



**MINUTES
OF THE
MEETING OF THE
BENBROOK CITY COUNCIL
THURSDAY, OCTOBER 19, 2006**

The regular meeting of the Benbrook City Council was held on Thursday, October 5, 2006 at 7:30 p. m. in the Council Chambers at 911 Winscott Road with the following Council members present:

Jerry Dittrich
James Schull
Keith Bailey
Rickie Allison
John Vander
Larry Stowe
Ron Sauma

Also Present:

Cary Conklin, City Manager
Joanna King, City Secretary
Andy Wayman, Assistant City Manager
Tommy Davis, Fire Chief

Others Present:

Dorcas Neuman, Benbrook News
Charlotte Vander Pan
Valerie Stowe
Felix Hebert
Jerry Dunn
Danny & Marilyn Perkins
Bill Smith
Daniel Tully
Charlie & Pamela Brandenburg
Luke Brandenburg
Valerie Cook
Cheryl Owens
DeDe Owens
Kelcie Hibb
Peter Kau
Pat Dunkin
Joan Chew
Jerry Biggs
Glen Martin
Ron Slate
and 7 other citizens

I. CALL TO ORDER

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

**II. INVOCATION
PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE**

Invocation given by Brother Jack Cook with Wyatt Drive Baptist Church
The Pledge of Allegiance was recited.

III. MINUTES

1. Minutes of the regular meeting held October 5, 2006

Motion by Mr. Stowe, seconded by Mr. Allison to approve the minutes of the regular meeting held October 5, 2006 with correction to contract ending date for Allied Waste contract.

Vote on the Motion:

Ayes: Mr. Schull, Mr. Bailey, Mr. Allison, Mayor Dittrich, Mr. Vander Pan, Mr. Stowe, Mr. Sauma

Noes: None

Motion carries unanimously.

IV. CITIZEN PRESENTATION

1. Benbrook Sister Cities, Inc. – Bled, Slovenia Youth Presentation

Members of the Benbrook Sister Cities Youth Ambassadors gave presentation on recent trip to Bled, Slovenia.

2. Benbrook Sister Cities, Inc. – Response to Termination of Sister City and Friendship City Agreements

The following members of Benbrook Sister Cities, Inc. responded to City Council's termination of the Sister City Agreement with Bled, Slovenia and the Friendship Agreement with Ballymoney, Northern Ireland:

President Danny Perkins, Luke Brandenburg, Valerie Cook, Cheryl Owens, Pamela Brandenburg, Jerry Dunn, Kelcie Hibb.

Requests were made for City Council to reconsider the terminations.

3. Peter Kau – VFW Post 10429 – Support amendments to Smoking Ordinance and Request Temporary Waiver

Mr. Peter Kau speaking on behalf of VFW Post 10429 supported the proposed amendments to the City's smoking ordinance and requested a 120-day waiver in order to conform to the proposed amendment requirements.

V. PRESENTATION BY PLANNING AND ZONING COMMISSION

VI. REPORTS OF CITY MANAGER

A. GENERAL

G-1660 Adopt Ordinance Amending Chapter 8.48 Regulations of Smoking of the Benbrook Municipal Code by Adding Section 8.48.025 - Exemptions

Motion by Mr. Vander Pan, seconded by Mr. Allison to table this item.

Vote on the Motion:

Ayes: Mr. Bailey, Mr. Allison, Mayor Dittrich, Mr. Vander Pan, Mr. Stowe, Mr. Sauma, Mr. Schull

Noes: None

Motion carries unanimously.

G-1661 Reclassification of City Engineer Position

Mr. Conklin gave the following report: City Council approved the creation of a City Engineer position in the 2006-2007 budget. For budget purposes, staff classified the position as a Grade 24 with an annual salary range of \$57,277 to \$76,757.

The competition for civil engineers is very strong and many consulting firms are currently reporting difficulties in attracting good talent. When staff began preparing to advertise the position, it was determined that the budgeted salary range is no longer competitive with other municipal city engineering positions.

The existing salaries range from a low \$57,720 to a high of \$127,236. The mean salary is \$90,233 and the median salary is \$86,178. Benbrook's maximum of \$76,757 at Grade 24 would be less than 78% of the other existing salaries. Staff believes that to obtain a qualified candidate, City Council should consider revising the salary range to a Grade 26, with a range of \$65,170 to \$87,334.

Motion by Mr. Allison, seconded by Mr. Sauma to reclassify the City Engineer position to a Grade 26 and make the appropriate budget adjustment.

Vote on the Motion:

Ayes: Mr. Allison, Mayor Dittrich, Mr. Vander Pan, Mr. Stowe, Mr. Sauma, Mr. Schull, Mr. Bailey

Noes: None

Motion carries unanimously.

