



**MINUTES
OF THE
MEETING OF THE
BENBROOK CITY COUNCIL
THURSDAY, MARCH 17, 2016**

The regular meeting of the Benbrook City Council was held on Thursday March 17, 2016 at 7:30 p. m. in the Council Chambers at 911 Winscott Road with the following Council members present:

Jerry Dittrich
Renee Franklin
Larry Marshall
Jim Wilson
Mark Washburn
Ron Sauma

Also Present:

Joanna King, City Secretary
Donna Savage, Deputy City Secretary
Stormy Johnson, Accountant
Stephanie Stevens, Municipal Court Manager

Others Present:

Ed Gallagher, Planning Director
Bill Smith
Denise Huneycutt, Benbrook News
Alan Bowling, Municipal Court Judge
Wendy Cooper
Robert Loritz
Jackie Gonzalez

I. CALL TO ORDER

Meeting called to order at 7:30 p. m. by Mayor Dittrich.

II. INVOCATION/PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE

Invocation given by Councilmember Mark Washburn.
The Pledge of Allegiance was recited.

III. MINUTES

1. Minutes of the Regular Meeting held March 3, 2016

Motion by Dr. Marshall, seconded by Mr. Wilson to approve the minutes of the regular meeting held March 3, 2016.

Vote on the Motion:

Ayes: Ms. Franklin, Dr. Marshall, Mayor Dittrich, Mr. Wilson, Mr. Washburn, Mr. Sauma

Noes: None

Motion carries unanimously.

IV. REPORTS FROM CITY MANAGER

A. GENERAL

G-2232 Accept finance report for period ending February 29, 2016

Stormy Johnson gave the following report: General Fund revenues for the month of February were \$3,101,380. Property tax collections were \$2,334,231. Sales tax collected in January but received by the City and recognized as revenue in February was \$202,909 for the month. General Fund revenues collected through the end of February were \$11,813,998 or 70.90 percent of the budget.

General Fund expenditures for the month of February were \$1,191,088. Expenditures through the end of February were \$6,347,829 or 36.29 percent of the adopted budget.

For the 2015-16 fiscal year-to-date, total General Fund revenues of \$11,813,998 exceeded General Fund expenditures of \$6,347,829 by \$5,466,169.

Debt Service revenues collected for the month of February totaled \$92,262; all revenue was from property taxes. There were no Debt Service expenditures for February. Total revenues for 2015-16 in the amount of \$382,756 were exceeded by total expenditures of \$1,384,463 by \$1,001,707.

EDC revenues as of February 29, 2016 were \$294,202. Sales tax revenue received by the EDC for the fiscal year was \$277,413. Interest earnings for the year were \$16,789. EDC expenditures for February were \$76,399. Expenditures for the year in the amount of \$295,227 exceeded total revenues of \$294,202 by \$1,025.

Total revenues received through February 29, 2016 for the Capital Projects Fund were \$234,102. Total expenditures for the Capital Projects Fund in February 2016 were \$638 for legal services provided by the City Attorney regarding the TIF. For the 2015-16 fiscal year, total revenues of \$234,102 exceeded total expenditures of \$128,388 by \$105,714.

On February 29, 2016, the City had \$25,938,491 invested at varying interest rates; the EDC had \$6,113,021 available.

Motion by Mr. Washburn, seconded by Mr. Wilson to accept the finance report for the period ending February 29, 2016.

Vote on the Motion

Ayes: Ms. Franklin, Dr. Marshall, Mayor Dittrich, Mr. Wilson, Mr. Washburn, Mr. Sauma

Noes: None

Motion carries unanimously.

G-2233 Accept Comprehensive Annual Finance Report for fiscal year ended September 30, 2015

Stormy Johnson gave the following report: The Comprehensive Annual Financial Report (CAFR) for fiscal year ending September 30, 2015 is being presented for information and consideration.

The CAFR was audited by the City's independent auditor, Weaver & Tidwell, LLP.

The CAFR has three sections: Introductory, Financial, and Statistical. The current CAFR was prepared in accordance with generally accepted accounting principles as prescribed by the Governmental Account Standard Board (GASB). Staff anticipates that the City will receive a Certificate of Achievement for Excellence in Financial Reporting for the thirty-second consecutive year.

FINANCIAL HIGHLIGHTS

- The 2014-2015 audited unassigned ending fund balance for the General Fund is \$9,464,362, a 10.3% increase over 2013-2014.
- General Fund revenues exceeded the original budget by \$1,059,573. Overall, the actual revenues received in the General Fund for fiscal year 2014-2015 was 106.6% of the original budgeted amount.

- General Fund expenditures were less than the original budget of \$16,077,632 by \$994,335, or 6.2%. The Public Safety Departments, who make up over half the City's budget, accounted for nearly 60% of the savings. The other 40% was a combined effort of nearly every department spending less than the budget allocations.
- The City's combined ending Fund Balance is \$27,019,341. The General Fund's ending balance is \$10,519,405, a 19.5% increase from 2013-2014. Of this amount, \$9,644,719 is unrestricted and may be used to meet the City's on-going obligations to citizens and creditors in accordance with the City's fund designation and fiscal policies.

Motion by Mr. Wilson, seconded by Dr. Marshall to accept the Comprehensive Annual Financial Report for the fiscal year ended September 30, 2015.

Vote on the Motion

Ayes: Ms. Franklin, Dr. Marshall, Mayor Dittrich, Mr. Wilson, Mr. Washburn, Mr. Sauma

Noes: None

Motion carries unanimously.

G-2234 Appointment for Associate Municipal Court Judge

Stephanie Stevens gave the following report: Section 9.03 of the Benbrook Home Rule Charter confers responsibility to the City Council to appoint and remove of the Municipal Court Judge. The section also addresses the appointment of a temporary judge to serve if the Municipal Court Judge is unable to act.

For the past two years, the City of Benbrook has paid a local Justice of the Peace to assist Municipal Court Judge Alan Bowling with magistration duties. Unfortunately, the JP no longer performs these duties. Since that time, Judge Bowling agreed to conduct all prisoner magistrations and hearings at the police department until another magistrate could be provided to assist him.

The City requested and received a résumé from Ms. Wendy Cooper, a local attorney. Ms. Cooper is an Associate Judge for the City of Richland Hills, Haltom City and Saginaw. Ms. Cooper has been a member of the Texas State Bar Association since 2003.

Judge Alan Bowling fully endorses the appointment of Ms. Cooper to this position.

Motion by Ms. Franklin, seconded by Mr. Sauma to appoint Wendy Cooper as the Associate Municipal Court Judge for the Benbrook Municipal Court.

Vote on the Motion

Ayes: Ms. Franklin, Dr. Marshall, Mayor Dittrich, Mr. Wilson, Mr. Washburn, Mr. Sauma

Noes: None

Motion carries unanimously.

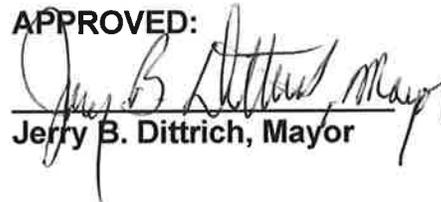
V. INFORMAL CITIZEN COMMENTS

VI. COUNCIL MEMBER AND STAFF COMMENTS

VII. ADJOURNMENT

Meeting adjourned at 7:40 p.m.

APPROVED:


Jerry B. Dittrich, Mayor

ATTEST:


Joanna King, City Secretary