



**MINUTES
OF THE
MEETING OF THE
BENBROOK CITY COUNCIL
THURSDAY, JULY 1, 2021**

The regular meeting of the Benbrook City Council was held on July 1, 2021 at 7:30 p.m. in the Council Chambers with the following Council members present:

Jerry Dittrich, Mayor
Renee Franklin
Larry Marshall
Dustin Phillips
Alfredo Valverde
Laura Mackey

Also Present:

Andy Wayman, City Manager
Jim Hinderaker, Assistant City Manager
Joanna King, City Secretary
Hilary Cromer, EDC Assistant Director
Bennett Howell, Public Service Director
Rick Overgaard, Finance Director

Others:

Wendy Burgess
Phyllis Harkins

I. CALL TO ORDER

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

II. INVOCATION/PLEDGE OF ALEGIANCE

Invocation was given by Fr. Kenneth M. Bolin with St. Thomas Becket Catholic Church

The Pledge of Allegiance was recited.

III. CITIZEN COMMENTS ON ANY AGENDA ITEM

None

IV. MINUTES

1. Approve minutes of the regular meeting held June 17, 2021

Motion by Dr. Marshall, seconded by Mr. Phillips to approve the minutes of the regular meeting held June 17, 2021.

Vote on the Motion

Ayes: Ms. Franklin, Dr. Marshall, Mr. Phillips, Mayor Dittrich, Mr. Valverde, Ms. Mackey

Noes: None

Motion carried unanimously.

V. REPORTS FROM CITY MANAGER

A. GENERAL

G-2517 Authorize Interlocal Agreement with Benbrook Water Authority for Street Cut Repair Services

Bennett Howell gave the following report: When Benbrook Water Authority (BWA) has a water or sewer line failure under a street, the street must be cut open to repair the line. After the line is repaired, BWA is responsible for restoring the damaged street. These street repairs are commonly referred to as "street cuts". In lieu of having BWA contract with an outside contractor, the City of Benbrook has repaired street cuts on asphalt streets for the BWA through an Interlocal Agreement (ILA) since 2000.

The proposed ILA renews our longstanding agreement with BWA allowing the City of Benbrook to complete street cuts for the BWA. The repair cost is \$8.91/square foot, which is identical to last year. The term of the proposed ILA is one year, beginning October 1, 2021 and ending September 30, 2022.

BWA street cuts constitute approximately 30% of the total street cuts repaired by the City each year. Because of the economies of scale associated with the City completing street cuts, the repairs are easily absorbed into the City's workload without significantly affecting operations.

Motion by Ms. Mackey, seconded by Ms. Franklin to authorize the Interlocal Agreement with the Benbrook Water Authority for street cut repair services on asphalt streets.

Vote on the Motion

Ayes: Ms. Franklin, Dr. Marshall, Mr. Phillips, Mayor Dittrich, Mr. Valverde, Ms. Mackey

Noes: None

Motion carried unanimously.

G-2518 Authorize Interlocal Agreement with Benbrook Water Authority for Residential Refuse and Storm Water Utility Fee Billing and Payment Collection Services

Bennett Howell gave the following report: Through an Interlocal Agreement (ILA), the City of Benbrook contracts with the Benbrook Water Authority (BWA) to bill and collect residential refuse and storm water utility accounts. Because the BWA already bills these customers for water and sewer service, an economies of scale is created that benefits the City, the Authority, and ultimately the citizens of Benbrook.

The proposed ILA establishes a reimbursement to the BWA of 49.58 cents per bill. This amount is identical to last year.

In addition, the City is assessed its proportionate share of the credit card processing fee for residents paying with credit cards. BWA processes credit card payments through a merchant services provider. The provider charges a percentage (normally between 1.5% and 3%) on each transaction based on the type of card and transaction.

The term of the proposed ILA is one year, beginning October 1, 2021 and ending September 30, 2022.

Motion by Ms. Franklin, seconded by Mr. Valverde to authorize the Interlocal Agreement with the Benbrook Water Authority for residential refuse and storm water utility fee billing and payment collection services.

Vote on the Motion

Ayes: Ms. Franklin, Dr. Marshall, Mr. Phillips, Mayor Dittrich, Mr. Valverde, Ms. Mackey

Noes: None

Motion carried unanimously.

