

**City of Baldwin City**  
**Minutes from the November 21, 2016**  
**Regular Council Meeting**

The Baldwin City Council met in Regular Session at 7:00 p.m. at the Baldwin City Public Library, 800 7th Street, with Mayor Marilyn Pearse presiding.

Present were Council Members: Kathy Gerstner, Tony Brown, Steve Bauer, David Simmons, Glenn Rodden-City Administrator, Laura Hartman-City Clerk. Also attending were Ed Courton, Chris Croucher, Brad Smith, Kenny Oshel and Robert Moffitt. Christi Darnell was absent.

A. Call to Order:

Mayor Pearse called the regular council meeting to order at 7:00 p.m.

B. Consent Agenda:

Kathy Gerstner moved and David Simmons seconded to approve the consent agenda as presented. Motion carried with a vote of 4 yes and 0 no.

Matt Hoy, City Attorney arrived at 7:04 p.m.

C. Public Comments – Josh Ediger, 1621 N 1<sup>st</sup> Street, thanked the Council for the work they do. Josh talked about the issues with the road that runs in front of their home. Josh asked for a legal statement saying North 1<sup>st</sup> Street is not a city street. Steve asked if staff could get the legal descriptions of the street.

D. Special Reports or Presentations- none given

E. Old Business

City Council Meeting Time – Council brought back to the table discussion about the time Council meetings would take place for 2017. Kathy suggested the 1<sup>st</sup> and 3<sup>rd</sup> Tuesdays of the month at 7:00 p.m. Council had discussion and agreed to have staff draw up an ordinance.

F. New Business

Ordinance 1357, Amending Ordinance 1247- Ed Courton said City staff and the Planning Commission are proposing several zoning text amendments. On November 8, 2016, the Planning Commission recommended approval of all four (4) of the zoning text amendments. Ed added there is one section to be excluded, 26-108 (1) (c). The ordinance will be updated and brought back for Council action at the next regular Council meeting.

Mural Grant Application: This application is from Jeannette Blackmar on behalf of the Baldwin City Tourism Bureau and the Chamber of Commerce. The applicant is seeking matching funds of \$3,000 to design and paint a mural at 608 High Street. The Community Development Committee met last week and is recommending approval. Jeannette Blackmar showed Council member a video about mural projects.

Kathy Gerstner thanked Jeannette for her work with this and stated it is “stinking exciting”. The Mayor also agreed, this is a wonderful project. David asked if this was a community grant and if they had those funds. Jeannette said, not yet but are working on the process. Having the financial support from the City will give a strong statement to the grant committee.

Kathy Gerstner moved and David Simmons to approve the mural grant application from the City Tourism Bureau and the Chamber of Commerce. Motion carried with a vote of 4 yes and 0 no.

Financial Advisor Agreement: Brad explained this agreement continues the relationship with Springsted. Staff recommends that council approve this agreement with Springsted.

Tony Brown moved and Kathy Gerstner seconded to approve and authorize Brad Smith, Finance Director to sign the Financial Advisor Agreement with Springsted Financial Advisors. Motion carried with a vote of 4 yes and 0 no.

#### G. Committee Reports:

Budget and Finance- Kathy Gerstner – No report.

Community Development Committee- Steve Bauer said the committee had discussion about the sign East of town and the Neighborhood Revitalization Program. The committee talked about allowing rebates for taxes for people if they make certain improvements to their property. Steve said a decision should be made fairly soon so we are not keeping builders from coming in to build because they are waiting on the NRP to get started. Steve asked if someone came in next week, would we be willing to make it retroactive so they could take advantage of the program. Ed said we certainly could put in the language to address this situation should it come forward. David asked if the committee is meeting again and added he had talked to realtors, bankers and builders. He said the new barrier is the down payment on new construction. The committee will take David’s suggestion to the next meeting for discussion.

Public Health and Safety Committee- David said the meeting was rescheduled for Tuesday, November 29<sup>th</sup> at City Hall.

Public Works Committee- Steve Bauer said the 1<sup>st</sup> street issue needs to go to the township, that the City cannot do anything legally with that street.

Utilities Committee- Tony Brown – no report

#### H. City Administrator and Staff Comments

Chris Croucher said the first round of meter upgrades have been taken care of except three. One more letter would be sent out and then they would be shut off. Mayor asked if they have contacted City Hall.

Chris said they have not called or come by City Hall to this date. Chris wanted to give Council members a heads up should they get calls. Steve thanked Chris for his due diligence and patience with patrons.

Ed said the downtown façade program has been very successful and asked if Council would extend to the corridor. Council agreed this would be a great idea. Ed will review the current program and update to reflect the change.

Glenn announced Bill Winegar was not in attendance because he became a grandpa today.

I. Council & Mayor Comments - Steve Bauer will not be at the next meeting in December and the first meeting in January. Steve also commented how nice the old KWIK Shop area looks and wanted to bring that to Council attention.

J. Adjourn

Kathy Gerstner moved and Steve Bauer seconded to adjourn the regular meeting. Motion carried with a vote of 4 yes and 0 no. Time 8:37 p.m.

Approved by the governing board on December 6, 2016.



*Laura E. Hartman*

Laura E. Hartman, City Clerk