



CITY OF BROOKLET
104 CHURCH ST. BROOKLET, GA 30415 PHONE (912) 842-2137 FAX (912)842-5877

June 19, 2025

**Public Hearing
6:30 PM
&
City Council
Meeting
7:00 PM**

Minutes

In attendance: L.W. (Nicky) Gwinnett, Mayor; Hubert Roughton, Mayor Pro-Tem; James Harrison, Councilman; Rebecca Kelly, Councilwoman; Sheila Wentz, Councilwoman; Carter Crawford, City Manager; Lori Phillips, City Clerk; Melissa Pevey, Assistant City Clerk; and Ben Perkins, City Attorney.

1. Call to order and welcome - Mayor Gwinnett

- Invocation
- Pledge of Allegiance

2. Consideration of a Motion to Approve the Agenda

MOTION TO APPROVE

MOTION: Brad Anderson

SECOND: Rebecca Kelly

AYES: Brad Anderson, Sheila Wentz, Hubert Roughton, James Harrison, and Rebecca Kelly.

NAYES: None

The motion carried 5-0.

3. Public Hearing

- FY2026 Budget Review
- Discussion and questions from the Mayor and City Council

- Discussion and questions from the Public who have requested to speak
No public comment or discussion.

4. Motion to come out of the Public Hearing and go into the City Council Meeting.

MOTION TO APPROVE

MOTION: Brad Anderson

SECOND: Rebecca Kelly

AYES: Brad Anderson, Sheila Wentz, Hubert Roughton, James Harrison, and Rebecca Kelly.

NAYES: None

The motion carried 5-0.

5. Recognition of Guest(s) who have Signed Up to Speak

No one signed in to speak.

6. Recognition of Guest(s) Requested to be on the agenda:

a. Austin Volkert – Emily Grace Mayo Memorial

A significant discussion revolved around a proposed statue in honor of Emily Grace Mayo at the site where the tragic event of her untimely death occurred. Volkert, who had been in communication with Emily Grace's maternal grandfather, mentioned that the girl's favorite activities at the park were the monkey bars and the swings, and that a memorial at the park, possibly incorporating these elements, would be the best way to commemorate her. Councilman Roughton noted that the recreation department was in talks with the girl's aunt and emphasized the need for everyone to agree before proceeding. Volkert decided to contact the recreation department and inquire about funding. Roughton reiterated his desire for everyone to be on board with the entire plan, and it was noted that the Mayor and Council members were all in agreement to move forward with some form of memorial. Mayor Gwinnett and Mr. Roughton will reach out to the recreation department to put a plan in place.

7. Consideration of a Motion to Approve the Minutes for the following Meetings:

a. May 10, 2025 Work Session

b. May 15, 2025 Work Session & City Council Meeting

MOTION TO APPROVE

MOTION: Hubert Roughton

SECOND: James Harrison

AYES: Brad Anderson, Sheila Wentz, Hubert Roughton, James Harrison, and Rebecca Kelly.

NAYES: None

The motion carried 5-0.

8. Consideration of a Motion to approve the May Financial Reports as presented.

MOTION TO APPROVE

MOTION: Rebecca Kelly

SECOND: Hubert Roughton

AYES: Brad Anderson, Sheila Wentz, Hubert Roughton, James Harrison, and Rebecca Kelly.

NAYES: None

The motion carried 5-0.

9. **Report from the City Manager, Carter Crawford**, provided a report, mentioning an informal interview with one candidate for the City Manager position, with mid-July as the target for filling the vacancy. He also reported saving \$3,000 on a new trailer and a satisfactory water system report. Crawford noted that he met with the Blue Knights Motorcycle Club to discuss ways to collect donations for the Brooklet Police Department. The Knights suggested creating a foundation like that of the Statesboro Police Department and the Bulloch County Sheriff's Office. They will gather the essential information and provide it to Mr. Crawford so he can present it to the Council.

10. Reports from Committee Members

a. **Mayor Pro-Tem Hubert K. Roughton** – No Reports

b. **Councilman Bradley Anderson** – No Reports

c. **Councilwoman Rebecca Kelly** raised concerns about overflowing ditches that needed to be cleaned out and tall grass, which he noted could attract snakes.

d. **Councilman James Harrison** - City Attorney Ben Perkins addressed a residency question for Councilman Harrison, who will be moving outside city limits temporarily during the construction of his new house. Perkins clarified that Georgia law focuses on intent regarding residency, and Harrison can continue to serve as a council member legally.

e. **Councilwoman Sheila Wentz** – No Reports

11. **Report from City Clerk Lori Phillips** reported that the city has been actively managing various tasks, including responding to dig requests, processing open records, handling significant financial receipts from LMIG2023 and SPLOST, and preparing for full-service utility billing in June, which will result in savings compared to previous postcard methods.

