



**MINUTES  
CITY COUNCIL MEETING  
City Hall – Bel Aire, Kansas  
January 3, 2018 7:00 P.M.**



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- I. CALL TO ORDER:** Mayor David Austin called the City of Bel Aire Council meeting to order, January 3, 2018 at 7:00 p.m.
- II. ROLL CALL:** Council Members present Dr. Ramona Becker, Guy MacDonald, Betty Martine, and Diane Wynn. Also present City Manager Ty Lasher, City Attorney Jacqueline Kelly, and City Clerk Stacey Cook.
- III. MOMENT OF SILENT PRAYER:** A moment of silent prayer was led by Mayor Austin.
- IV. PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE TO THE AMERICAN FLAG:** The Pledge of Allegiance to the American Flag was led by Mayor Austin.
- V. DETERMINE AGENDA ADDITIONS:**
- None.
- VI. CONSENT AGENDA:**
- A. Minutes of the December 19, 2017 City Council Meeting.
- MOTION:** Ms. Martine made a motion to approve the consent agenda as listed and authorized the Mayor to sign. Seconded by Ms. Wynn. **Motion carried 4-0.**
- VII. DISCUSSION AND APPROVAL OF APPROPRIATIONS ORDINANCE:**
- A. Appropriations Ordinance 18-01 in the amount of \$220,378.40.
- Ms. Wynn stated that she has been on the Council for over a year, and she noticed the City is still paying lease payments on printers. She stated that Council has requested that the City bring some of those leases to an end because that is an expensive way to buy desktop printers.
- Mr. MacDonald stated that if that was a motion, he seconded it.
- Dr. Becker stated she agreed, and had also noticed that on the appropriations.
- Mayor Austin stated he appreciated the comments, and that it was something to take under advisement.

Mr. MacDonald stated there was a motion, and he seconded it. Mayor Austin stated there was not a motion on the agenda for that action, but he would entertain a motion to approve Appropriations Ordinance 18-01.

**MOTION:** Ms. Wynn made a motion to approve Appropriations Ordinance 18-01. Seconded by Dr. Becker. **Motion carried 4-0.**

Mr. MacDonald stated that there was a motion made by Councilwoman Wynn, which he seconded, and he requested action on that motion.

Mayor Austin stated Councilwoman Wynn made a comment, and not a formal motion.

**MOTION:** Mr. MacDonald made a motion to do what Councilwoman Wynn stated. No second. Motion failed.

Mayor Austin stated that staff will look into those expenses, and that Ted Henry [Director of Administration and Finance] is already working on the next budget.

Mr. Lasher stated that one lease expires in 2018, and that staff will review options for purchasing versus leasing.

Ms. Martine asked Mr. Lasher if the City will have to purchase the printers through the current lease company or if there is the option to obtain bids. Mr. Lasher stated that when the leases expire, the City can go to any company for bids.

#### **VIII. CITY REQUESTED APPEARANCES:**

None.

#### **IX. CITIZEN CONCERNS:** Oral communication from the audience (*Please move to the podium and state your name & address so that you can be clearly heard by the viewing public as well as the Governing Body. Comments are limited to three (3) minutes unless additional time is granted by the Mayor.*)

Mr. O'Neal: My name is Gary O'Neal; I live at 4967 N Hillcrest here in Bel Aire. I was looking over the agenda, and I see that the new Council oath of office will be on January 8<sup>th</sup> at 5:30 p.m. here at City Hall. And I was visiting with Mr. Lasher prior to the meeting – I know this is a new timeframe for the way the current law reads for elections, when people have to be sworn in, and whatnot – so it's my understanding that this is absolutely the last time this Council will be sitting on the bench because they are not required to be, as I understand it, at the new oath of office on January 8<sup>th</sup> at 5:30 p.m. So I wanted to, at this point, thank these Governing Body Members up here. They've served faithfully and did their due diligence up here on this Governing Body. I want to do that in person to you; this may be the last opportunity to get to do that to all of you. So I want to thank you for what you have done, this Governing Body, for the City of Bel Aire.

I would also like to say from a historical point, in the past – and I know the new laws have changed and when people have to be sworn in – but in the past, when there was a change of

Councils, the old Council started a meeting, did some preliminary little business that didn't amount to much, adjourned, there was a reception held to thank the Council Members outside of the Chambers – there's a nice reception held thanking them – and the new Council Members were there also. And then, they came back in; the new Council was sworn in. They took over, and we went on. It's all done the same night. So I guess things have changed now from the way they've done it in the past. I don't have a problem with that; I just want to be sure that this Governing Body gets their due recognition. And I would ask that possibly if the City would look into, on the 8<sup>th</sup>, if there could be something like that so the citizens would have an opportunity to come to the reception, and thank the people that have been Governing Body Members up here.

