



BROOKS TOWN COUNCIL MEETING

MINUTES

April 21, 2025

Mayor Langford gave the Invocation, led the Pledge, and then called the meeting to order at 6:30 p.m.

Mayor: Daniel Langford

Council Members Present: Ted Britt
Kay Brumbelow
Brian Davis
Scott Israel
Todd Speer

Guests: Debbie Bell, Director, Fayette County Planning & Zoning
Tom Lacy, Town Attorney, Lindsey & Lacy

The proposed agenda for Monday, April 21, 2025, 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 Scott Israel motioned to approve the agenda as presented, and Council Member Todd Speer seconded the motion. The vote was unanimous.

The draft Council Meeting Minutes for Monday, March 17, 2025, were emailed to the Mayor and Council Members for review before tonight's meeting. Mayor Langford asked for a motion to approve the Council Minutes; Council Member Todd Speer motioned to approve March 17, 2025, minutes, as presented; Council Member Kay Brumbelow seconded the motion, and Council Member Todd Speer abstained. The vote was unanimous.

New Business:

Resolution 2025-002 – Qualifying Fees for 2025 November Election

L. Spohr explained the resolution request and its purpose. The Fayette County Board of Elections requested a resolution to ensure that the qualifying fees and dates have been reviewed and approved by the Mayor and Council. A resolution regarding qualifying fees and dates will be required each election year. Mayor Langford asked for a motion regarding Resolution 2025-002. Council Member Brian Davis made a motion to approve Resolution 2025-002 as presented; Council Member Kay Brumbelow seconded the motion. The vote was unanimous.

Resolution 2025-003 – Adoption of the Fayette County 2024 Annual Report on Fire Services Impact Fees (FY2024), including Comprehensive Plan Amendments for Update to the Capital Improvements Element and the Short-Term Work Program (FY2025-FY2029)

Debbie Bell, Director of Fayette County Planning & Zoning, explained the resolution request and its purpose. Fayette County, in collaboration with the towns of Tyrone, Brooks, and Woolsey,

prepared the 2024 Annual Report, which includes the Comprehensive Plan Amendment for updates to CIE and STWP for FY2025-FY2029. The annual update was prepared in accordance with the requirements of the Georgia Development Impact Fee and the Minimum Planning Standards and Procedures for Local Comprehensive Planning established by the Georgia Planning Act of 1989. After the Regional and State reviews were completed, ARC received a notification of compliance.

Debbie Bell asked the Mayor and Council to consider Resolution 2025-003 for adoption. Mayor Langford asked for a motion regarding Resolution 2025-003. Council Member Scott Israel made a motion to approve Resolution 2025-003 as presented, and Council Member Ted Britt seconded the motion. The vote was unanimous.

Resolution 2025-004 – Adoption of the Town of Brooks Records Retention Schedule.

L. Spohr explained the resolution's purpose. The Town of Brooks had not previously adopted a Retention Schedule, whereas other cities/towns in Georgia have adopted and utilize the records retention schedule produced by the Georgia Archives, the University System of Georgia, and Local Government for their towns/cities. It is in the town's best interest to adopt a retention schedule that directs how long documents should be retained. Mayor Langford asked if there was a motion regarding Resolution 2025-004. Council Member Todd Speer made a motion to approve Resolution 2025-004 as presented; Council Member Ted Britt seconded the motion. The vote was unanimous.

Old Business:

115th Brooks Heritage Celebration Update

Bishop Watts updated everyone on the Brooks cookbook, noting that more recipes are needed. Hopefully, each council member will consider submitting their family recipes. Jennifer Robinson provided an update on the Brooks-Opoly game. The proofs have been received and will be reviewed and approved to begin production. L. Spohr shared that Jennifer Robinson has done a fantastic job securing more sponsorships for the Brooks Heritage Celebration activities.

Committee Reports:

Mayor's Report:

Mayor Langford shared that Congressman Brian Jack assisted in facilitating a meeting between himself and a representative from Norfolk Southern to discuss the rail tracks within Brooks, also referred to as Rails to Trails. Mayor Langford was encouraged by the meeting.

Planning and Zoning:

M. Ungaro reported that there was no update for this evening.

Recreation:

Chris Moody could not attend the meeting and did not provide a BAR update to be presented.

Library:

K. Bradley reported that she is still reading books for her position as a Maggie Judge (for the GA Romance Writers Guild awards) in 2025. The library has been slow, which is typical for this time of year. K. Bradley was pleased to announce that she is working on the 2025 Brooks Library Bingo game, which will be ready to begin this summer.

Town Clerk Report:

L. Spohr reported that trash bills were sent out on April 3rd and contained a “save the date” card for the upcoming Brooks Heritage Celebration on October 25, 2025. With the anticipated passage of Resolution 2025-004, a fireproof cabinet was purchased to secure documents classified as permanent records per the retention schedule. L. Spohr was pleased to announce that the Brooks Christian Church has officially approved the town to use their parking lot for the Brooks Heritage Celebration. L. Spohr reported that there are still four outstanding business license fees: Country Financial, Left Brain Consulting, Artsy Creative, and the Creative Home Store. The business license fees were due on March 31, 2025.

Finance Officer's Report:

The financials for the General Fund and Enterprise accounts were reviewed. March's LOST revenue was up 5.86% compared to last March. February 2025's SPLOST revenue increased by 5.35% compared to February 2024, and the year-to-date (YTD) 2023 SPLOST is up 5.91%.

L. Spohr reported that two of the town's general fund certificate of deposits were closed at Bank OZK due to the interest rate of 0.20% and deposited into a GF-1 Fund (Georgia Fund) with a current yield of 4.386%. The Office of the State Treasurer of the State of Georgia oversees the GF-1 Fund.

Town Manager Report:**Transportation:**

The McIntosh Rd/Hwy 85 connector intersection improvement project is getting underway tomorrow morning.

The Church Alley parking enhancement project: the survey is being adjusted to incorporate the driveway for 115 Church Alley.

Late on Friday night, a hit-and-run incident occurred in the middle of town on the 85 Connector. The suspect continued and crashed in the vicinity of Haddon Creek and Massengale Road. I have asked the Sheriff's Office for details.

Brooks Market:

Saturday's market was successful, despite it being Easter weekend. The Brooks Woman's Club participated with their spring plant sale.

Brooks Memorial Gardens:

The updated plat of the cemetery expansion should be delivered this week, and plot sales can begin.

Any Other Business:

Courtney and her husband, Rob, introduced themselves and announced that Heavenly House and Market, LLC, will open sometime in June and will offer grab-and-go foods and coffee.

Mayor Langford moved to close the public session for the next item on the agenda, the Executive Session. Council Member Kay Brumbelow made the motion, and Council Member Todd Speer seconded it. The vote was unanimous, and the public session of the meeting was adjourned at 7:04 p.m.

Executive Session: Opened at 7:09 p.m. / Closed at 7:47 p.m.

Adjourn:

Mayor Langford requested a motion to adjourn with no further business to discuss. Council Member Brian Davis motioned to adjourn, and Council Member K. Brumbelow seconded it. The vote was unanimous. The meeting was adjourned at 7:48 p.m.

Respectfully Submitted,

Lorey Spohr
Town Clerk