

**MINUTES OF THE BEATRICE CITY COUNCIL
WORK SESSION**

A work session of the Beatrice City Council was held on the 26th day of September, 2016 at 7:00 p.m. at the BPS Administration Building Board Room, 320 North 5th Street, Beatrice, Nebraska.

Attending: Mayor Wirth, Councilmembers: Billesbach, Catlin, Clabaugh, Cook, Fairbanks, Kerr, Morgan, Parde.

Absent: Councilmembers: None

Mayor Wirth announced that a copy of the Open Meetings Act is available in the meeting room and is accessible to members of the public.

CONSENT AGENDA

- a. Approve agenda as submitted.
- b. Receive and place on file all notices pertaining to this meeting
- c. Receive and place on file all materials having any bearing on this meeting.

Moved by Catlin, seconded by Parde, that the items listed under the consent agenda be approved, accepted, and/or ratified as presented.

Roll Call: Yea: Billesbach, Catlin, Clabaugh, Cook, Fairbanks, Kerr, Morgan, Parde
Nay: None MOTION CARRIED.

PUBLIC HEARINGS/BIDS

There were no public hearings/bids.

RESOLUTIONS

There were no resolutions.

ORDINANCES

There were no ordinances.

PUBLIC FORUM

No one appeared at public forum.

DISCUSSIONS/REPORTS

Alley between 5th and 6th Streets, Logan and Washington Streets.

Greg Butcher, City Attorney, noted this item was recently up for discussion before the City Council. The Council had inquired about paving half of the alley as an option. Butcher noted James Burroughs, City Engineer, would not recommend this path of action due to a number of storm water control issues and erosion. Due to the fact that the two (2) property owners adjacent

to the alley cannot agree on a paving assessment, the only two (2) other ideas were to “gap and extend” or vacate and sell the alley to one (1) or both of the adjacent owners. Councilmember Kerr noted that he does not favor “gap and extend”. Councilmember Fairbanks would like to see the Council at least put a vote on record on “gap and extend” as that was the request of the property owner Lois Struve. Rich Daubendiek, the owner of the west property, appeared and noted that he would not favor opening nor paving this alley. Daubendiek and his tenants prefer it remain closed. Daubendiek would be willing to purchase a portion or all of the alley should it be vacated. The Council would like to see what interest the other property owner, Lois Struve, has in purchasing all or a portion of the alley. City Administration will follow-up on this item and it will return at a future City Council meeting.

Possible Projects or Programs for the Downtown Revitalization Phase 2 Grant

Greg Butcher, City Attorney, noted that the Downtown Revitalization Phase I Plan is almost complete. Over the last few months, the City has held a number of steering committee meetings, public and private surveys, and two (2) open house meetings. Throughout those meetings a number of items were identified as priorities for downtown revitalization Phase II projects. The six (6) priorities discussed were: (1) a façade improvement program and historic preservation; (2) infrastructure improvements/upgrades; (3) housing in downtown Beatrice; (4) urban design, signage, and marketing; (5) alternative energy systems; and (6) business retention, recruitment, and expansion. The City Council discussed all the above priorities and would like to see a mix of a façade improvement program with the City improving downtown infrastructure. City Administration will move forward with preparing a draft application for approval by the City Council at a later date.

EXECUTIVE SESSION

Moved by Catlin, that the Beatrice City Council go into closed session at 8:02 p.m., for the protection of public interest to discuss contract negotiations. Seconded by Kerr, that the Beatrice City Council go into closed session at 8:02 p.m., for the protection of public interest to discuss contract negotiations.

Mayor Wirth announced that it has been Moved by Catlin, seconded by Kerr, that the Beatrice City Council go into closed session at 8:02 p.m., for the protection of public interest to discuss contract negotiations.

Roll Call: Yea: Billesbach, Catlin, Clabaugh, Cook, Fairbanks, Kerr, Morgan, Parde
Nay: None MOTION CARRIED.

Reconvened at 8:14 p.m.

ADJOURNMENT

Moved by Catlin, seconded by Billesbach, that the meeting be adjourned at 8:14 p.m.

Roll Call: Yea: Billesbach, Catlin, Clabaugh, Cook, Fairbanks, Kerr, Morgan, Parde
Nay: None MOTION CARRIED.

Erin Saathoff, City Clerk

Stan Wirth, Mayor