Speaking of Governing Body Members, I'm looking around the room, I noticed that this is televised. It's also on everything from YouTube, I guess – there's no incoming Council Members here tonight, and there's some pretty important business on here tonight that affect how things happen in Bel Aire going forward. So I'm a little disappointed there aren't new Council Members sitting here to hear this tonight. Thank you very much; I appreciate it. Thank you, Council.

## **X. REPORTS:**

### **A. Council Members Report**

Ms. Martine: The only thing I have is I had a wonderful Christmas, and hope everybody else did and New Year's. And I did attend the CCUA meeting on the 28<sup>th</sup>, but I'll leave that report to the Mayor. And hopefully, everybody will have a wonderful year in 2018.

Ms. Wynn: Well as far as official duties, it's been a little slow over the Christmas holidays and that type of thing. And I see Tristin [Terhune, Community Development Director] in the audience, and I realized it about 12:30 p.m. that I had turned in a reservation for a Chamber meeting today, but I was sort of mired in something else. So I didn't try to make it across town.

I would like to say a few words as well. As my term of office is coming to an end, I would first like to thank my colleagues for their support. I would not even have been appointed without that support, and I appreciated this opportunity very much. We have not always agreed on all issues, but there were lively discussions and lots of questions, and all of us worked for what was best for the community as a whole. I was privileged to be appointed to REAP, the Regional Economic Area Partnership, as a delegate, and served on both the Executive and Legislative Committees. That's a coalition of ten counties in south-central Kansas, and we work very hard to make that a very vital organization. It has a plan going forward because anytime anyone in those ten counties succeed with a new business or that type of thing, it opens up opportunities for the rest of us. And it's been a fun group to work with as they are all elected officials as well.

I also served as an alternate on the Wichita Area Planning Commission, WAMPO. Our City Engineer, Anne, serves very well in that top spot, and I was happy to let her go to all of those meetings. But it is of note that for someone to actually bring a

project to WAMPO, they must be someone who is an elected person. And so, I think that's, you know, part of the money for the Woodlawn paving project is coming from that. That happened long enough ago – I don't even remember who it was, and didn't have time to go scrounging to find out who it was. Maybe I should ask a couple of the mayors here if they remember because it would have been back in their timeframe. But you know, those projects are always at least five years out; and so, it's important that we have someone who keeps up with those things, and knows what's going on and what to do.

And as I was just kind of thinking back over the last year, I remembered that we had a discussion; I believe it was, you know, in a workshop even when we were talking about the new requirements for stormwater and drainage and those kinds of things. And I was very proud that the funds, the excess funds shall I say, which are not really excessive, but that couple of dollars per month that people were paying was seed money for that, and there have been other things that's been given back from that particular project and event. And it wasn't just me working on it; it was a ton of people, but we've had playgrounds updated with recycled materials on the grounds. And I know there are some other things too, but I can't think of them right now. But I was just very pleased that something that I had to do with a number of years ago – because that was back around 2000 – so seventeen years later that project is still bringing in value to this community. And I think that was, it was just a great feeling for me. And I guarantee that I will still, as always, be involved in what's happening. I'll find some mischief to get into. And that's all I have.

Dr. Becker: I have prepared a few things to say here tonight. I'd like to thank former Mayor Gary O'Neal for those kind words that he said to us. We really appreciate that when you show up here at the meetings, as you well know, and share with the Council, the Governing Body. And I would like these remarks to be in the record, and I'll give you a digital copy of them so you don't have to key everything in, Stacey.

I would like to say a few things about our current Council, who with the exception of Councilwoman Betty Martine, will soon be returning to the status of active Bel Aire citizens. It has been a very satisfying experience to serve the taxpayers of Bel Aire the past four years and eight months. I once again thank the good citizens who elected us to begin our tenure in 2013. And, as you have heard already, it's been a real joy to serve with these fine people on this Council. They're just outstanding members of the community, and it's been a good Governing Body.

I am also delighted to report that we are leaving the City of Bel Aire in excellent condition. We have been able to accomplish great things in the almost five years we have served. We represent a wide range of personal knowledge bases, and years of community service. We were able to put our combined experience to good use as we led the City in unprecedented land sales, and the incredible feat of decreasing our debt by over ten million dollars during our tenure! I hope everybody makes note of that because everybody in Bel Aire should be very happy about that.

