



**MINUTES
OF THE
MEETING OF THE
BENBROOK CITY COUNCIL
TUESDAY JANUARY 21, 2010**

The regular meeting of the Benbrook City Council was held on Thursday, January 21, 2010 at 7:30 p. m. in the Council Chambers at 911 Winscott Road with the following Council members present:

Jerry Dittrich
Charlie Anderson
Keith Bailey
Rickie Allison
Jim Wilson
Mark Washburn
Ron Sauma

Also Present:

Andy Wayman, City Manager
Donna Savage, Assistant to City Secretary
Dave Gattis, Deputy City Manager
Cathy Morris, Public Involvement Director
Chris Bobbitt, Intern

Others Present:

Ed Gallagher, Planner
Bob Rowley, City Engineer
Walter Shumac, Public Services Director
Dan Tully
Jess Jordan
Bill Smith
Karen Barber
Tammi Cauthen
Larry Stowe

I. CALL TO ORDER

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

**II. INVOCATION
PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE**

Invocation given by Rickie Allison
The Pledge of Allegiance was recited.

III. MINUTES

1. Minutes of the regular meeting held January 7, 2010

Motion by Mr. Allison, seconded by Mr. Anderson to approve the minutes of the regular meeting held January 7, 2010 as presented.

Vote on the Motion:

Ayes: Mr. Anderson, Mr. Allison, Mayor Dittrich, Mr. Sauma, Mr. Washburn, Mr. Bailey, Mr. Wilson.

Noes: None

Motion carries unanimously.

IV. PRESENTATION BY BENBROOK ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT CORPORATION

EDC-2010-01 Present Quarterly Financial Report for quarter ending December 31, 2009

This item has been rescheduled to a future meeting.

V. REPORTS FROM CITY STAFF MEMBERS

1. Chris Bobbitt- Report on Vernon Castle Monument Restoration

Chris Bobbitt gave the following report: The Vernon Castle Monument restoration project began in the summer of 2009, due to the diminishing state of the monument. The monuments exterior surfaces were deteriorating, the three aluminum plaques were beginning to rust, and the Plexiglas protective covers were staining due to sun exposure.

Most of the concrete was showing signs of wear and discoloration, with one side of the monument requiring new plaster. To keep restoration costs low, Gary Hoyt of McCully Engraving was able to salvage the existing plaques by cleaning and engraving them on the reverse side. He was also able to use new laser technology to capture images of Vernon Castle and his airplane.

John Schramm, Bill Sivers, and Dennis McPeak of Fleet Services and Chris Obregon and Ronnie Baker of the Parks Department utilized their creative talents to clean, repair, paint and restore the monument, apply detailed paint techniques to the model airplane at the top of the monument, and refresh the landscape surrounding the monument.

A special 'Thank You' goes out to all of those City Employees who gave of their time, talent and dedication to restore the Vernon Castle Monument.

2. Cathy Morris- Report on Code Compliance

Cathy Morris gave the following report: The Code Compliance Department will continue to focus efforts to meet and exceed the City's newly-adopted strategic plan objectives for the department. As part of that plan, the department is charged with reducing code violations within the City by 10% or better annually. The new code compliance software will assist in compiling statistical data to measure objective attainment. However, Staff recognizes that this data may not accurately measure success. Given enhanced public education/awareness efforts to encourage citizen reporting and the use of the new tracking software, reported code violations could initially increase.

Department efforts for 2010 include streamlining processes, seeking innovative ways to educate, inform, and partner with citizens to resolve code issues fairly and reasonably, and to continue to balance available community resources to help those in need through the compassion program, with more aggressive abatement measures to address persistent, non-compliant violators.

VI. REPORTS OF CITY MANAGER

A. GENERAL

G-1893 Accept financial report for the month of December 2009

Andy Wayman gave the following report: General Fund revenue for the month of December totaled \$4,056,132. Almost all collections (\$3,818,778) came from Property Taxes. The only other significant revenue came from Sales Taxes (\$106,834). Year-to-date collections are \$5,343,190 and are \$740,994 over last year's collections to date of \$4,602,196.

