

City Council Minutes – Regular Meeting – Monday, February 12, 2018

The Bonner Springs City Council met in regular session at 7:30 p.m. on Monday, February 12, 2018.

Governing Body Present: Mayor Jeff Harrington; Councilmembers: Rodger Shannon, Jordan Mackey, Mike Thompson, Joe Peterson, Dani Gurley, Mark Kipp, Tom Stephens and Bob Reeves

City Staff Present: Sean Pederson, City Manager; Amber McCullough, City Clerk; Don Slone, City Planner; and Skip Dobbs, Parks and Recreation Director

The Mayor led the Pledge of Allegiance to the Flag of the United States of America, and asked Councilmember, Mike Thompson, to lead the invocation.

Item No. 1 – Judy Shelton Proclamation – The Mayor presented a proclamation to Judy Shelton in recognition of her receiving the Kansas Recreation and Parks Association Distinguished Volunteer award for 2017.

Item No. 2 - Citizen Concerns About Items Not on Today’s Agenda –

- Angie Thomas, 429 Park, requested another public forum to discuss the Government Services Center. She stated she has an online petition containing over 800 signatures, and over 2,000 signatures requesting another public forum.
- Wendy Scheidt, 194 Cornell, stated she attended previous workshops and meetings and thanked the council for working toward providing a government services facility. She and her husband each served eight years on the city council. She knows all city departments are in need of a new facility with a cohesive locations and are out of space. The current city hall building is in decline and she recognizes that something needs to happen. She believes the reasons to use the 1918 building include: the city owns the building and land, infrastructure and parking are already in place, the building is environmentally green, natural light is abundant, reuse and renovation represents a lower price per square foot, previous councils took steps to install new roofs on the building with the intent that the city would use the building in the future, tax credits are available and are an important tool. The building was previously put on the national register and is structurally sound. She believes the building has a presence of community identity and represents our heritage. She believes the project is fiscally responsible and will draw more quality investors and citizens into the community.
- Nancy Slankard, 1138 S. 138th Street, agreed with Wendy Scheidt and added that the current city hall is not the best representation of Bonner Springs.
- Ed Crosby, 403 Allcutt, is concerned that the design phase should be done as one process and not broken into parts so the project looks uniform. He likes the cost per square footage of the project and that the construction process can be phased. He believes the investment will bring economic growth to downtown.
- Chris Wood, 612 Lake Forest, stated she agreed with has been said previously.
- Lloyd Mesmer, 337 Sheidley, stated Wendy Scheidt spoke for him. He stated he received a handbill at a local business recently opposing the project which falsely stated there were no new businesses or houses in Bonner Springs. He stated houses are being built all over town.
- Greg Gebauer, 138 S. Nettleton, stated he agreed with the previous speakers. He added that he knew quite a bit of money was previously invested in the 1918 building since 2002 and encouraged the City Council to make decision soon to take advantage of lower interest rates and move the police department out of the fire station.
- Kelly (inaudible), 120 Kindred, supports Angie Thomas’ comments. She stated the old building in the middle of town holds a lot of memories for a lot of people in town and would prefer a newer, more efficient building.
- Amy Lopez, 226 N. Nettleton, supports Angie Thomas’ comments.
- Brenna Hoch, 413 Arthur, stated the 2,000 signatures mentioned by Angie Thomas were all collected at the haunted house. the haunted house gives the city back \$2.50 for every ticket sold. She is concerned that the city will lose a valuable business and employer by displacing the haunted house.
- Carrie Cole, Leavenworth, stated she didn’t know anything about Bonner Springs until she heard about 3rd Street Asylum. She feels the haunted house gives people a place to belong when they don’t feel like they mesh with the community.
- Nathan Cole, Leavenworth, stated he was born and raised in Kansas City and has known about Bonner Springs but has never been downtown until three years ago when he heard about 3rd Street Asylum.
- Connie Steele, 234 Sheidley, stated she was previously on the City Council and recognizes it is a tough decision and she supports using the historical building as a new city hall and police station.
- Argentina Angel, 720 Sheidley, stated the 1918 Building was built structurally sound and using the building will save the city money in the long run. She thinks the building has character and is a great representation of our town.

- Paul Bush, 15418 150th Street, stated he works for KCB Bank and feels the recent robbery incident ended in the best possible way and he commended the Bonner Springs Police Department for their outstanding job in response to the call. He stated they were compassionate and professional.
- Cheryl Seaton, 411 W. Morse, said she has spent a lot of money at the haunted house and three or four of her kids worked there. She thinks the city needs a new city hall and police department but not in the 1918 Building.
- Amy Walters, 13776 Valley View Way, stated she was on the City Council in the late 1980's when the building was given to the city. She said the time wasn't right to use it then, but the time is right now.
- Ed Crosby, 403 Allcutt, added that he understands the situation involving the current use of the building but he understand the money needed to use a new facility is astronomical and not supportable. He hopes the community can come together and figure out a solution for the haunted house.
- Rita Hoch, 413 Arthur, lived in Bonner Springs her whole life and has a lot of memories of the building. She thinks gutting the building and only using two floors of it does the building a disservice. She asked if the budget has increased, if the building is structurally sound and if taxes will be raised.