G-2519 Adopt the Repetitive Loss Area Analysis Plan

Bennett Howell gave the following report: The City of Benbrook participates in the Federal Emergency Management Agency's (FEMA) Community Rating System (CRS) program, which provides flood insurance premium relief to property owners who purchase flood insurance. As part of the once every five-year CRS review process, FEMA requires verification that City Council has had an opportunity to review certain informational documents.

The Repetitive Loss Area Analysis Report is a detailed mitigation plan to reduce repetitive flood losses from occurring within the same geographical area.

Fortunately, City of Benbrook drainage projects have virtually eliminated systemic flooding. However, FEMA requires Staff to identify potential repetitive loss areas based on past FEMA floodplain maps. The three separate potential repetitive loss areas are Mary's Creek Area, Tara Drive Area, and Timbercreek Area.

The report recommends the following mitigation measures:

- Continue outreach programs to encourage property owners to purchase flood insurance;
- Continue to promote flood assistance programs;
- Continue to evaluate and include drainage projects in the Capital Improvement Program (CIP);
- Continue outreach programs to encourage property owners in flood-prone areas to elevate electrical and mechanical equipment;
- Continue to evaluate the acquisition/demolition program as appropriate;
- Continue to enforce drainage design standards in new construction; and
- Continue the storm drainage system evaluation project in the CIP.

Motion by Dr. Marshall, seconded by Mr. Phillips to adopt the Repetitive Loss Area Analysis Plan.

Vote on the Motion

Ayes: Ms. Franklin, Dr. Marshall, Mr. Phillips, Mayor Dittrich, Mr. Valverde, Ms. Mackey

Noes: None

Motion carried unanimously.

B. CONTRACT

C-339 Approve Republic Services contract renewal

Andy Wayman gave the following report: Republic Services (and its preceding companies) has served as Benbrook's garbage, bulk and recycling hauler since 1990. Over this 31 year period, Benbrook citizens have consistently praised Republic's service and the City's contract provisions. In particular, residential customers enjoy Benbrook's premium combination of weekly bulk collection, optional second pick-up (yellow bag program), and uniform collection day (Wednesday). The City's contract agreement with Republic Services expires on December 31, 2021.

City Staff and Republic Services have negotiated a five year contract extension effective January 1, 2022. The proposed contract extension includes all the services Benbrook's citizens currently enjoy.

The proposed contract extension establishes a residential rate of \$14.88. Commercial rates will increase by 3%. All other terms and conditions of the contract remain unchanged.

Benbrook's rates remain market competitive, particularly given the combination of services offered.

Motion by Ms. Franklin, seconded by Mr. Valverde to approve the contract extension with Republic Services for a period beginning January 1, 2022 and ending December 31, 2026.

Vote on the Motion

Ayes: Ms. Franklin, Dr. Marshall, Mr. Phillips, Mayor Dittrich, Mr. Valverde, Ms. Mackey

Noes: None

Motion carried unanimously.

VI. INFORMAL CITIZEN COMMENTS

Wendy Burgess, Tarrant County Tax Assessor/Collector thanked City Council, City Management, Staff, Public Safety and Public Service for making Benbrook a place, where she wanted to return.

VII. COUNCIL MEMBER AND STAFF COMMENTS

Ms. Franklin made the following comments and announcements:

1. Wish for a safe holiday on the upcoming Independence Day weekend and reminder of pet safety during events.
2. Reminder of the Artisan Farmers Market to be held July 4, 2021 from 10:00 a.m. to 2:00 p.m. in Dutch Branch Park.
3. Reminder that City Hall will be closed on Monday, July 5, 2021.
4. Announcement that the American Legion Post 297 motorcycle riders will arrive at City Hall from 10:30 a.m. to 11:00 a.m. on July 4, 2021 and afterwards will host a hot dog luncheon at the post.

VIII. ADJOURNMENT


Meeting adjourned at 7:48 p.m. followed by a Worksession:

1. 2022 Annual Budget – City Council Preliminary Discussion

APPROVED:


Jerry B. Dittrich, Mayor

ATTEST:


Joanna King, City Secretary