

City Council Minutes – Regular Meeting – Monday, March 23, 2015

The Bonner Springs City Council met in regular session at 7:30 p.m. on Monday, March 23, 2015.

Governing Body Present: Mayor Jeff Harrington; Councilmembers: Tom Stephens, Jack Knight, Joe Peterson, Bob Reeves, George Cooper, Eric Freeman, Rodger Shannon and Racheal Haas

City Staff Present: Amber McCullough, City Clerk; Marcia Harrington, Community and Economic Development Director; Tillie LaPlante, Finance Director; Brian Hunt, Building Official; Rick Sailer, Utilities Director; Gloria Ochoa, Senior Center Director; Carrie Newton, Public Housing Authority Director and Jeff Johnson, Chief Wastewater Operator

City Staff Absent: Jack Helin, City Manager

The Mayor opened with the Pledge of Allegiance to the Flag of the United States of America.

Item No. 1 – National Volunteer Week Proclamation Presentation – The Mayor presented a proclamation to the volunteer personnel and recognized City committees, commissions and boards for National Volunteer Week.

Item No. 2 – Proclamation Presentation for National Work Zone Awareness Week – The Mayor presented a proclamation to the Utilities Department and Public Works Department.

Item No. 3 – Proclamation Presentation for April Fair Housing Month – The Mayor presented a proclamation to the Public Housing Authority Director to recognize Fair Housing Month.

Item No. 4 - Citizen Concerns About Items Not on Today’s Agenda –

Janet Crouch, 13530 Metropolitan, and Katie Schleicher, 6105 Longview Road, Shawnee, KS, advised the City in October that Bonner Animal Rescue initiated a self-imposed quarantine and were overwhelmed by the time and effort to care for the animals, did not have enough volunteers and could no longer take in animals. Bonner Animal Rescue brought City Staff a contract for Great Plains SPCA on February 5, 2015 and felt it took too long for City Staff to sign an agreement with Great Plains SPCA. The Mayor thanked all the volunteers from Bonner Animal Rescue and advised the agreement was signed and returned to Great Plains SPCA last week.

Lloyd Mesmer, 337 Sheidley, stated when City Staff swept the streets recently the equipment swept debris from the curb into the street but did not pick it up and he suggested the operator needs to dump the container more frequently.

Mr. Mesmer reported the northbound entrance ramp from Nettleton Avenue onto K-7 North has a large pothole that needs repaired.

CONSENT AGENDA

The Mayor read the Consent Agenda Items 5 through 11 and asked the staff, audience or City Council if they wished to remove an item for separate consideration. Item No 11 was removed.

Item No. 5 – Minutes of the March 9, 2015 City Council Meeting – Presented for approval.

Item No. 6 – Claims for City Operations – March 23, 2015 – Presented for approval were the Supplement Claims in the amount of \$25,377.76 and Regular Claims in the amount of \$233,483.17.

Item No. 7 – Public Housing Authority Claims – March 23, 2015 – Presented for approval in the amount of \$14,822.68.

Item No. 8 – Appointments to Boards and Commissions – Band Commission: Reappoint Don Wheeler and David Tisch to another three-year term to expire April 2018. Bonner Beautiful: Reappoint Darrell Donahue, Lloyd Mesmer, Judy Cox, Andrea “Dee-Dee” Harrington-Summers whose terms expire April 2015 for another three-year term to expire April 2018. Library Board: Reappoint Sara Niemann whose term expires April 2015 to another four-year term to expire April 2019. Appoint Clausie Smith to fill the position of Vicky Wheeler who has served two consecutive terms and cannot seek reappointment. The four-year term expires April 2019. Drug and Alcohol Committee: Appoint Rita Hoag to fill the unexpired term held by Debbie Lohman who resigned. The term will expire August 2017.

Item No. 9 – Drug and Alcohol Committee Recommendation for Program Funds for 2015 - The Finance Director and Drug and Alcohol Advisory Committee recommended the City Council approve Program Funds in the amount of \$16,691.35 for 2015 Substance Abuse Programs. The requests received were less than the approved budget of \$25,000. The Committee may request the City Council to fund additional programs later this year.

Item No. 10 – Governing Body Policy for Work Change Orders – Staff briefed the City Council on Governing Body Policy GB-15-01 for Project Authority and Change Orders at the March 9, 2015 Workshop.

CONSENT AGENDA APPROVAL

Stephens made a Motion to Approve the Consent Agenda as amended. Cooper seconded the motion and it carried on a vote of eight to zero.