12. **Report from Assistant City Clerk Melissa Pevey** reported the addition of city cell phones for public works and administration, eliminating the need for monthly reimbursements. She provided an update on the need for a Development of Regional Impact

(DRI), which is required for proposed developments of 400 or more homes. Hayden Rollins has received the information, and the City Attorney plans to review it upon Rollins' return of the paperwork. It will take up to 30 days for approval once all documents have been submitted. Pevey has begun her hours for clerk certification.

13. Report from Chief of Police

a. **Michelle Reolegio** gave the monthly crime analysis for May 2025, which consisted of one homicide, one felony theft, one animal complaint, six agency assists, three civil complaints, five miscellaneous (traffic detail/public service), two vandalism/trespass/property damage crimes, four traffic accidents, and 101 issued citations.

14. Report from the City Engineer

a. **Wesley Parker, Parker Engineering, LLC.** - Provided updates on the sidewalk project, which is moving to the next phase, and the sewer project, which is currently concentrating on Depot Street. There was also discussion regarding flooded homes at 101 Ingram Street and 103 Ingram Street, with a GEMA program as a potential option. Roughton emphasized the importance of considering all options and conducting due diligence. The mayor inquired about a retention pond, which Parker indicated could be an option in the field on Lee Street.

15. Report from the City Attorney

a. **City Attorney Ben Perkins** addressed a residency question for Councilman Harrison, who will be moving outside city limits temporarily during the construction of his new house. Perkins clarified that Georgia law focuses on intent regarding residency, and Harrison can continue to serve as a council member legally.

16. Discussion Item(s):

16.1. DISCUSSION AND CONSIDERATION OF A MOTION TO APPROVE A RESOLUTION, TO ADOPT THE FISCAL YEAR 2026 BUDGET FOR THE CITY OF BROOKLET, GEORGIA, APPROPRIATING THE AMOUNTS SHOWN IN THE BUDGET AS EXPENDITURES/EXPENSES, ADOPTING THE SEVERAL ITEMS OF REVENUE ANTICIPATIONS, AND PROHIBITING EXPENDITURES OR EXPENSES FROM EXCEEDING THE ACTUAL FUNDING AVAILABLE.

MOTION TO APPROVE

MOTION: Brad Anderson

SECOND: Rebecca Kelly

AYES: Brad Anderson, Sheila Wentz, Hubert Roughton, James Harrison, and Rebecca Kelly.

NAYES: None

The motion carried 5-0.

- 16.2. **Second Reading and Approval of Ordinance No. 2025-024: AN ORDINANCE BY THE MAYOR AND CITY COUNCIL FOR THE CITY OF BROOKLET TO AMEND CHAPTER 26 OF THE CODE OF ORDINANCES TO PROVIDE PENALTIES FOR DELINQUENT PAYMENT OF AD VALOREM TAXES; TO PROVIDE FOR NOTICE; TO PROVIDE FOR SEVERABILITY; TO PROVIDE AN EFFECTIVE DATE; TO REPEAL ALL ORDINANCES AND PARTS OF ORDINANCES IN CONFLICT HERewith; AND FOR OTHER PURPOSES.**

MOTION TO APPROVE

MOTION: Brad Anderson

SECOND: Hubert Roughton

AYES: Brad Anderson, Sheila Wentz, Hubert Roughton, James Harrison, and Rebecca Kelly.

NAYES: None

The motion carried 5-0.

- 16.3. **First Reading of Ordinance No. 2025-025: AN ORDINANCE BY THE MAYOR AND CITY COUNCIL FOR THE CITY OF BROOKLET AMENDING CHAPTER 50 OF THE CODE OF ORDINANCES TO PROVIDE REQUIREMENTS FOR CONNECTION TO THE CITY OF BROOKLET'S SANITARY SEWER SYSTEM; TO PROVIDE FOR NOTICE; TO PROVIDE FOR SEVERABILITY; TO PROVIDE AN EFFECTIVE DATE; TO REPEAL ALL ORDINANCES AND PARTS OF ORDINANCES IN CONFLICT HERewith; AND FOR OTHER PURPOSES.**

17. **Consideration of a Motion to Adjourn**

MOTION TO APPROVE

MOTION: Brad Anderson

SECOND: Hubert Roughton

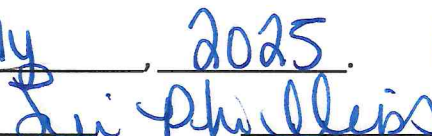
AYES: Brad Anderson, Sheila Wentz, Hubert Roughton, James Harrison, and Rebecca Kelly.

NAYES: None

The motion carried 5-0.

Approved this 17th day of July, 2025.


L.W. (Nicky) Gwinnett, Jr., Mayor


Lori Phillips, City Clerk

