



BROOKS TOWN COUNCIL MEETING

MINUTES

March 17, 2025

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

Mayor: Daniel Langford

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

Absent: Kay Brumbelow

The proposed agenda for Monday, March 17, 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 Todd Speer motioned to approve the agenda as presented, and Council Member Ted Britt seconded the motion. The vote was unanimous.

The draft Council Meeting Minutes for Monday, February 24, 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 Brian Davis motioned to approve the February 24, 2025, minutes, as presented; Council Member Scott Israel seconded the motion, and Council Member Todd Speer abstained. The vote was unanimous.

Proclamation:

Proclamation Recognizing Brooks Safe Digging Month

Mayor Langford read Proclamation No 2025-001, proclaiming April 2025 as Brooks Safe Digging Month, which encourages contractors and homeowners throughout Brooks to always call 811 before digging. Mayor Langford asked for a motion to approve Proclamation No. 2025-001, recognizing April 2025 as Brooks Safe Digging Month. Council Member Scott Israel motioned to approve Proclamation No. 2025-001 as presented, and Council Member Todd Speer seconded the motion. The vote was unanimous. Mayor Langford presented the proclamation to Matt Bergen, Utility Manager of Fayette County.

New Business:

Ballpark Signage:

M. Ungaro stated that the Parks Director approached him about a new sign at Aubrey Evans Park and asked D. Holliman to update the Mayor and Council. BAR has been in the process of upgrading the paths and discussing signage over the last few months, as it has been determined that many people are unfamiliar with Aubrey Evans. It is thought that changing the name may bring

more focus and appreciation, as Mr. Evans donated the land to Brooks. D. Holliman asked if Mayor Langford and Councilman Britt would help craft the language, and both agreed. Mayor Langford inquired whether a motion was required regarding new signage; M. Ungaro stated that it was not at this time. Once the wording has been crafted, it should be brought before the council for approval.

SPLOST Paving Project:

M. Ungaro reported on the first phase of the SPLOST paving project. There is a two-step process: first, crack sealing, then returning later to dress the surface and top it with the micro-paving product, which will provide a nice, fresh surface that should add longevity for another eight years or more. With the completion of the first portion, the second portion is expected to be completed in a couple of weeks. The streets included in this project are Carrington Lane, Brooklet Way, Brookside, and Railroad Avenue. Residents will be informed before the commencement of the work. The first phase of the project requires payment to the vendor, Asphalt Paving Systems, for \$6,400.00. This amount is for the crack sealing and traffic control. Mayor Langford asked for a motion to approve the invoice from Asphalt Paving Systems for \$6,400.00. Council Member Brian Davis motioned to approve the invoice for \$6,400.00 for Asphalt Paving Systems; Council Member Todd Speer seconded the motion. The vote was unanimous.

Committee Reports:

Mayor's Report:

Mayor Langford shared that he would be attending the mayor's breakfast on Wednesday, a Chamber meeting on Thursday, and the Southern Conservation Trust event on Saturday.

Planning and Zoning:

M. Ungaro reported that a commercial building permit had been approved for 171 Price Rd; the permit meets and exceeds the required setbacks per our zoning ordinance. The commercial building will be a dog kennel facility with approximately ten dog runs and the capability of housing ten cats. Council Member Scott Israel said the only concern is that when they are let out at night, there will be barking. M. Ungaro will ask the owners about their procedures for evening hours and remind them of the town's noise ordinance if necessary. No vote was required for this permit, as it was permitted under the Town's zoning ordinance.

Recreation:

Darby Holliman attended in place of Chris Moody. D. Holliman was pleased to share that the parade was a success; there were 22 floats, and the games proceeded without a hitch, with food enjoyed by all. EMC finished the underground power installation and installed underground power to the transformer behind the cell tower. The permit for the septic tank is pending approval from Fayette County. Council Member Ted Britt asked if BAR would remove their signup signs since the event had ended. D. Holliman stated he would have them picked up.