G-1662 Appointment to Tax Increment Financing Board of Directors

Mayor Dittrich advised that due to a possible conflict of interest, Mr. Fred Evans has declined reappointment to the Tax Increment Financing Board of Directors. Mayor Dittrich stated that Ms. Teri Robinett has agreed to serve in Place 2.

Motion by Mr. Stowe, seconded by Mr. Schull to appoint Teresa Robinett on the Tax Increment Financing Board of Directors for a two-year term.

Vote on the Motion:

Ayes: Mayor Dittrich, Mr. Vander Pan, Mr. Stowe, Mr. Sauma, Mr. Schull, Mr. Bailey, Mr. Allison

Noes: None

Motion carries unanimously.

B. CONTRACT

C-223 Approve Tarrant County Fire District #1 Contract

Mr. Davis gave the following report: For a number of years, Tarrant County has contracted with the Benbrook Fire Department to provide fire and medical first responder services to portions of unincorporated Tarrant County. The contract excludes emergency ambulance calls and patient transport. The City last renewed the annual fire services agreement with Tarrant County in December, 2005.

Contract continuation is beneficial to Benbrook for the following reasons:

- The 2006/2007 rate of compensation adequately compensates the City for services rendered.
- Provision of the County provided super tanker precludes the purchase of this apparatus by Benbrook citizens.
- Tarrant County supplies two thermal imaging cameras for Benbrook's use.
- The 2006/2007 contract includes necessary equipment.

As usual, Tarrant County did not provide the 2006/2007 contract to Benbrook until after the new fiscal year had begun October 1, 2006. The term of the contract is for one year, from October 1, 2006 to September 30, 2007.

Motion by Mr. Schull, seconded by Mr. Allison to approve the contract for fire services for the assigned area of Tarrant County Fire District #1 for fiscal year 2006/2007.

Vote on the Motion:

Ayes: Mr. Vander Pan, Mr. Stowe, Mr. Sauma, Mr. Schull, Mr. Bailey, Mr. Allison, Mayor Dittrich

Noes: None

Motion carries unanimously.

C. PURCHASE

P-251 Purchase Chassis for Brush Truck

Mr. Davis gave the following report: For the 2006/2007 fiscal year, City Council approved \$36,250 for the purchase of a heavy-duty wildland brush firefighting truck. The truck replaces a 1985 Chevrolet truck currently in use. The budgeted amount is for the truck cab only. The fleet services department will transfer the existing fire suppression unit to the new truck.

As with other major purchases, staff utilized the Buyboard Purchasing Program through TML. The City continues to find that cooperative purchasing programs leverage the lowest possible bids through purchasing volume and a statewide presence. The programs also curtail the City's administrative costs associated with the bidding process.

Two bids were obtained for a 2007 Ford F-550 four-wheel drive heavy-duty truck with dual rear wheels and a 6.0-Liter Diesels engine. The Buyboard bid of \$33,351 represents the best price and is \$2,719 below budget.

Motion by Mr. Allison, seconded by Mr. Vander Pan to approve the purchase of a Ford F-550 truck through Buyboard Purchasing Program at a low bid cost of \$33,531.

Vote on the Motion:

Ayes: Mr. Stowe, Mr. Sauma, Mr. Schull, Mr. Bailey, Mr. Allison, Mayor Dittrich, Mr. Vander Pan

Noes: None

Motion carries unanimously.

VII. OTHER MATTERS OF BUSINESS

VIII. INFORMAL CITIZEN COMMENTS

Mr. Ron Slate spoke against exemptions to the City’s smoking ordinance.

Mr. Felix T. Hebert spoke in favor the City’s smoking ordinance stating the City Council should do what is best for the community. Mr. Hebert requested City Council reconsider the termination of the Sister City agreements

Mr. Cary Conklin announced his retirement date of December 31, 2006.

X. EXECUTIVE SESSION – Pursuant to Texas Government Code

Section 551.072 – Deliberation Regarding Real Property

- 1. **Consider Counter Offer for Drainage Easement at 4016 Dawn Drive**
- 2. **Discuss Appointment of City Manager and Set Salary and Benefits**

Mayor Dittrich recessed the regular meeting at 9:27 p.m. to conduct Executive Session.

XI. RECONVENE FROM EXECUTIVE SESSION

Necessary Action from Executive Session

Mayor Dittrich called the regular meeting back to order at 10:22 p.m. Mayor Dittrich stated there would be no action from the executive session.

XII. ADJOURNMENT

Meeting adjourned at 10:23 p.m.

APPROVED:

Jerry B. Dittrich, Mayor

ATTEST:

Joanna King, City Secretary