

**IN THE MUNICIPAL COURT OF THE CITY OF BROOKLET
STATE OF GEORGIA**

GILBERT E. HOWARD

vs.

BRADLEY ANDERSON,
REBECCA KELLY, SHEILA WENTZ

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) Complaint Form
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FILED

OCT 09 2025

BROOKLET MUNICIPAL
CLERK OF COURT

By Risa Johnson

ORDER

On or about September 18, 2025, the Brooklet City Council voted not to approve a long-term comprehensive plan.

On or about September 23, 2025, a complaint was filed against three members of the City Council alleging conflict of interest arising from property owned by Mr. Bradley Anderson that would have been affected by the proposed comprehensive plan in which Ms. Rebecca Kelly and Ms. Shelia Wentz had an alleged duty to address said conflict of interest.

The City of Brooklet Code of Ordinances Section 3.3 defines three (3) types of interests: 1) Incidental; 2) Remote; 3) Substantial.

Incidental interest is defined as "an interest in a person, entity or property which is not a substantial interest as defined herein and which has insignificant value."

Remote interest is defined as "an interest of a person or entity, including a city official, which would be affected in the same way as the general public." The code section gives an example of a remote interest as voting on a comprehensive zoning ordinance or similar matter.

Substantial interest is defined as "an interest, either directly or through a member of the immediate family, in another person or entity, where.... ownership of five percent (5%) or more of voting stock...or ownership of \$5,000 or more of the equity" ...Receives funds, goods, or services of \$5,000 or 10% of the gross income from the previous 12 months. "The person serves as a corporate officer or member of the board of directors or other governing board of a for-profit entity other than a corporate entity owned or created by the city council. The person is a creditor, debtor, or guarantor of the other person or entity in an amount of \$5,000 or more."

A conflict of interest arises when the council member has a substantial interest in a matter before the City Council.

Section 3.5(c) states that 'where the interest of a city official in the subject matter of a vote or decision is remote or incidental, the city official may participate in the vote or decision and need not disclose the interest.'

IT IS SO ORDERED, that the complaint is dismissed for being unjustified and for failure to state facts sufficient to invoke the disciplinary jurisdiction of the city council.

So ordered, this 9th day of October, 2025


Johnny E.C. Vines
Judge, Municipal Court