Sales tax collections are down approximately 6% from the adopted budget. If this trend continues, sales tax revenue would decrease by approximately \$100,000 for the fiscal year. A projected increase in building permit fees and Benbrook's historic spending controls should more than account for this potential revenue loss. Although Staff is not overly concerned, we will continue to closely monitor sales tax receipts.

General Fund expenditures totaled \$1,006,189. At December 31, revenues exceeded expenditures by \$1,895,859.

Debt Service revenues were \$161,487 through the end of December. No debt payments have been made.

Capital Projects revenues have been \$422,409, with \$79,934 coming from a mineral lease, \$100,000 from the Chesapeake annual donation and the balance coming from Storm Water Fees. Expenditures were \$209,946.

Investments were \$16,679,946 at December 31, 2009. This entire amount is available immediately if needed.

Motion by Mr. Sauma, seconded by Mr. Anderson to accept the financial report for the month of December 2009.

Vote on the Motion:

Ayes: Mr. Anderson, Mr. Allison, Mayor Dittrich, Mr. Sauma, Mr. Washburn, Mr. Bailey, Mr. Wilson.

Noes: None

Motion carries unanimously.

G-1894 Establish priorities for small drainage projects using Storm Water Utility Program

Dave Gattis gave the following report: The Benbrook City Council established the Storm Water Utility system in September, 2007. While the majority of the funds are used to retire debt related to drainage projects, the City Council budgets approximately \$100,000 annually for the construction of small drainage projects. A portion of this year's budget has been used to cover unexpected costs on the Plantation East Creek project and for some small engineering projects, but there is still approximately \$50,000 available for small projects in this fiscal year's budget.

The staff originally planned to construct bank stabilization improvements along Timber Creek near the 1800 block of Timberline Drive during this fiscal year, but the scope and complexity of the project has resulted in an estimated cost of nearly \$800,000 by a consulting engineering firm (Kimley-Horn), with part of the cost related to permitting the project through the U.S. Army Corps of Engineers. Staff is evaluating other options that could reduce the expense to as little as \$250,000; however, the staff has not reached a level of confidence to reduce the project estimate from that initially established by the consulting engineers. Staff is also evaluating an interim, in-house solution that may help reduce the erosion the issue. The property owner that is most affected is offering to assist the City with permitting from the U. S. Army Corps of Engineers for the interim option.

The staff receives occasional telephone calls from citizens regarding drainage concerns during heavy rains that may be corrected by the small drainage project program using the storm water utility. From these calls, and subsequent investigations by staff, the staff has compiled a list of potential projects.

There are several small drainage projects that could alleviate drainage problems for some Benbrook residents. Projects that cost more than \$100,000 will require a multi-year commitment of funds. The following projects are listed by cost per property protected:

Fiscal Year	Project	Cost
2009-2010	Briar Run	\$50,000
2010-2011	Edge Hill	\$84,000
2011-2012	Tara Culvert repairs	Unknown
2012-2013	Bryant Street	\$93,000
2013-2019	Dry Branch	\$660,000

Motion by Mr. Anderson seconded by Mr. Washburn to accept the recommendation from Staff in establishing priorities and schedule of projects using the Storm Water Utility Program.

Vote on the Motion:

Ayes: Mr. Anderson, Mr. Allison, Mayor Dittrich, Mr. Washburn, Mr. Bailey, Mr. Wilson.

Noes: Mr. Sauma

Motion carries 6-1

VII. INFORMAL CITIZEN COMMENTS

VIII. ADJOURNMENT

Meeting adjourned at 8:11 P.M. followed by a worksession to discuss Core Value Statement.

APPROVED:

Jerry B. Dittrich, Mayor

ATTEST:

Joanna King, City Secretary