Library:

K. Bradley reported that she has been asked to serve as a Maggie Judge (for the GA Romance

Writer Guild awards) again in 2025 and looks forward to reading the books being judged; there are no new updates for the library for this month.

Town Clerk Report:

L. Spohr reported an update on the 115th Celebration events, sharing that new activities have been planned, including axe throwing and mechanical bull riding, which Jeff Hodges Site Preparations has sponsored. Additionally, the event committee is seeking volunteers to support the kids' area. Volunteers would need to be able to spend a minimum of two hours working in a kid's booth, which would potentially have activities such as sand art, ceramic painting, and bead jewelry making. L. Spohr made another reminder that all 2025 Business License fees are due no later than March 31st. Those who have not paid their license fee will be contacted via phone and email to determine if the business is still in operation or has ceased. Bishop Watts provided an update on the Municipal Flag competition, stating two more submissions have been received. Jennifer Robinson provided an update on the BrooksOpoly game and that it has been submitted to the vendor for its first proof run.

Finance Officer's Report:

The financials for the General Fund and Enterprise accounts were reviewed. The LOST revenue for February is up 6.30% compared to last February. The SPLOST revenue for January 2025 increased by 6.25% compared to January 2024, and the year-to-date (YTD) 2023 SPLOST is up 5.91%.

Town Manager Report:

Municipal Summit:

M. Ungaro reported on Thursday, March 14th, that he attended the annual event hosted by PTC Mayor Kim Learned. There were some excellent presentations by GDOT, the Southern Conservation Trust, and US Soccer. This annual summit brings together not only Fayette County municipal leaders but also representatives from Newnan and Senoia, as they share similar regional issues.

Transportation:

The town is awaiting the signing of the contract documents by the winning bidder for the McIntosh Road/Hwy 85 Connector intersection. The Church Alley parking enhancement project requires a land swap with the owners of 115 Church Alley. Regarding the proposed Liberty School alternative access, it was determined by soil samples that the ground requires additional material to be used for the access road; the extra materials will cost another \$13k, which would bring the total cost for the project to approximately \$30k, the school's portion is approximately \$2,400.00

Brooks Market:

The first market of the season went very well, with the Opening Day parade highlighting the morning. Thanks to Council Members Ted Britt and Scott Israel for attending and supporting not only the parade but also the market.

Brooks Chapel:

During a recent wedding event, a portion of the floor was damaged when the piano was moved by the renter. The damaged area is slated to be refinished this week, with the piano being professionally moved tomorrow and repositioned in place next week.

Any Other Business:

Mayor Langford reported receiving questions about the cemetery's hours and access. M. Ungaro replied, stating that the cemetery's hours are from dawn to dusk and that access to the cemetery via the driveway is restricted when an event is being held at Liberty Tech, with a chain across the entry. These measures had to be taken because attendees of these events were observed parking not only in the cemetery but also on grave markers, which is unacceptable. The chain is removed after each event. M. Ungaro will investigate creating a sign stating that access is closed due to an event.

Mayor Langford asked for a motion to close the public session for the next item on the agenda, the Executive Session. Council Member Scott Isreal made a motion to close the public session of the meeting; Council Member Todd Speer seconded the motion. The vote was unanimous, and the public session of the meeting was adjourned at 7:09 p.m.

Executive Session: Opened at 7:10 p.m. / Closed at 7:20 p.m.

Mayor Langford reopened the public session of the meeting at 7:21 p.m. and asked for a motion regarding the proposed development of a property swap agreement. Council Member Brian Davis made a motion to pursue the development of a property swap agreement; Council Member Ted Britt seconded the motion. The vote was unanimous.

Adjourn:

With no further business to discuss, Mayor Langford requested a motion to adjourn. Council Member Todd Speer motioned to adjourn, and Council Member Scott Israel seconded it. The vote was unanimous. The meeting was adjourned at 7:30 p.m.

Respectfully Submitted,

Lorey Spohr
Town Clerk