

MINUTES OF THE CITY COUNCIL REGULAR MEETING HELD JUNE 16, 2014, AT 7:00 P.M. IN THE BPS ADMINISTRATION MEETING ROOM, 320 NORTH 5TH STREET.

Pledge of Allegiance

1 – Roll Call: Present: Mayor Schuster, Councilmembers Catlin, Cook, Fairbanks, Kerr, Langdale, Morgan, and Parde.
Absent: Councilmember Clabaugh.

Mayor Schuster announced that a copy of the Open Meetings Act is posted in the meeting room and is accessible to members of the public.

2 - Consent Agenda

- a. Approve agenda as submitted.
- b. Receive and place on file all notices pertaining to this meeting.
- c. Receive and place on file all materials having any bearing on this meeting.
- d. Approval of minutes of regular meeting on June 2, 2014, as on file in the City Clerk's Office.
- e. Approval of Treasurer's Report of Claims in the amount of \$765,506.15
- f. Approval of BASWA Report of Claims in the amount of \$18,173.69
- g. Approval of change order increase in the amount of \$3,605.00 and final contract price of \$53,368.35 to Goossen Construction for the Carnegie Parking Lot project.
- h. Approval of change order decrease in the amount of \$706.32 and final contract price of \$22,793.68 to Road Guy Construction for the Armor Coating 2014 project, as recommended by the BPW.
- i. Resolution Number 5648 appointing Erin Saathoff as Deputy City Clerk.
- j. Resolution Number 5649 appointing Robert Morgan as the City Council representative on the NGage Board of Directors.

Moved by Catlin, seconded by Langdale, that the items listed under the consent agenda, be approved, accepted and/or ratified as presented.

Roll Call: Yea: Catlin, Cook, Fairbanks, Kerr, Langdale, Morgan, Parde
Nay: None

Motion carried.

3 - Public Hearings/Bids:

a. Hearings

None.

4 – Resolutions:

a. Resolution executing an agreement with Antique Brick Warehouse for the sale of city-owned bricks.

Mayor Schuster introduced Resolution Number 5650 executing an agreement with Antique Brick Warehouse for the sale of city-owned bricks.

Moved by Catlin, seconded by Cook, that Resolution Number 5650 be passed and adopted.

City Administrator Tempelmeyer, reported to the Mayor and City Council that Antique Brick Warehouse is interested in purchasing the unmarked paving bricks, known as lug bricks, currently stored on City property located at 1st and Ella Streets. These bricks are not the type of bricks that will be used for the 2nd Street project; those bricks are known as buffalo bricks. Antique Brick Warehouse will make a deposit of \$5,000.00 and agrees to pay the City \$0.20 per brick.

Roll Call: Yea: Catlin, Cook, Fairbanks, Kerr, Langdale, Morgan, Parde
Nay: None

Motion carried.

Passed and Adopted Resolution Number 5650.

b. Resolution adopting the City of Beatrice Hazard Mitigation Plan.

Mayor Schuster introduced Resolution Number 5651 adopting the City of Beatrice Hazard Mitigation Plan.

Moved by Catlin, seconded by Kerr, that Resolution Number 5651 be passed and adopted.

City Administrator Tempelmeyer advised that in order for the City to be eligible to receive funds from FEMA, the City must have a current hazard mitigation plan. The current plan was adopted in March, 2008. JEO Consulting Group was retained to help update the plan. The proposed hazard mitigation plan did not have any major additions to the plan from 2008.

Roll Call: Yea: Catlin, Cook, Fairbanks, Kerr, Langdale, Morgan, Parde
Nay: None

Motion carried.

Passed and adopted Resolution Number 5651.

5 – Ordinances:

None.

6 – Public Forum:

During Public Forum, Lora Young, Executive Director of the Beatrice Area Chamber of Commerce, thanked Mayor Schuster, City Councilmembers, City Administrator Tempelmeyer, and all City Departments for their help and support for Homestead Days.

7 – Discussions/Reports:

a. Discussion regarding Welcome Signs

Lora Young, Executive Director of the Beatrice Area Chamber of Commerce and Michael Sothan, Executive Director of Main Street Beatrice, presented the Mayor and City Council with the proposed updated welcome signs. The current signs were installed in the 1970s or 1980s. Four (4) signs would be installed initially and a fifth sign would possibly be installed down the road. The sign at the Highway 4 may be slightly different due to the available land. At this time, they are requesting up to \$5,000.00 to finish the concept design, in order to know how much the total cost will be. The estimated time frame for the signs to be completed is at least six (6) months. Lora Young reported that there are local companies that would be able to provide the services needed to build the new welcome signs. City Councilmembers were in favor of the project and some suggestions for funding the project were community betterment funds, lodging tax, or LB840 funds. Discussion was held regarding who would be responsible for maintaining the signs and landscaping after installation and it was felt that it would be best if the City would take on the responsibility of the welcome signs. This item will be brought back at the next meeting with a funding option after reviewing the budget.

