

**City of Baldwin City**  
**Minutes from the January 23, 2018**  
**Regular Council Meeting**

The Baldwin City Council met in Regular Session at 7:00 p.m. at the Baldwin City Public Library, 800 7th Street, with Mayor Casey Simoneau presiding.

Present were Council Members: Tony Brown, David Simmons, Brian Cramer, A.J. Stevens and Susan Pitts. Also, attending: Glenn Rodden-City Administrator; Laura Hartman, City Clerk; Amara Packard, Deputy Clerk; Ed Courton, Community Development Director; Brad Smith, Finance Director; Brandon Sharp, Police Department; Kenny Oshel, Public Works Director; Ken Hoffman, Codes Administrator; Rob Culley, Electric Distribution Director; Chris Croucher, Director of Utility distribution. Also attending: City Attorney, Blake Glover.

**A. Call to Order:**

Mayor Casey Simoneau called the regular council meeting to order at 7:00 p.m.

**B. Approval of Agenda -** Susan Pitts moved and A.J. Stevens seconded to approve the agenda as presented. Motion carried with a vote of 5-0

**C. Consent Agenda:** Council considered Minutes of the January 8, 2018 meeting. David Simmons inquired about a motion recording. David Simmons and Brian Cramer seconded to approve the January 8, 2018 minutes. Motion carried with a vote of 5 yes and 0 no.

**B. Public Comment:** Hank Booth, 802 High, spoke about the EDC annual award banquet and extended an invitation to all Council Members.

**C. Special Reports or Presentations – none**

**E. Old Business:**

1. Net metering/Parallel generation ordinance amendment. Susan Pitts explained, the amended ordinance keeps the net metering for solar customers at one (1) percent, but increases parallel generation from four (4) to eight (8) percent of the annual city load. Susan said the committee would like to meet again to discuss setting 4% on the net metering. Mayor invited citizens that would like to speak to this agenda item. Michael Nichols, 1018 8th Street shared concerns about the value of a resale of homes. Barbara Johnston, 225 King also supported solar array program and is in favor of maintaining the program. Eric Bailey, 1205 Palmyra Court, stated the reason he has solar. He has concern about net metering going away and how that would affect the sale of his home when he would sell. A.J. Stevens shared the committee is working for the community and to build a more green community. A.J. added the committee is working toward adding to the percentage of net metering. Mayor Simoneau clarified the direction of the committee. Tony inquired about how much kilowatts are pushed back to the grid. Eric would be happy to share this information with the committee. Tony Brown explained the process and how it has been discussed in committee. Council agreed to send this item back to the committee for discussion. The next committee meeting is February 1, 2018, 7:00 p.m. at Public Works.

2. Resolution 2018-01 - Council statement of intent- this item was presented at the last council meeting. A.J. Stevens moved and Brian Cramer seconded to approve Resolution 2018-01, Council statement of intent. Motion carried with a vote of 5 yes and 0 no.

F. New Business:

1. Appointments - Mayor Simoneau made the following appointments:

- a. City Attorney - Blake Glover - Stevens moved and Simmons seconded to approve Blake Glover as City Attorney. Motion carried with a vote of 5 yes and 0 no.

- b. Municipal Judge - Dakota Loomis - Pitts moved and Cramer seconded to approve Dakota Loomis as Municipal Judge. Motion carried with a vote of 5 yes and 0 no.

- c. City Treasurer - Glenn Rodden - A.J. Stevens said he believes the appointment of the City treasurer should be separate from staff. No action was taken. Council directed the Mayor to seek an appointment for treasurer that is not a staff member.

- d. Council Committee citizens:

Public Health and Safety- Jim Denney

Public Works - Jerry Bennett

Legislative - Austin Wegener

Community Development - Brian Stults

Stevens moved, Tony asked for the list of names and asked why there was one gender represented. Casey said there were some females that were nurses that put in for Public Health and Safety. Tony reiterated he is not being accusatory and it was just an observation, Simmons seconded to approve the Mayoral appointment of Council committee citizens Public Health and Safety- Jim Denney; Public Works - Jerry Bennett; Legislative - Austin Wegener; Community Development - Brian Stults. Motion carried with a vote of 5 yes and 0 no.

