davis reviewed the importance and goals of the Fayette County Local Hazard Mitigation Plan. FEMA (Federal Emergency Management Agency) requires that every county and municipality have a pre-disaster mitigation plan in place and that such plans be adopted to receive funds from the Hazard Mitigation Grant Program. The goals of the plan are to protect the public health and safety, reduce and eliminate to the extent possible community exposure to natural and technological hazard events, reduce loss and damage to provide property and public infrastructure resulting from national or technological hazards, maintain continuity of public and provide sector operations during and after hazard events and respond promptly, appropriately and efficient in the event of natural or technological hazards. Funding for the plan is typically 75% federal and 25% county. Fayette County and Tyrone have adopted this plan, and it is on the agenda of Fayetteville and Peachtree City for approval.

Mayor Pro Tem Israel asked whether there were any questions from either the council or the public, hearing none, Mayor Pro Tem Israel asked for a motion to approve Resolution 2026-01, Town of Brooks Hazard Mitigation Plan 2025-2030, as presented. Council Member Brian David made a motion to approve Resolution 2026-01 Town of Brooks Hazard Mitigation Plan 2025-2030 as presented; Council Member Bishop Watts seconded the motion. The vote was unanimous.

**Old Business:**

**Hwy 85 Connector / McIntosh Rd Project Invoices**

M. Ungaro requested approval of outstanding invoices for the completed Hwy 85 Connector and McIntosh Rd project. The outstanding invoices are from Mallett Engineering, the Town Engineer, and CGS, LLC, the project's contractor. The invoices total \$24,364.10, which will be paid using both LMIG and SPLOST 2023 funds.

Mayor Pro Tem Israel asked for a motion regarding invoices totaling \$24,364.10. Council Member Brian Davis made a motion to approve the invoices totaling \$24,364.10 for payment; Council Member Sara Nelson seconded the motion. The vote was unanimous.

**Committee Reports:**

**Mayor's Report:**

No report was provided as Mayor Langford was not in attendance.

**Planning and Zoning:**

M. Ungaro stated there was nothing to report at this time.

**Recreation:**

C. Moody stated that baseball and softball evaluations have begun and, most importantly, the opening-day date has changed: it will now be held on Saturday, March 21, 2026. M. Ungaro stated that he will change the date for the first Brooks Market to coincide with the new date.

**Library:**

K. Bradley requested approval to deaccession 116 library books. The copyright dates range between 1982 and 2008. The books are either in poor condition or have not been checked out in fifteen years or more. The current estimated value of these books is approximately \$141.78, which is 10% of their original purchase price.

**Town Clerk / Finance Officer:**

L. Spohr reported that 2026 Business License renewals are being processed as they come in. The Calvary Chapel Church has chosen to renew its Sunday rentals at the Brooks Chapel through April 2026, excluding the one day the Chapel was previously rented for a wedding. The revenue for this rental period is \$2,400.00. The rental office in Hardy Hall has also been renewed for February through April 2026; the revenue from that rental is \$825.00. New locks for both Hardy Hall and Brooks Chapel have been installed. These locks provide immediate access to lock and unlock from anywhere and maintain a real-time entry activity log. The original locks lacked this capability, and the chapel lock was not performing as intended.

L. Spohr reported that, at the town auditor's request, a 180-day extension has been requested and approved for the FY2025 audit. L. Spohr will present a proposed amendment to the approved FY2025 Amended budget at the next meeting. The proposed amendment will reflect an increase in Public Works expenses resulting from payments made after June 30, 2026.

L. Spohr reviewed the December financials. LOST revenue for December was \$15,693.93, down 2.14% from last month but up 0.42% year to date. SPLOST November revenue was \$15,905.27, down 1.62% from last month, but up 0.07% for year to date.

**Town Manager:****Transportation:**

Traffic was backed up on Hwy 85 Connector last Thursday afternoon after a vehicle overturned during an FCSO pursuit of a stolen vehicle. The vehicle wrecked south of the Brooks-Woolsey/85 Connector intersection. Surprisingly, the only injuries were to the vehicle's juvenile driver. He sustained non-life-threatening injuries.

Sinkhole – On Thursday, a sinkhole appeared in front of 934 Hwy 85 Connector. The County Road Department placed a temporary patch on it and will assess the underlying stormwater pipe to determine the best repair approach.

Railroad Avenue – Concrete Supply installed the gravel on approximately 90 linear feet of the grassed area, up to the mailbox at 104 Railroad Avenue. The new gravel parking is working well, though many, if not all, folks treat Railroad Ave as a two-way street.

Signage – A new sign for Railroad Ave. was placed at the intersection with 85 Connector. A one-way sign was also placed on the signpost to inform drivers of the restriction. The sign for the Liberty Tech access road was also installed. I would like to have a dedication ceremony soon, once the Mayor returns from his travels.

Woods Rd – A report was received from the county engineering department regarding the two counters across Woods Rd., in both directions. There were approximately 400 cars per day on that road; it can't be determined how many were traveling in each direction, but most were traveling at around 60 mph, with some up to 70 mph.

**Stormwater:**

M. Ungaro reported that he is working with the County Road Department to repair the twin culverts underneath Woods Rd. These repairs can be accomplished at a fraction of the cost of replacement, and are expected to extend the facility's life by another 15 years.

**Any Other Business:**

The new campus pastor at Crossroads Whitewater, Tory Hornsby, asked for permission for the Whitewater Crossroads Church to use the Brooks Football field for an Easter event on Saturday, March 28<sup>th</sup>. There will be food and drinks, three or four inflatables for the kids, and several carnival-style games, with an anticipated attendance of 150 to 200 kids. Communication has been made with Chris Moody and Maurice Ungaro to ensure there are no conflicts. L. Spohr requested that a certificate of insurance be submitted naming the Town of Brooks as the insured with a \$1M coverage limit. M. Ungaro replied that he will send Tory an agreement for review and signature for the use of the Brooks Football field on March 28, 2026. The Council unanimously approved Crossroads Whitewater's request to use the football field for its event.

The resident at 124 Gable Rd is asking the council to consider lowering the speed limit and installing speed bumps on Gable Rd between McIntosh Rd and Hwy 85 Connector. Those who travel on that road are speeding; it's like a race to see how fast they can get from McIntosh Rd to Hwy 85 Connector. This is extremely dangerous for our grandchildren, our visitors, and deliveries. Recently, an Amazon driver was nearly struck by a vehicle while delivering to our home. M. Ungaro stated that he will look into speed bumps along Gable Rd.

Residents at 720 Hwy 85 Connector reported that they have complained to the county about speeding and near-collisions at Morgan Mill and the Hwy 85 Connector. They asked about the status of the roundabout. Can rumble strips be added to Morgan Mill Rd, or speed bumps installed on the short side of Morgan Mill Rd between Brooks Woolsey and the Hwy 85 Connector? What can be done now to help reduce speeding and near collisions and/or accidents at Morgan Mill Rd and Hwy 85 Connector?

M. Ungaro replied that a transportation study needs to be conducted and will investigate alternatives with GDOT in the meantime.

**Adjourn:**

With no additional business to discuss, Mayor Pro Tem Israel moved to adjourn tonight's meeting. Council Member Sara Nelson made a motion to adjourn. Council Member Ted Britt seconded the motion. The vote was unanimous; the meeting was adjourned at 7:36 p.m.

Respectfully Submitted,

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Lorey Spohr  
Town Clerk