

City of Baldwin City
Minutes from the July 18, 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: President Kathy Gerstner, Tony Brown, Steve Bauer, Christi Darnell, David Simmons was absent.

Also present were Glenn Rodden, City Administrator, Laura Hartman, City Clerk, Brad Smith Ed Courton, Bill Winegar, Tina Rakes, Rob Culley, Kenny Oshel, Chris Croucher and Greg Neis.

A. Call to Order:

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

B. Consent Agenda:

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

C. Public Comments: No comments were given at this time.

David Simmons arrived at 7:03 p.m.

D. Special Reports or Presentations

1. Tom Larkin, Flint Hills Holdings Group, LLC. talked to Council members about establishing an NRA (Neighborhood Revitalization Area) and handed out an information sheet to Council members. Flint Hills Holdings Group, LLC requested that the City of Baldwin City award them with a 15-year, 95% property tax rebate through a Neighborhood Revitalization Area program for their property at 704 Chapel Street. Council members had discussion regarding how the program actually works. Mayor Pearse said at this time she didn't believe Council should make a decision on this tonight without having further discussion. Steve Bauer suggested that the Council should have a vote of support at this time. The Community Development Committee has met and recognizes the need for this program and therefore recommends Council support this program. Ed Courton, Director of Community Development said it would take 2-5 months to put the program together. He added that Mr. Larkin is looking for a Resolution of Ssupport from the Council for the program. Mayor Pearse does not have an issue with a letter of support. Christi Darnell spoke in favor of the project. Kathy Gerstner also supports the project.

Council members asked that staff draw up a Resolution of Support to be presented at the next regular Council meeting for consideration.

2. Interim Executive Director, Jeanette Blackmar gave an update on the Chamber of Commerce. Jeannette Blackmar formally introduced herself to the City Council as Baldwin City Chamber's Interim Executive Director. The purpose of the presentation was to inform the Council of the Chamber's activities during the transition period and moving forward. She reported the Chamber is committed to membership development and retention, promoting and supporting existing businesses and nonprofits, and seeking to improve business opportunity in Baldwin City. In moving forward, the Chamber Board and staff are focused on building organizational capacity, increasing transparency to its stakeholders and cultivating active, ongoing relationships with current members and building new relationships with nonmembers. The Baldwin City Chamber is an advocate for business and a community champion that leads, promotes and influences economic vitality and enhances the quality of life for the benefit of the community.

E. Old Business

Council members continued discussion on funding for the new Executive Director of Baldwin City Economic Development Corporation. Dave Hill requested the City share the expense of funding this position. He asked for the City to consider \$15,000 per year. Tony Brown moved and David Simmons seconded to approve funding for the Baldwin City Economic Development Corporation director position in the amount of \$15,000 over a period of 12 months. Motion carried with a vote of 5 yes and 0 no.

Steve Friend informed Council members about three funding options the City could look at for funding the new Community Center. Council members had those options in their packet. Steve provided additional documents of support for this project. The Baldwin City Recreation Commission is asking Council members to consider a Sales Tax election that would authorize a .5 cent sales tax to be used for the purpose for the construction of a Community Center. Steve also asked for a Resolution of Support from the Council in order to move forward. Christi Darnell said she supports a .5 cent sales tax increase to help fund a new Community Center and have staff draft an resolution. Council continued their discussion regarding the process of a sales tax increase and what it will take for it to become a reality.

F. Ordinance 1344, Vista Pointe Rezone

Council was given Ordinance 1344, Vista Pointe Rezoning. Council had discussion regarding re-zoning from AG to R-1-B for this property. Steve Bauer moved and Kathy Gerstner seconded to approve Ordinance 1344. Motion carried with 5 ayes and 0 nays. Tony Brown- aye, Kathy Gerstner- aye, Steve Bauer- aye, David Simmons- aye, Christi Darnell- aye.

The Council was given the 2017 Fiscal Year Budget Summary. Council had some discussion regarding the Budget Summary. Kathy Gerstner moved and David Simmons seconded to approve the 2017 Budget Summary for Publication. Motion carried with a vote of 5 yes and 0 no.

Kansas Department of Health and Environment requires Council approval in order to complete processing the Water Supply Loan Fund. Kathy Gerstner moved and Tony Brown seconded to approve the Water Supply Loan Fund Resolution 2016-08 as presented. Motion carried with a vote of 5 yes and 0 no.

Council Members had four special events applications for review and approval. Kathy Gerstner moved and Christi Darnell seconded to approve the Resolutions for special events: Lumberyard Arts Center Charity fundraiser; Downtown Ballet Production; Wildcat Wobble Dance Party and the BCRC Maple Leaf Triathlon as presented. Motion carried with a vote of 5 yes and 0 no.

G. Committee and/or Commission Reports

Finance Committee - Kathy Gerstner – The budget work is successfully done, thank you Brad Smith. The budget process went well this year. The committee will do more periodic updates throughout the year.

Community Development - Steve Bauer – A discussion about NRA was the main topic at their meeting. The committee also talked about the entry signs into the City and available funds in the budget for this project. Steve also talked about getting Baker students involved in the design of these signs. The committee talked about the Comprehensive Plan and how it should be updated. Ed Courton will be working on providing information on how to proceed.

Public Health and Safety – David Simmons - We talked about mobile home safety, but we are not ready, but ask city staff to provide information regarding it.

Public Works - Christi Darnell - She said her committee was good.

Utilities - Tony said there is a need to have a committee meeting and will reach out to the committee to set a date.

H. City Administrator and Staff Comments

Council members were presented with the Audit Report. Brad Smith gave a brief overview of the report. No Council action was required. Brad also provided the Internal Control/Management Recommendation letters. These are informational only for Council members. No action required.

Steve Bauer publicly thanked our Police Department. Greg Neis thanked Steve for the kind words and added they have received several cards and cookies from the community in support.

I. Adjourn

Kathy Gerstner moved and Christi Darnell seconded to adjourn the regular meeting. Motion carried with a vote of 5 yes and 0 no. Time 8:35 p.m.

Approved by the governing board on August 1, 2016.

Attest:



Laura E. Hartman, City Clerk

