

REGULAR MEETING

February 13th, 2017

The Bessemer City Council met in regular session on Monday, February 13th, 2017 at 7:00 PM in the Council Chamber of City Hall.

Members Present

Mayor Becky Smith, Council Members: Dan Boiling, Joe Will, Kay McCathen, Howard Jones, Alfred Carpenter, and Donnie Griffin were present. Attorney, David Smith, and City Manager, James Inman were also present.

Call to Order, Prayer, Pledge of Allegiance

Mayor Smith called the meeting to order. Council member Howard Jones led in prayer. Mayor Smith led the audience in the Pledge of Allegiance.

Approval of the February Agenda

By motion of Donnie Griffin and unanimous vote, the February agenda was approved.

Special Presentations

Bessemer City Police Department Recognition The Bessemer City Police Department was recognized for ranking 7th in Small Town Safety and 19th in Overall Safety according to an FBI study conducted by Value Penguin.

Clint Riddle- Bessemer City Citizenship Award Bessemer City Firefighter Clint Riddle was recognized for his continued dedication to the Bessemer City community by saving a man's life late December 2016.

Student Appreciation- Students from Bessemer City High School, Bessemer City Middle School, Bessemer City Central Elementary School, and Bessemer City Primary Schools were recognized by their principals/counselors and City Council as part of the Student Appreciation Program.

Dr. Judy Moore, Principal of Bessemer City High School, and Mayor Smith, recognized all of the High School representatives.

Mrs. Fran Decanal, Principal of Bessemer City Middle School, and Mayor Smith, presented certificates to all Middle School representatives.

Mrs. Caroline Black, Principal of Bessemer City Central Elementary, and Mayor Smith, presented certificates to all Central Elementary School representatives.

Mrs. Kristi Gornto, Principal of Bessemer City Primary School, and Mayor Smith, presented certificates to all Primary School representatives.

Great American Tree Competition The Mayor and City Council were recognized for the City of Bessemer City's Great cedar tree which placed 2nd for the 2016 Great American Tree Competition.

Request to Speak/Opportunity for Public Comment

Mayor Smith opened the floor for public comment. There was none.

Consent Agenda

The following items for the Consent Agenda were unanimously approved by motion of Alfred Carpenter:

- a. Approval of Minutes: Regular Meeting Minutes of January 9th, 2017 and Work Session Meeting Minutes of January 31st, 2017
- b. Resolution to Approve Local Water Supply Plan- This resolution declared an approval of the local Water Supply Plan recommended by the Water Plant Director.
- c. Adopt City of Bessemer City Personnel Policy- This policy sets standards and requirements for employees of the City of Bessemer City

City with a Heart Day Proclamation Mayor, Becky S. Smith read the City with a Heart Day Proclamation a loud and declared Tuesday, February 14th, 2017 as City with a Heart Day. By motion of Donnie Griffin and unanimous vote, the proclamation was adopted. A copy is available at City Hall.

African-American Month Proclamation Mayor, Becky S. Smith read the African-American Month Proclamation a loud and declared the month of February 2017 as African-American History Month. By motion of Howard Jones and unanimous vote, the proclamation was adopted. A copy is available at City Hall.

Offer to Purchase Property-NC Hwy 161 City Manager, James Inman; Planning Director, Jeffrey Kirchner; and Code Enforcement Officer, David Taylor all spoke to Council regarding the purchase of property on Highway 161. Council member Joe Will requested that an appraisal be done. By unanimous vote Council approved City Manager, James Inman and the City Attorney to move forward on the City's behalf.

Review of ABC & Bessemer City Downtown Development Board Applications By motion of Dan Boling and unanimous vote, applicant Sunny Boyd was appointed to serve on the ABC Board until June 2017. By motion of Joe Will and unanimous vote applicants Mike Croft and Elizabeth Graves were appointed to the Bessemer City Downtown Development Board. Elizabeth Graves will serve on the BCDD Board until June 2018 and Michael Croft until June 2019.

Demolition Ordinance- 120 E. Georgia Avenue

Deputy Code Enforcement Officer, David Taylor, presented information to Mayor Smith and City Council about the condition of the property located at 120 E. Georgia Avenue. Discussion was held amongst Council and staff.

Kay McCathen made a motion to adopt the demolition ordinance. The vote was unanimous. A copy of the demolition ordinance is available at City Hall.

Demolition Ordinance- 605 E. Boston Avenue

Deputy Code Enforcement Officer, David Taylor, presented information to Mayor Smith and City Council about the condition of the property located at 605 E. Boston Avenue. Discussion was held amongst Council and staff.

Dan Boling made a motion to table the demolition ordinance. The vote was unanimous. The demolition ordinance has been tabled to the March 2017 Regular City Council Meeting.

Annexation of North Park Property Project

City Planner, Jeffrey Kirchner presented information to Mayor Smith and City Council about the annexation of the North Park Property project. He stated that this would be a contiguous annexation. Further discussion was held amongst Council and staff.

By motion of Donnie Griffin and unanimous vote, a public hearing regarding the annexation of the North Park Property was made. The public hearing will be at the March 2017 Regular City Council meeting.

City Manager's Report

City Manager, James Inman reminded City Council of the February 2017 Planning Retreat.

City Council General Discussion

Mayor Smith opened the floor for Council general discussion. Council member Dan Boling asked Council member Howard Jones about the status of some of his complaints made. Council member Howard Jones responded that the issues were resolved. Council member Kay McCathen thanked Jamie and the Police Department for handling all complaints she needed addressed. Council member Joe Will commended Code Enforcement Officer, David Taylor on the great work he is doing. Council member Howard Jones commended the Police Department and all employees on a job well done. Furthermore, he inquired about the progress of the Osage Mill Project. Council member Donnie Griffin thanked the Police Department for all of their hard work. Councilmen Griffin also had questions on the status of the hotel in town, the ball fields of the proposed North Park, and if the County was working with the City on foreclosing certain properties with tax issues. Mayor Smith asked Code Enforcement Officer, David Taylor if there are enforceable regulations that could be applied to landlords who knowingly allow illicit behaviors on their premises.

Adjourn

Being no further business to come before the board, by motion of Alfred Carpenter and unanimous vote, the meeting adjourned at 8:10 PM.

Becky S. Smith, Mayor

Hydeia Hayes, Deputy City Clerk