



BROOKS TOWN COUNCIL MEETING

MINUTES

October 16, 2023

Council Member Scott Israel led the Invocation, Mayor Langford led the Pledge and called the meeting to order at 6:30 p.m.

Council Member present: Ted Britt
 Kay Brumbelow
 Brian Davis
 Scott Israel
 Todd Speer

The proposed Agenda for Monday, October 16, 2023, was emailed to the Mayor and Council Members for review before tonight's meeting. Mayor Langford asked for a motion to approve the agenda; Council Member Ted Britt made a Motion to approve the agenda as presented; Council Member Todd Speer seconded the motion. The vote was unanimous.

The draft Council Meeting Minutes for Monday, September 18, 2023, were emailed to the Mayor and Council Members for review before tonight's meeting. Mayor Langford asked for a motion to approve the Council Meeting Minutes; Council Member Kay Brumbelow made a Motion to approve the minutes as presented; Council Member Scott Israel seconded the motion. The vote was unanimous in favor.

The draft Executive Session Minutes for Monday, September 18, 2023, were emailed to the Mayor and Council Members for review before tonight's meeting. Mayor Langford asked for a motion to approve the Executive Session Minutes; Council Member Todd Speer made a Motion to approve the minutes as presented; Council Member Ted Britt seconded the motion. The vote was unanimous in favor.

New Business:

The proposed Easement for 115 Church Alley was emailed to the Mayor and Council Members for review before tonight's meeting. M. Ungaro stated the easement is a legal formality between the Town of Brooks and Ronna Jo Kubit, the property owner of 115 Church Alley. This easement replaces the implied easement with the previous property owner, Bonnie Maddock. The Town Attorney prepared the easement, which asserts the Town's property ownership. The grant of the easement will allow Ronna Jo Kubit and her invitees to use the Town's property to enter and leave her property. Mayor Langford asked if there were any questions, and with none, Mayor Langford asked for a motion to approve the Easement for 115 Church Alley. Council Member Scott Israel made a Motion to approve the Easement as presented, and Council Member Brian Davis seconded the motion. The vote was unanimous in favor.

Old Business:

L. Spohr presented the second reading of the proposed Fiscal Year End 2023 Budget. The proposed Fiscal Year End 2023 budget used the FY2023 Amended Budget adopted on October 17, 2022, with revenue and expenditures of \$507,961.

L. Spohr reported Fiscal Year End 2023 revenue of \$628,200 and expenditures of \$544,671, adding \$83,529 (unaudited) to the Fund Balance.

L. Spohr reported cemetery lot sales had an unprecedented amount of revenue; also increased revenues from LOST and TAVT, and tax revenue decreases for Franchise Tax Fees, Property Tax, Intangible, Alternative Ad Valorem, and RETT taxes. LMIG, Capital Improvement, Admin, and ARPA had expenditures that exceeded the budget.

With the proposed \$83,529 (unaudited) addition, the Fund Balance could support 8.2 months of operations in case of an emergency.

Mayor Langford asked for a motion to approve the Fiscal Year End 2023 Budget; Council Member Todd Speer made a Motion to approve the Fiscal Year End 2023 Budget as presented; Council Member Scott Israel seconded the motion. The vote was unanimous in favor.

Committee Reports:

Mayor's Report: Mayor Langford reported he attended the Mayor's breakfast meeting earlier this month and is pleased these meetings continue to build relationships. These relationships made it easy to reach equitable solutions on the division of the sales tax allocation. Mayor Langford was happy to report that EMC, of which he is a Board member, will present a check to BAR for \$1,000. These funds come from unclaimed capital credits every year, which also provided everyone who has EMC a check varying in amounts from \$50 to \$80 in recent months; these funds are a return of the credits from 2003 and 2021.

Planning and Zoning:

M. Ungaro announced that he had nothing new to report for September.

Recreation:

D. Holliman reported that they had a football fundraiser for breast cancer awareness, which raised \$2k. Baseball and Softball are underway and going well. Bricks are still available for sale; there are two sizes: \$50.00 and \$100.00; all brick orders can be done online; for those who can't use the online feature, a hard copy can be completed and turned into BAR. BAR is still waiting on Fayette County to approve the demo permits but anticipates those permits to be approved soon.

Library: K. Bradley reported her medical leave was successful and is happy to return to the library to continue de-accessing old and outdated books. K. Bradley requested the approval to de-access 272 books with copyright dates ranging from 1972 to 2004, valued at \$454.88. Mayor Langford asked for a motion to approve the deaccession of the 272 library books. Council Member Kay Brumbelow made a Motion to approve the deaccession of 272 books, and Council Member Todd Speer seconded the motion. The vote was unanimous in favor. K. Bradley also reported that there has been an increase in cemetery sales.

Town Clerk Report: L. Spohr reported the third quarter trash billing was mailed out with a reminder to update their account number on all payments and included a chart with the new quarterly and yearly rates.

Finance Officer's Report: L. Spohr reviewed the September financials; LOST was at an increase versus September 2022. LOST YTD is at an increase of 6.04%. The Town received August's 2023 SPLOST wire for \$14,799.84; compared to the 2017 SPLOST wire for August 2022, it was down by 2.54%.

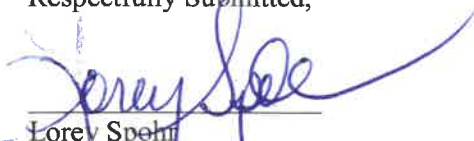
Town Manager Report:

M. Ungaro reported that the next market will be a night market with a Halloween theme on Saturday, October 28th from 4:00 p.m. to 8:00 p.m. It will coincide with the 5th annual Downtown Hometown Brooks Trunk and Treat. The Town will host a Candidate's Forum tomorrow, Tuesday, October 17th from 6:30 p.m. to 8:00 p.m. in Hardy Hall. This will allow each candidate to introduce themselves and briefly discuss why they are running for Post 5. The forum will be moderated by Lee Hearn, Chairman of County Commissioner District 2, who will allow guests to ask candidates questions about why they are running for the post. The Fayette County Road Department has been notified several potholes require repair on Friendship Church Road. The Road Department has plans to repair those in the next two weeks.

Any Other Business: Residents Kyle Whitson (390 Huckaby Rd) and James Wilson (380 Huckaby Rd) expressed their concerns about speeding and possibly having speed bumps installed on Huckaby Rd as you enter the Town limits. Mr. Whitson reported that the traffic radar sign placed by the County did nothing to slow down drivers. It's dangerous for the ten-plus kids and the residents trying to retrieve their mail who live on Huckaby Rd within the Town limits. Council Member Scott Israel stated that a petition would be required to change the speed limit to 25 mph and a traffic study by the Sheriff's Department, which is not a quick process. M. Ungaro said there may be a possibility of doing something directly with Fayette County and will connect with the County Engineer to see what can be done. In the meantime, Mayor Langford suggested to get the process started, Mr. Whitson or Mr. Wilson be a central point of contact to collect letters of concern and complaints from residents living on Huckaby Rd. and provide them to the Town.

Adjourn: With no further business to discuss this evening, Mayor Langford asked for a motion to adjourn; Council Member Brian Davis offered a Motion to adjourn; Council Member Ted Britt seconded the motion. The vote was unanimous in favor, and the meeting was adjourned at 7:06 p.m.

Respectfully Submitted,



Lorey Spohn
Town Clerk