

**CITY OF BELLE PLAINE
CITY HALL
401 N. Merchant**

REGULAR COUNCIL MEETING MINUTES

CALL TO ORDER

Mayor Richard Penn called the Regular Council Meeting for the City of Belle Plaine, Kansas, to order on Thursday, February 2, 2017 at 7:00 PM.

COUNCIL ATTENDANCE

Members Present

**Tori Bohannon Dennis McGinnis
David Armstrong Rob Narron
Lacy Tedman**

A quorum was present

Staff Present

**Gordon Fell – Police Chief, Linda Stinnett – City Clerk, and
Guy Howell – Maintenance Superintendent. Loree Hisken – Librarian,
presented a written report but had to leave as the meeting started.**

PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE

MAYOR'S COMMENTS

Mayor Penn reported that Kansas Gov. Sam Brownback would be visiting Cowley County Community College to promote a new partnership between the college and Ft. Hays State University. The new program has been designed to help students graduate with minimal cost of obtaining a college degree. Mayor Penn also reported that work is under way to establish RV hookups before Tulip time.

PUBLIC ITEMS

Dr. James Sutton, Superintendent of Schools, visited the Council meeting and said he had received a copy of the new Comprehensive Plan. He plans to investigate ways the school district can help accomplish goals of the community. He plans to begin working with the Student Council at Belle Plaine High School to foster interest in the community. He invited Mayor Penn to visit with the Student Council and the Mayor agreed, saying it will be good to have the City and School District working together.

ADDITIONS OR CORRECTIONS TO THE AGENDA

- None.
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APPROVAL OF CONSENT ITEMS

MOTION: Armstrong made a motion to approve the Minutes for the Council Meeting on 01-19-17; Payroll Ordinance 02-02-17; and Warrant Ordinances 01-31-17 and 02-02-17. Tedman seconded.

VOTING YEA: ALL VOTING NAY: NONE MOTION CARRIED.

NEW BUSINESS**625 N. Union - Cleanup**

Chief Fell reported on the trash accumulation at 625 N. Union and the effort to have it cleaned up. On April 17, 2015 a notice was first sent to the property owners at that time. No cleanup occurred, but ownership transferred to Johnny Lyles Jr. On January 24, 2017, final notice was sent to Mr. Lyles, giving him 10 days to clean up the property. Chief Fell presented Resolution 2017-02, which authorizes the City to abate the conditions on the property 10 days after its passage.

MOTION: McGinnis made a motion to adopt Resolution 2017-02. Narron seconded.

VOTING YEA: ALL VOTING NAY: NONE MOTION CARRIED.

519 W. 8th - Cleanup

Chief Fell reported on problems with mold and potential structural issues at 519 W. 8th, a rental property owned by Thora Bean. On January 9, 2017, the tenant at that property contacted Fell's office about the issues with the home and Chief Fell and Superintendent Howell visited the property to document the issues. On January 24, 2017, Chief Fell sent a letter to Mrs. Bean, asking for a meeting with her. They met on January 27, 2017. On January 29, 2017, Chief Fell put up a placard on the property that it could not have human habitation. A letter was also sent to Mrs. Bean, reiterating the City's position that the problems must be fixed within 45 days. The placard cannot be removed until the property passes an inspection by a certified mold inspector and a structural engineer. Chief Fell and Mrs. Bean will meet again on March 6, 2017 to discuss the status of the property.

OLD BUSINESS

620 N. Line - Cleanup

Chief Fell reported on the status of property at 620 N. Line, which was damaged by a fire several years ago. In April and June 2015 letters were sent to the property owner, but were unclaimed at the Post Office. In February 2016 a letter was sent to the current owner, Steven Gilmore of Wichita and he attended a City Council meeting to report on the status of the work. On January 24, 2017, Chief Fell sent a letter to Mr. Gilmore, asking him to attend the Council meeting. On February 2, 2017, Mr. Gilmore called City Hall to report he could not attend the meeting and to ask about a new building permit. He will plan to attend the Feb. 16, 2017 Council meeting to report on the property.

Comprehensive Plan Update – Amended Agreement with Foster Design Associates

An Amended Agreement was presented for Foster Design Associates, extending the time of the consultant's contract to May 31, 2017.

MOTION: Tedman made a motion to approve an Amended Agreement with Foster Design Associates, extending the consultant's service time to May 31, 2017. Narron seconded.

VOTING YEA: ALL VOTING NAY: NONE MOTION CARRIED.

Chief Fell updated the Council on the recommendation for approval of the Extraterritorial Jurisdiction for zoning in an eight-mile area primarily to the north of Belle Plaine. The application moves to the Board of County Commissioners for a vote on approval.

PURCHASE ORDERS

- None

STAFF REPORTS

Staff reports included a report on help from Westar Energy to fix issues with lights at the Watson Park ballfield, metal cleanup at the area around the sewer plant, closing of one lane of Main and Merchant near the schools due to the demolition planned this spring, and that there were 20 applicants for the Community Center opening. A report was also given on a leaking fire hydrant. Under the current system, water to the entire City would have to be shut off to make the repairs, requiring a 48-hour boil water notice following the repairs. The Maintenance Department wants to wait on repairs until improvements can be made to the system so only a small area of the City would have to be turned off during the repair process.

Adjournment

MOTION: McGinnis made a motion to adjourn the council meeting. Bohannon seconded. The motion carried unanimously and meeting adjourned at 9:08 PM.

Respectfully Submitted,

Linda Stinnett, City Clerk