



**MINUTES
OF THE MEETING OF THE
BENBROOK CITY COUNCIL
THURSDAY,
APRIL 16, 2009**

The regular meeting of the Benbrook City Council was held on Thursday, April 16, 2009 at 7:30 p. m. in the Council Chambers at 911 Winscott Road with the following Council members present:

Jerry Dittrich
Keith Bailey
Rickie Allison
Mark Washburn
Ron Sauma
Dan Tully

Also Present:

Andy Wayman, City Manager
Joanna King, City Secretary
Dave Gattis, Deputy City Manager

Others Present:

Ed Gallagher, City Planner
Wayne Carlisle, Chief Building Inspector
Leslie Harris, Community Development Tech
Ron Rainey
Emily Gould
Bill and Janis Gould, III
Bill and Nell Gould, Jr
Bob and Mary Ann Jones
John and Charlotte Vander Pan
Glenda Patterson
Karen Witchley
Betty Heedley
Gina Hughes
Bill Smith
Charlie Anderson
Pamela Brandenburg
Vernon Gatlin
Valerie Cook
Karen Barber
Debbie Watson
and five other citizens

I. CALL TO ORDER

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

**II. INVOCATION
PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE**

Invocation was given by Judy Jones with Tabernacle of Praise
The Pledge of Allegiance was recited.

III. MINUTES

1. Minutes of the regular meeting held April 2, 2009

Motion by Mr. Sauma, seconded by Mr. Washburn to approve the minutes of the regular meeting held April 2, 2009.

Vote on the Motion:

Ayes: Mr. Allison, Mayor Dittrich, Mr. Tully, Mr. Washburn, Mr. Sauma

Noes: None

Abstain: Mr. Bailey

Motion carries 5-0-1.

IV. PROCLAMATION/AWARD/RECOGNITION

1. Proclamation – Recognizing Girl South Emily Gould

Mayor Dittrich presented Ms. Emily Gould with a Proclamation recognizing her many accomplishments as a member of Girl Scout Troop 2529. Among her achievements, The Girl Scouts of USA has recognized and honored Ms. Gould by bestowing her with the Gold Award. The Gold Award is the highest award for girls ages fourteen to eighteen.

2. Proclamation – Poppy Month

Mayor Dittrich presented a Proclamation designating May as Poppy Month to Glenda Patterson with the American Legion Auxiliary. The annual Poppy Campaign is the oldest and most widely known of the American Legion Auxiliary programs. The Poppies are made by disabled and hospitalized veterans with proceeds used exclusively for veterans and their families. Mayor Dittrich encouraged citizens to wear a Poppy, showing gratitude to the servicemen and servicewomen who have risked their lives to defend the freedoms and ideals we have as citizens of the United States of America.

3. Recognize members of the first Community Emergency Response Team (CERT)

Mayor Dittrich that this item has been rescheduled for a future meeting.

4. Recognize Leslie Harris for North Texas Chapter of the International Code Council Employee of the Month Award

City Council recognized Leslie Harris, Community Development Tech, has having received the designation of Employee of the Month by the North Texas Chapter of the International Code Council. Ms. Harris was recognized by the Code Council at their March meeting for the professional manner she demonstrates in assisting citizens, developers and City staff in many areas of the Building Inspection Department.

V. PRESENTATION BY MAYOR AND MEMBERS OF CITY COUNCIL

CC-2009-10 Nominate Local Elected Official to serve on North Central Texas Council of Governments Executive Board

No action taken on this item.

CC-2009-11 Receive notice of vacancy on Tarrant Appraisal District Board of Directors and determine desire to submit nomination to fill vacancy

No action taken on this item.

VI. PRESENTATION BY BENBROOK ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT

EDC-2009-02 Financial report for quarter ending March 31, 2009

Mr. Ron Rainey gave the following report:

Income for January 1 – March 31, 2009 was \$3,916,220.66. Most of this amount came from Land Sales (\$2,787,099.36) with the sale to Wal-Mart.

Expenses for January 1 – March 31, 2009 were \$3,840,190.60. The Personnel category was actually for a five month period. The \$3,481,626.82 for Other Professional Services represents a repayment of a bank loan made in anticipation of the Wal-Mart sale.

The net income for the period ending March 31, 2009 was \$76,030.06.

Motion by Mr. Allison, seconded by Mr. Tully to accept the financial report for the quarter ending March 31, 2009.

Vote on the Motion:

Ayes: Mr. Bailey, Mr. Allison, Mayor Dittrich, Mr. Tully, Mr. Washburn, Mr. Sauma

Noes: None

Motion carries unanimously.

VII. REPORTS OF CITY MANAGER

A. GENERAL

G-1838 Accept Finance Report for month ending March 31, 2009

Mr. Wayman gave the following report: General Fund Revenues for the month of March were \$1,199,951. General Fund Expenditures totaled \$906,206. Through March, revenues exceeded expenditures by \$4,907,549.

Debt Service Fund collections at March 31 were \$928,596 while expenditures were \$791,591.

Capital Projects revenue was \$607,596 with \$541,800 coming from Storm Water fees and \$65,796 from a gas lease. Expenditures through March 31 were \$283,313 with most of this amount applied to debt payments.

Investments were \$17,474,355 at March 31, 2009.

Motion by Mr. Washburn, seconded by Mr. Sauma to accept the finance report for the month ending March 31, 2009.

Vote on the Motion:

Ayes: Mr. Bailey, Mr. Allison, Mayor Dittrich, Mr. Tully, Mr. Washburn, Mr. Sauma

Noes: None

Motion carries unanimously.

VII. INFORMAL CITIZEN COMMENTS

VIII. ADJOURNMENT

Meeting adjourned at 7:55 P.M. followed by a worksession to discuss Code Compliance.

WORKSESSION

1. Discuss Code Compliance

Cathy Morris gave the following report: The Code Compliance Department was contacted by over a dozen people representing Church groups, Scouts, and individuals interested in volunteering to help residents clean up their property through the Compassion Based Code Compliance.

A Compassion Team of seven volunteers working 2 ½ hours on a Saturday filled one full 30-yard roll-off dumpster in this effort.

Some Code Compliance Department challenges are those properties with persistent violations of junk & rubbish, high grass and weeds and junk vehicles.

The tools available to the Code Compliance Department are:

1. Letter to violator – 10 days to correct
2. Offer of Compassion Team assistance
3. Citation(s)
4. Warrant/Arrest
5. Abate property (remove and dispose of property)

The Abatement process is the last report for persistent violators. Junked vehicle owners may request a hearing before the City.

Junk and rubbish violators may be served an Administrative Search Warrant allowing staff to inventory and document health & safety hazards prior to removal of items. An Enforcement Order signed by the Municipal Court Judge is required for an abatement of property.

The Code Compliance Department allows plenty of notice and opportunity for property owners to correct violations prior to removal.

Code Compliance intends to utilize more aggressive measures to resolve persistent, on-going junk and rubbish and junked vehicle violators.

APPROVED:

Jerry B. Dittrich, Mayor

ATTEST:

Joanna King, City Secretary