2. City lot property- The Mayor directed City staff to get estimates on two (2) properties. Community Development Director Ed Courton has placed a quote from Diebold for appraisal services in the council packet for those two (2) city properties. Mayor asked for comments or suggestions. David said this is a good idea instead of leaving lots empty that could potentially build a business. Council agreed to move forward with this process.
3. Midland Railroad/Bike trail - The Mayor ask for discussion and general consensus on a potential bike trail project and added no action needed at this time. A.J. Stevens recused himself because of a conflict of interest. Mayor said we could purchase an easement from Midland Railroad. The discussions are in the beginning stages. Mayor ask for the consensus of council whether to move forward with this process. Glenn explained how this came about as an option for the City. He said this discussion will also include the County as part of this property belongs to the County. This is a long term project to eventually have a bike trail and to aid financial support for Midland Railway. Director of Midland Railroad, A.J. Stevens approached the podium said the cost is approximately \$345,000 to repair the track. Glenn said funding could possibly be divided into thirds. Time is of the essence to move with this project. Many grants have deadlines and those are approaching quickly. A.J. stated concern with the dinner train business and the impact of not

being able to operate. Council continued discussion and came to a general consensus to move forward. Glenn and Blake will draft a Resolution to present to Council at the February 2, 2018 meeting.

4. Ordinance 1073 Building Permit Fees - This item was tabled from the last meeting. Council requested hard numbers from Finance Director Brad Smith. Brad provided information for Council review. Council ensued discussion.
5. Ordinance for setting a fee schedule by resolution- Staff researched the procedure for setting fees and recommended Council approve an Ordinance that states the fee schedule will be set annually by resolution. David stated concerns about voting on an ordinance we are seeing for the first time. Mayor thanked David for his concerns and stated this is a procedural item. Stevens moved and Cramer seconded to approve the ordinance for setting fee schedule by resolution. Motion carried with a roll call vote of 4 ayes and 1 nays. Brown, aye; Pitts, aye; Stevens, aye; Simmons, nay; Cramer, aye.
6. Resolution-Schedule of Fees - This resolution refers to the Ordinance on agenda item G. 5. Stevens moved and Pitts seconded to approve the Resolution: Schedule of Fees. Motion carried with a vote of 5 yes and 0 no.
7. Resolution - Building Incentive program - After short discussion, Stevens moved and Cramer seconded to approve the Resolution for the building incentive program. Motion carried with a vote of 5 yes and 0 no.

#### G. Committee Reports:

1. Budget and Finance - A.J. Stevens/David Simmons - Will be meeting the 2nd Tuesday of each month. Time will be determined.
2. Community Development Committee - Tony Brown/Brian Cramer - Tony welcomed Brian Stults to the committee. The committee will meet Thursday at 3:00 p.m. at City Hall.
3. Public Health and Safety Committee- Brian Cramer/Tony Brown - The committee will meet February 8, 2018 @ 3:00 p.m. @ City Hall
4. Public Works Committee - David Simmons/Susan Pitts - No schedule in place yet
5. Utilities Committee - Susan Pitts/A.J. Stevens - no report at this time, since most of the committee discussion occurred earlier on the agenda.
6. Legislative Committee - David Simmons/Susan Pitts - no schedule in place yet

#### H. City Administrator and Staff Comments :

#### I. Council & Mayor Comments:

Tony let council members know about the coffee and conversation at Dance Cafe from 8:00 a.m. - 9:00 a.m. Friday

A.J. spoke of the treasurer position and wanted to clarify the direction of this position. He added he was not trying to take away from Brad's position, but would like to have the description for a treasurer.

Mayor Simoneau talked about the live streaming of Council meetings and was shocked at the cost. Mike Bosch spoke about the equipment and the caliber of this particular equipment. Mayor Simoneau will put this on the agenda at the February 2, 2018 meeting for council consideration.

The Mayor reminded Council of the work session, January 30, 2018.

Glenn stated two RFP's are out and he is working on the RFP for the efficiency study.


David mentioned he still wants a dog park and asked the committee to consider this item.  
David said the First impression presentation was very informative and learned about the good and bad of Baldwin City.

J. Executive Session – No executive session.

K. Adjourn – Stevens moved and Simmons seconded to adjourn the regular meeting. Motion carried with a vote of 5 yes and 0 no. Time 8:50 p.m.

Approved by the governing board on February 06, 2018.

Attest:

  
Laura E. Hartman, City Clerk