It is very fortunate that Betty Martine will remain on the Council because she has more knowledge about Bel Aire than anyone else alive that I know of, and she also

has an excellent memory. I hope the new Council Members will listen and learn from Council Member Betty Martine because she is a totally honest person, and wants only the best for our city. She has no personal ulterior motives nor any special interests she has to serve. She will continue to serve the greater common good of all Bel Aire citizens, which has been the hallmark of our Council for the time that we have led the City. We consistently put our entire diverse community of taxpayers ahead of any one special interest as we considered every issue that came before us. This practice earned us some angry special interest enemies, but that comes with the job of being dedicated public servants for all the people. I would not change a single vote because the common good was served in all we did.

I am thankful that Bel Aire will also continue to have our City Manager, Ty Lasher, and his professional staff who will lead the City on a steady path. We have what is defined as a 'Strong City Manager' form of government, which is a good system for Bel Aire. Mr. Lasher always looked to the City Council for direction, and faithfully implemented the votes of the City Council. As a strong City Manager, he also makes a lot of decisions independently, and has also done that well. This Council has been accused by a couple of people of micromanaging the staff, but that was just campaign rhetoric. If the Council has no place in guiding city operations when certain issues need to be addressed, there is no point in having a Council or having elections.

I am especially delighted that we are leaving the City with an excellent full-time City Attorney. This was much needed with our rapid growth, and is actually saving the City money from the previous part-time City Attorney position. This Council also found the money in our budget for another full-time Police Officer, and a full-time Enforcement Officer.

One of the first marketing decisions for the City after we were elected was to define our borders with tasteless, tasteful – excuse me, tasteful – and timeless city markers. The great majority of these attractive Bel Aire markers were donated by local businesses, and did not cost the taxpayers. The markers are also lighted by solar lights at the direction of the Council, and will continue to save the City money for many years to come with no electric bills.

Councilwoman Martine led the way to the installation of a flashing light to slow down traffic on Woodlawn by our busiest city park. Our preference would have been another stop light for pedestrians, but due to the deep ditches in that location, we had to settle for a yellow light; but it has been quite effective. The Council also had bathroom facilities placed in that very popular and busy park, in addition to a drinking fountain for both people and pets.

The first year the Council served, Councilman MacDonald suggested that the budget be cut by ten percent. The budget cut was passed by the Council, and implemented by the city staff. We held a strict budget line for our entire terms of office, and never once increased the mill levy for our taxpayers. In addition to keeping the City budget in check, this Council decided in our first year that we would dedicate all land sales to paying down the principal of our land debt after the mandatory interest payments were being made each year. This was a first for our city, and the first time we have been able to do that.

In fact, our city Finance Director, Ted Henry, did an analysis of the City's land debt with some good news that I want to share right here. Had the City Council not refinanced this year and only funded the required principal and interest payments from 2018 to 2035 at the 2010 Bond Schedule, taxpayers would have spent \$34,782,885.00 for land debt. However, we sold over four million dollars of land in our term, and used it to retire the principal. This action saved the City about four and a half million dollars in interest, and removed an entire year off the debt schedule. The Council saved another two million by refinancing the land debt this year in 2017. Therefore, if you look at the original 2010 debt service schedule that this Council actually inherited and compare it to today's debt service schedule, we have saved a total of \$10,478,307.00! I think that's pretty incredible, and I think our taxpayers need to know that.

In addition to all I have said thus far, I want to highlight a few other critical areas where this engaged and active Council has led the way for the City:

- We established the Land Bank that saves the City a great deal of money.
- We made four million dollars in principal prepayments on land debt, which I just mentioned.
- We appointed Diane Wynn, a qualified and experienced person to the City Council, and she has been outstanding.
- We established an excellent working relationship with KPTS.
- We improved the content of our City TV Channel 7, which I hope there's a lot of people watching tonight.
- We contracted for a more functional city website.
- We contracted with reliable technical services rather than the expensive part time provider we had in the past.
- We saved the City the blight of an unnecessary and ill-conceived cell tower in the middle of a neighborhood that wisely rejected it. Our decision was upheld by the U.S. District Court, which certainly validated the Council's decision.
- We initiated a city-wide survey that established the fact that the main interests of our citizens was increasing the quality of city streets, and keeping taxes down. That's two things we have really concentrated on.
- We completed over half a million dollars in street improvements over the past four years, and have scheduled for more to happen in the future.
- We oversaw the building of over four-hundred and forty new homes in the City.
- We welcomed over eight-hundred new residents to Bel Aire.
- We sold fifty-five acres of land to six new industries in our nationally acclaimed Industrial Park.
- Once again, we added a full-time Police Officer, a Code Enforcement Officer, and a full-time City Attorney position, which were much needed.
- We oversaw no mill levy increases.
- We adopted Bob's Rules of Order to streamline our public meetings.
- We advocated for more senior housing in Bel Aire, and are now very close to accomplishing that stated goal.