b. Discussion regarding Scott Street from Center to Bluff

City Administrator Tempelmeyer presented to the City Council the current issues on Scott Street, from Center Street to Bluff Street, at the Scott Street Ballfields. It was suggested to remove Scott Street entirely and turn the area into green space for teams to use as a warm up area. Jason Moore, Street Superintendent, said that due to the drainage issues, the water has absorbed against the base and deteriorated the street and the armor coating is all that is holding the street together. He estimated that to just patch the concrete on Bluff Street and Scott Street it would be approximately \$30,000.00. All work would be done by the Street Department. The culvert that was installed previously has been returned and the proper sized culvert will be installed when the area dries up. Council discussion was held regarding installing a sidewalk, playground equipment, handicap accessible parking stalls, and continuing to address the drainage issues. It was also suggested that if Scott Street was removed that it remain platted as a street. The City applied for a

grant last year for improvements to the area, but was denied. They will reapply this year. Part of the grant included installing sidewalks and handicap accessible parking stalls, along with some playground equipment upgrades. If Scott Street is to be removed, work would be done this fall so that it will be ready for games in the spring.

c. Discussion on possible annexations

After the recent annexation of Higgins property, City Administration looked at a few more options that could possibly be annexed. The list of proposed annexation included three (3) or four (4) homes, BSDC, Evergreen Cemetery, and the Gage County Fairgrounds. These areas are all currently provided all three (3) utilities. There would not be significant tax revenue, it would simply include these areas as part of the City and provide for community growth. Concerns of annexing the Gage County Fairgrounds were raised. Some concerns Councilmember Fairbanks had were noise complaints from the races, alcohol sales, and providing law enforcement services at the Gage County Fair. City Attorney, Greg Butcher, stated that alcohol sales would not be a problem, as it would remain private property and not become City property by being annexed and since the property is within the two-mile jurisdiction there would be no changes regarding the noise from the races. Chief of Police, Bruce Lang, said that during the Gage County Fair, the department would utilize the Sheriff Department, much like they do for other community events, such as Homestead Days. Councilman Parde inquired who would be responsible for the maintenance of the streets on the BSDC campus, and those would remain privately owned and maintained by BSDC.

Delvin Koch, CEO of BSDC, and Jeff Ahl, Facility Operating Officer, spoke in favor of looking at moving forward with the annexation. There would not be any changes in the utility services provided, as they would be responsible for anything beyond the meter as they currently are. They would continue to provide their own snow removal and the Beatrice Fire Department would continue to provide their services.

Lisa Wiegand, Treasurer of Gage County Ag Society, and Roger Henrichs, Board Member of the Gage County Ag Society, were present to voice their concerns regarding the proposed annexation. The annexation would affect the operational duties, sales tax would be added, and there were concerns of whether or not this would affect their funding provided from the County.

After discussion, the general consensus was that annexing the Gage County Fairgrounds would not be supported. City Administration will begin procedures to annex the proposed areas, with the exception of the Gage County Fairgrounds.

d. City Administrators Monthly Report

City Administrator Tempelmeyer presented the monthly City Administrator's Report and highlighted the following items: the Fire Department had one (1) employee resign and Josh Hessen has been hired to fill the vacant position; the Public Properties Department had a softball tourney the past weekend in which sixty (60) teams participated, everything went well and the next two (2) weekends are filled with tournaments; approximately thirty-two (32) trees need to be removed, trimmed and/or replaced after the storm that came through June 3rd and 4th; an Arborist will be coming in to review the award-winning Silver Maple tree located in Chautauqua, the early assessment is that the tree is hollow and may need to be removed; the proposed Cash Reserve Policy will be presented at the Work Session next week; Tempelmeyer has continued to meet with NPPD regarding the wholesale electric rates, and has also met with three (3) other wholesale companies to explore other possible options; Administration is currently drafting a non-union employee handbook which will be presented to staff soon and will be brought to the City Council for review in July; Olsson Associates will be present at next meeting to give their report regarding the Capital Improvement Study on the Wastewater Treatment Facility and Rate Studies for the WPC and Water Departments; six (6) goals of the 2013 Strategic Goal list have been completed over the past month; and the Building Inspections Department is working on being more aggressive on dilapidated structures and junked motor vehicles.

8 – Miscellaneous:

Next regular council meeting is July 7, 2014 at 7:00 p.m. in the BPS Admin Bldg Meeting Room. There will be a Worksession will be on June 23, 2014 at 7:00 p.m. in the BPS Admin Bldg Meeting Room.

Moved by Catlin, seconded by Cook, that the meeting be adjourned at 8:20 p.m.

Roll Call: Yea: Catlin, Cook, Fairbanks, Kerr, Langdale, Morgan, Parde
Nay: None

Motion carried.

Erin Saathoff, Deputy City Clerk

Mayor Dennis Schuster