

**MINUTES  
OF THE  
MEETING OF THE  
BENBROOK CITY COUNCIL  
THURSDAY, MAY 5, 2005**

The regular meeting of the Benbrook City Council was held on Thursday, May 5, 2005 at 7:30 p. m. in the Council Chambers at 911 Winscott Road with the following Council members present:

Felix Hebert  
Jerry Dittrich  
Ron Sauma  
Keith Bailey  
Rickie Allison  
John Vander Pan

Also Present:

Cary Conklin, City Manager  
Joanna King, City Secretary  
Dave Gattis, Assistant City Manager  
David Ragsdale, Comptroller

Others Present:

Ed Gallagher, City Planner  
Sam Horan, Police Chief  
David Martin, Police Commander  
James Mills, Police Commander  
Johnita Golston, Customer Service Rep.  
Susan Thouvenel, Municipal Court Clerk  
Maggie Hebert  
Charlotte Vander Pan  
June Bailey  
Dorcas Neuman, Benbrook News  
Bill Smith  
Daniel Tully  
Larry Stowe  
Patricia Kuehner  
David Newman  
David Bunn  
Mr. and Mrs. Harold Evetts  
Joan Chew  
Jerry Biggs  
and 2 other citizens

**I. CALL TO ORDER**

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

**II. INVOCATION  
PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE**

Councilmember Rickie Allison gave the invocation.  
The Pledge of Allegiance was recited.

**III. CONSENT AGENDA (Items listed under the Consent Agenda are considered routine and are enacted in one motion. The exception to this rule is that a Councilmember, citizen or the City Manager may request one or more items be removed from the Consent Agenda for separate discussion and action.)**

**1. Minutes of the regular meeting held April 21, 2005**

Motion by Mr. Allison, seconded by Mr. Sauma to approve the consent agenda as presented.

Vote on the Motion:

Ayes: Mr. Bailey, Mr. Allison, Mayor Hebert, Dr. Dittrich, Mr. Vander Pan, Mr. Sauma

Noes: None

Motion carries unanimously.

**IV. PROCLAMATION/AWARDS/RECOGNITION**

**1. Proclamation – Motorcycle Awareness Month**

Mayor Hebert presented Patricia Kuehner with the Texas Motorcycle Road Riders Association with a proclamation setting May 2005 as Motorcycle Awareness Month in an effort to promote motorcycle awareness, mutual respect and safety on our roads.

**2. Proclamation – National Safe Boating Week**

Mayor Hebert presented David Newman with the United States Coast Guard Auxiliary with a proclamation setting May 21-30, 2005 as National Safe Boating Week and urged those who boat to “Boat Smart from the Start” by wearing a life jacket and practicing safe boating habits.

**3. Proclamation – National Police Week/Peace Officer Memorial Day**

Mayor Hebert presented Police Chief Sam Horan, Police Commander David Martin and Police Commander James Mills with a proclamation setting the week of May 15, 2005 as National Police Week and May 15, 2005 as Peace Officers Memorial

Day and urged all citizens to join City Council in expressing deep appreciation to the men and women who risk their lives in order to guard and protect us.

#### **4. Employee Recognition**

##### **Johnita Golston – Customer Service Representative – 20 Years Service**

Mayor Hebert presented Johnita Golston with a Certificate of Appreciation for the 20 years of service she has provided to the citizens of Benbrook.

### **V. PRESENTATION BY PLANNING AND ZONING COMMISSION**

#### **PZ-2005-01 Adopt Update to Section 5 – Goals, Objectives and Strategies of the Comprehensive Plan**

Mr. Dave Gattis gave the following report: Section 5 – Goals, Objectives and Strategies is an integral part of the Comprehensive Plan. The City Charter requires an update at least every five years. The last revision to Section 5 was in 2000.

The Planning and Zoning Commission and the City Council met in joint strategic planning work session February 2005 to develop a draft update. The Commission and Council met in a second joint work session in March joined by representatives of the Benbrook Economic Development Corporation, the Benbrook Water and Sewer Authority and the Benbrook Public Library.

After consideration, the following has been identified as the overall goal of the City:

THE OVERALL GOAL OF BENBROOK IS TO PROTECT AND ENHANCE NEIGHBORHOOD QUALITY AND VALUES, AND IMPROVE THE EFFICIENCY AND EFFECTIVENESS OF GOVERNMENT SERVICES, WHILE PROMOTING ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT, PROMOTING COMMUNITY APPEARANCE AND PRIDE, AND PROVIDING APPROPRIATE COMMUNITY FACILITIES.

The new Strategic Plan contains the following high priority goals as selected and designated by those attending the sessions:

Neighborhood Quality – Aggressive code enforcement.

Efficient and Effective Government – More communication, education, and citizen input through community meetings.

Economic Development – Consider expanding the City limits through a possible land swap with Fort Worth and pursue local option election to allow wine sales in grocery stores.

Community Appearance and Pride – Improve Benbrook Boulevard's appearance by

straightening utility poles or burying utilities, hosting an annual festival or event, promote the arts, technology, history, artist colony.

Community Facilities – Larger BCC/YMCA, more outdoor recreation space, use the lake more and new public boat ramp/dock.

Mayor Hebert declared the public hearing open at 7:50 p.m.

No one spoke for or against the item.

Motion by Mr. Bailey, seconded by Mr. Vander Pan to continue the public hearing on item PZ-2005-01 pending comments to be submitted by the Benbrook Economic Development Corporation, Benbrook Water and Sewer Authority, Benbrook Library, and Benbrook Area Chamber of Commerce.

Vote on the Motion:

Ayes: Mr. Allison, Mayor Hebert, Mr. Vander Pan, Dr. Dittrich, Mr. Sauma, Mr. Bailey

Noes: None

Motion carries unanimously.

**VI. REPORTS OF CITY MANAGER**

**VII. OTHER MATTERS OF BUSINESS**

**VIII. INFORMAL CITIZEN PRESENTATION**

Mr. Harold Evetts informed City Council that the reputation of Benbrook Police Chief Sam Horan goes beyond the City limits. He stated while introducing himself during a Criminal Justice Committee meeting held in Austin, Texas a member of the committee announced that Benbrook had one of the finest Police Chiefs in Texas.

Mr. Bill Smith stated he is concerned that Benbrook no longer has an adult softball league. He asked City Council to consider a program bringing back adult players to Dutch Branch Park.

Mr. Jerry Biggs stated he had been approached by neighbors regarding the tax appraisal notice recently mailed to citizens. The notice did not indicate the Over 65 and Handicap tax freeze and he has since realized that the freeze goes into effect in 2006. He also complimented Sam Horan.

**XI. ADJOURNMENT**

Meeting adjourned at 8:03 P.M.

**APPROVED:**

---

**Felix T. Hebert, Mayor**

**ATTEST:**

---

**Joanna King, City Secretary**