REGULAR MEETING AGENDA

Item No. 11 – Adoption of FY2015 HUD Income Limits for the Public Housing Authority - The law requires Housing and Urban Development (HUD) to set income limits annually to determine eligibility for assisted housing programs. HUD requires the Governing Body, which is the Board for the Public Housing Authority (PHA), adopt the income limits by resolution. Cooper made a motion to Approve a Resolution to Adopt the FY2015 Income Limits for the Public Housing Authority. Stephens seconded the motion. Cooper asked what happened with the proposal for Kansas City, Kansas to take over the PHA. Staff stated the Unified Government declined to take over the PHA. The motion carried on a vote of eight to zero. **Assigned Resolution No. 2015-03.**

Item No. 12 – 2015 Water and Wastewater Utility Rates – The Utilities Director made a presentation:

➤ Staff briefed the City Council on the rates at the March 9, 2015 Workshop.

➤ Staff recommended the City Council approve rates effective April 1, 2015 as follows:

- A two percent (2%) increase for water rates and fees,
- A twenty cent per 1,000 gallon increase for High Volume Usage,
- A seven percent (7%) increase for wastewater rates and fees
- A new Outside City Limits rate and fee at ten percent (10%) above the City rates and fees.

➤ Knight was concerned that residents of Ward 1 have not received any benefit for the increased rates.

➤ Cooper stated residents are concerned about the age of the water lines and the water quality in Ward 1.

➤ The Utilities Director discussed planned projects in Ward 1.

➤ Stephens asked if the City has a minimum rate for customers. The Utilities Director stated there is no minimum rate but there is a monthly service fee of \$12.35 for water and \$13.97 for wastewater before the customer uses any water.

➤ Peterson asked where the City will get the funds if the City Council does not approve the rate increases. The Utility Director stated the City would have to tap into reserves or borrow money.

Reeves made a Motion to Approve a 2% Increase for Water Rates and Fees, a \$0.20/1,000 Gallons Increase for High Volume Water Rates, a 7% Increase for Wastewater Rates and Fees and an Outside City Limits Rate and Fee for Water and Wastewater all to be effective April 1, 2015. Stephens seconded the motion and it carried on a vote of seven to one. Knight voted no.

Item No. 13 – Mowing Service Contract – The Community and Economic Development Director made a presentation:

➤ Yearly the City requests bids to mow property when grass and/or weeds reach a height of twelve inches or more and the property owners do not mow by the deadline date.

➤ The City received eight bids: H & H Enterprise- \$105 per hour, Arbor Masters - \$102 per hour, Asplundh - \$71. per hour, Picture Perfect Lawns - \$63.13 per hour, Green Hills Services, LLC - \$58.75 per hour, Creative Landscaping and Concrete, Inc. - \$56.25 per hour, WCD Enterprises, LLC - \$52 per hour and Predator Termite and Pest Control - \$45 per hour.

➤ When property owners do not correct property maintenance code violations, the City uses the mowing contract services and mails to the property owners an invoice for the services. If not paid, we assess the cost to the owner.

➤ Staff recommends the City Council award the 2015 Mowing Services contract to Predator Termite and Pest Control to expire December 31, 2015.

➤ The 2015 Property Maintenance Code has \$4,000 budgeted to cover these costs.

Cooper made a Motion to Award the 2015 Mowing Services Contract to Predator Termite and Pest Control to Expire December 31, 2015. Reeves seconded the motion and it carried on a vote of eight to zero.

Item No. 14 – City Manager’s Report – The Community and Economic Development Director added in the City Manager’s absence:

➤ The Kansas Department of Transportation (KDOT) is holding a Public Open House regarding plans for K-7 highway from Gillam Road to Parallel Parkway this Wednesday, March 25 at the Lansing City Hall from 5-7p.m.

➤ Leavenworth County has a case of Avian Flu in a bird. A small portion of Northwest Bonner Springs is part of the quarantine area.

Item No. 15 - City Council Items –

➤ Haas attended a fundraiser for the Sheriff who was shot and reported he is home now.

➤ Knight reported a senior citizen at 526 Allcutt requested the City install a street light in front of her house. The Community and Economic Development Director will relay the request to the City Manager and the Public Works department.

Item No. 16 – Mayor’s Report – The Mayor added:

- The reception for Chief Haley was very nice.
- Chief Zaretski was promoted to Bonner Springs Police Chief.

The meeting adjourned at 8:43 p.m. _____ Amber McCullough, City Clerk