CONSENT AGENDA

The Mayor read the Consent Agenda Items 3 through 7 and asked the staff, audience or City Council if they wished to remove an item for separate consideration.

Item No. 3 – Minutes of the January 22, 2018, City Council Meeting – Presented for approval.

Item No. 4 - Claims for City Operations for February 12, 2018 - Presented for approval were supplement claims in the amount of \$306,372.83 and regular claims in the amount of \$226,320.24.

Item No. 5 – Public Housing Authority Claims for February 12, 2018 – Presented for approval were regular claims in the amount of \$6,963.28.

Item No. 6 – Public Use Request – 2nd Wind Foundation 5K – The 2nd Wind Foundation requested to use public streets for a 5K on March 31, 2018 at 8:00 a.m. with preparations beginning at 6:00 a.m.

Item No. 7 - Appointments to Boards and Commissions – Tourism: Appoint Jamie Whitehead to fill a vacant position ending July 2020 and appoint Chris Fritz to fill a vacant position ending July 2019. Parks and Recreation Advisory Board: Appoint George Cooper to fill a vacant position ending December 2020. Senior Center Advisory Committee: Appoint Beverly Jennings and Patti Rozine to three-year terms ending March 2021.

CONSENT AGENDA APPROVAL

Reeves made a Motion to Approve the Consent Agenda. Gurley seconded the motion and it carried on a vote of eight to zero.

REGULAR MEETING AGENDA

Item No. 8 – Final Plat: PT-18-101 “Bonner Springs Jr/SR High School” – The City Planner presented:

- The Planning Commission unanimously approved the final plat subject to conditions and requests the City Council accept the dedication of easements and rights-of-way..

Gurley made a Motion to Accept the Dedication of Easements and Rights-of-Way as Shown on the Final Plat. Stephens seconded the motion and it carried on a vote of nine to zero.

Item No. 9 – Farmer’s Market Storage on City Property – The City Clerk presented:

- The Bonner springs Farmer’s Market requested permission for the City to place an approximately 10’ x 12’ storage shed on City property to store equipment and supplies for the Farmer’s Market.
- Placement of the storage shed will also require approval from the Planning Commission.

Thompson made a Motion to Allow the Bonner Springs Farmers’ Market to Place a Storage Shed on City Property Subject to Planning Commission Approval. Shannon seconded the motion and it carried on a vote of eight to zero.

Item No. 10 – Consideration of Councilmember Resignation – The Mayor presented:

- Joe Peterson submitted his formal resignation.

Peterson made a Motion to Accept the Resignation of Joe Peterson Effective After Adjournment of Both the February 12, 2018, City Council Meeting and Workshop. Gurley seconded the motion and it carried on a vote of seven to one with Reeves opposing.

The Mayor presented Joe Peterson with a plaque recognizing his service to the City.

Item No. 11 – Appointment of Councilmember to Vacant Ward 4 Position –

- When a City Council seat is vacated, the established process is to ask for applicants and have a board of past mayors review the applicants. The board then recommends an applicant to the Mayor.
- The Mayor recommended the City Council approve Chris Wood to fill the vacant City Council position for Ward 4.

Kipp made a Motion to Appoint Chris Wood to the Vacant Councilmember Ward 4 Position with a Term Ending January 10, 2022. Mackey seconded the motion and it carried on vote of eight to zero.

Item No. 12 - City Manager's Report – The City Manager:

- Congratulated Jen Anders on her selection as Executive Director for the Chamber of Commerce and thanked Rita Hoag for her work as Interim Director.

Item No. 13 – City Council Items –

- Thompson stated Doris Elliott passed about three weeks ago and invited everyone to read the article in the Tiblow Talk about her. Her visitation will be next Saturday at the Church of Christ from 1-3 p.m.
- Thompson encouraged everyone to support the Tiblow Talk.
- Gurley asked why the small City Band trailer is no longer in covered storage? The Parks and Recreation Director will check.
- Kipp attended the Parks and Recreation Board meeting last week and they are still wanting bathrooms at North Park. The father/daughter dance and mother/son dance both reached new attendance records. The senior Center made 20 blankets for veterans. The Wizard of Oz is coming to the Providence Medical Center Amphitheater this fall.
- Reeves thanked the residents who attended the meeting for their comments and involvement. The Kansa City paper ran an extensive obituary on Doris Elliot Watson. The sign on 134th Street has fallen upside down.

Item No. 14 – Mayor's Report –

- The Mayor appreciates the passion and commitment of the people who attended the meeting
- The sign at 132nd and Sheidley has been run over.
- The Mayor received good information at the Wyandotte/Johnson County Mayors meeting from other communities also broaching the subject of public administration buildings.
- He expressed appreciation for those who came to the meeting and voiced their feelings. The process of using the 1918 Building started many years ago and it not being taken lightly.
- The Mayor encouraged everyone to stay involved, volunteer and serve the community.

The meeting adjourned at 8:36 p.m.

_____ Amber McCullough, City Clerk