

Council Minutes – January 25, 2011

COUNCIL CHAMBER, Topeka, Kansas, Tuesday, January 25, 2011. The Councilmembers of the City of Topeka met in regular session at 6:00 P.M., with the following Councilmembers present: Councilmembers Hiller, Alcalá, Woelfel, Wolgast, Archer, Preisner and Harmon -7. Deputy Mayor Swank presided -1. Absent: Mayor Bunten and Councilmember Ortiz -2.

AFTER THE MEETING was called to order, Councilmember Woelfel gave the invocation.

THE PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE was recited by those present in the chamber.

A PRESENTATION on the Metropolitan Topeka Airport Authority operations was provided by Eric Johnson, Metropolitan Topeka Airport Authority Executive Director

THE CONSENT AGENDA was presented as follows:

BOARD APPOINTMENT recommending the re-appointment of Paul Post to the Topeka Sustainability Advisory Board for a term ending January 31, 2013 was presented.

BOARD APPOINTMENT recommending the re-appointment of Stan Meyers to the Topeka Sustainability Advisory Board for a term ending January 31, 2013 was presented.

MINUTES of the regular meeting of January 18, 2011 were presented.

A Dance Hall License application for Joletta's located at 600 NW Paramore was presented.

Councilmember Preisner moved to approve the consent agenda. The motion seconded by Councilmember Alcalá carried unanimously. (8-0-0)

RESOLUTION NO. 8308 introduced by City Manager Norton N. Bonaparte, Jr., authorizing the Kansas Public Employees Deferred Compensation Plan for the Employees of the City of Topeka, Kansas was presented.

Norton N. Bonaparte, Jr., City Manager gave the staff report.

Councilmember Preisner moved to approve the resolution. The motion was seconded by Councilmember Alcala.

Councilmember Harmon asked if the City currently offers the program.

Councilmember Archer asked if there would be an expense to the City.

Norton N. Bonaparte, Jr., reported the City currently offers the program; however, approval would allow the City to become a joint contract owner with the State of Kansas of the group contract. He also reported there would be no expense to the City; and the program would be optional to employees.

The motion to approve the resolution carried unanimously. (8-0-0)

A RESOLUTION introduced by Councilmember John Alcala in support of public policies to ensure a successful and sustainable downtown development was presented.

Councilmember Alcala gave the staff report and stated approval of the resolution would provide for a policy that would help ensure sustainable downtown development.

Robert Banks reported the policy would provide the tool needed to implement a work plan, set goals in pursuing and improving downtown historic preservation, provide a better mechanism for funding, and assist in setting Historic Preservation priorities.

Councilmember Alcala stated he would recommend referring the resolution to the Policy and Finance Committee for further discussion. He noted the concerns expressed by the individuals directly involved in the process need to be resolved before the policy is approved.

Councilmember Archer stated he believes it would be a good idea to refer the resolution to committee for further analysis. He thanked Councilmember Alcalá for addressing such an important issue.

Councilmember Archer moved to refer the resolution to the Policy and Finance Committee. The motion seconded by Councilmember Alcalá.

Councilmember Wolgast stated he believes the issue is time sensitive due to the plans currently underway to renovate the downtown area.

Councilmember Swank requested the resolution be placed on the February 1, 2011 Policy and Finance Committee Meeting agenda for discussion.

Councilmember Hiller questioned the purpose of the resolution and if there is a fiscal note attached to the policy. She stated she needs clarification on the intent of the resolution before she could make an informed decision.

The motion to refer the resolution to the Policy and Finance Committee carried unanimously. (8-0-0)

NO Retail Cereal Malt Beverage License applications were presented.

ORDINANCE NO. 19510 introduced by City Manager Norton N. Bonaparte, Jr., allowing and approving City expenditures for the period of January 3, 2011, through January 9, 2011, and enumerating said expenditures therein was presented for first and final reading.

Norton N. Bonaparte, Jr., City Manager gave the staff report.

Councilmember Wolgast moved to adopt the ordinance. The motion seconded by Councilmember Archer carried unanimously. (8-0-0)

The ordinance was adopted on roll call vote as follows: Ayes: Hiller, Alcalá, Woelfel, Wolgast, Swank, Archer, Preisner and Harmon -8. Absent: Ortiz -1.

A FINAL PLAT for Everett “Shun” and Florence Tenpenny Subdivision located at 2721 NE 39th Street, being outside the City’s Municipal Service Area and within the three-mile extraterritorial jurisdiction of the City of Topeka, all being within unincorporated Shawnee County, Kansas, was presented. (P10/11)

Norton N. Bonaparte, Jr., City Manager gave the staff report.

The City Clerk asked if there were any ex parte communications. There were none declared.

Councilmember Preisner moved to approve the final plat. The motion seconded by Councilmember Woelfel carried unanimously. (8-0-0)

PRESENTATIONS BY THE CITY MANAGER, MAYOR AND MEMBERS OF THE COUNCIL;

Norton N. Bonaparte, Jr., City Manager invited the public to ice skate at the Topeka Zoo Polar Ice Cap Skating Rink open weekly from 9:00 a.m. to 4:30 p.m. Thursday and 5:30 p.m. to 8:00 p.m. on Saturday.

Councilmember Woelfel announced Mr. William Beteta, Heartland Visioning Executive Director would be a guest speaker at the Hi-Crest Neighborhood Improvement Association monthly meeting at Avondale East Elementary on Thursday January 27th at 6:30 p.m. He also announced the Highland Acres Neighborhood Improvement Association would host a City Council Candidate District No. 4 Public Forum on February 7th at the Highland Park High School cafeteria. He encouraged citizens to attend both public forums.

Deputy Mayor Swank moved to adjourn the City Council meeting. The motion seconded by Councilmember Alcala carried unanimously. (8-0-0)

Ted Mize appeared to speak under public comment.

NO FURTHER BUSINESS appearing the meeting was adjourned at 6:35 p.m.

Brenda Younger
City Clerk