- We advocated for realistic and sensible retail in Bel Aire, and are now on the verge of accomplishing this at the northwest corner of 45th and Rock Road. And I'm going to be excited to watch that happen from home.
- We maintained excellent working conditions – excuse me, excellent working relationships – with the Tree Board and Lions Club, both of our senior citizen groups, and even the Community Development Committee for as long as I was able to attend as the liaison for the Council and even after that.
- We kept our city water bills as low as possible.
- We hired the best real estate and marketing professionals available in our area.
- We fully funded our Police Department with a new comprehensive computer system for officers in the field, body cameras for all of our officers, excellent up-to-date vehicles, and all other requests that Chief Atteberry brought before us, with the exception of a very large contract for additional lasers - which contract, by the way, the Council still has not seen to this day.

As a result of all this:

- We earned the distinction of the Safest City in the State of Kansas – something we can all be thankful for, and very proud of.
- We established new City Hall office hours for the benefit of our citizens and city employees at the suggestion of Council Member Guy MacDonald.
- We recently put into motion our shared WAMPO funding project to widen Woodlawn, and install a much needed stop light at the intersection of Woodlawn and 45<sup>th</sup> in the year 2020, which will be here before we know it.

This Council took the high road on all issues before the City, and represented all the people of Bel Aire. We voted for the common good of all Bel Aire taxpayers. We owed no special favors to any special interest group for getting us elected. I strongly encourage the incoming Council to do the same, and resist the temptation to bow to any special interests who will ask you for special favors.

I challenge the incoming new Council to strive to meet the benchmarks the current Council achieved by further reducing the debt, keeping the mill levy down at the current level, and continuing our schedule of greatly increased spending on street maintenance. Don't raise the taxes for anything unless you get permission from the citizens of Bel Aire to do so.

Furthermore, now that the Courts have once again ordered the Legislature to adequately fund public education, and the Brownback nightmare experiment has been stopped, work with USD 259 to complete their original plans for Bel Aire schools by allowing all Bel Aire students into the new school buildings, and installing the high school athletic fields that the bond issue was passed to pay for – this alone will help you to sell all the rest of the land here in Bel Aire because families will come in here and buy houses like crazy if they know exactly where their students are going to go to school.

I challenge and encourage the incoming Council to continue and expand on the successful course of our Council over the last nearly five years and into the future. I

will personally be totally delighted if the new Council is able to accomplish this for the common good of all Bel Aire citizens! And I think we will all share in that same sentiment. Thank you very much. It's been a delight to be here. And now it's your turn, Mr. MacDonald.

Mr. MacDonald: It's been a true honor and privilege to work with such outstanding members of the citizenry of Bel Aire. It has been said that Councilwoman Martine knows more about Bel Aire than anyone else here, and probably in the City – and you know, I second that. She knows more than, she just knows more than anyone I know about the City.

I am privileged to know Councilwoman Diane Wynn. She has owned her own business for a long time, and she has that experience in back of her. So we have Councilwoman Martine who has worked for the City for more than twenty years, and then we have a woman who has her own business. And that, to be able to run your own business, and successfully, marks a special person; that's it. And so, and then we have a doctor, Ramona Becker, who has not just one PhD, but several. So she has an educational background that is unsurpassed in the City of Bel Aire. And I have some experience; I've, you know, I've worked for international corporations as a salesperson, and I know how they operate. And I have established my own businesses, and I know how to run them. And so, that gives us, that gives this Council a, in my opinion, almost unparalleled variation in the experiences of the members of the Council. And I think this is one of the best councils that this city has had. That's my opinion. People will disagree with that, I'm sure, but that's what I think.

And I want to say that what we have done – I'll just say something that I have done. I've suggested that the City of Bel Aire put up signs that were similar to the signs that when you enter the Flint Hills of Kansas – you know, solid stone – and that was not just passed by Council, but it went to the citizens through a water bill and through a poll. And the citizens seem to agree with that.

In addition to that, I like to say that I'm a member of a group called the Lions. And the Lions are an integral part of the City of Bel Aire because every penny that the Lions make through whatever efforts they do to sell things goes back into the City. And a really good, exceptional example of what the Lions have done for this city – and I would encourage younger people to come to the Lions meetings and/or find a Lion who can give them an application to join – but the example that I want to make, one of our former mayors, Lion Gary O'Neal, he wanted to construct a little shack to help the Lions, to protect them from the sun while selling, you know, selling whatever things they were selling. And there was, you know, mostly things that, you know, I don't want to say ice cream cones, but it was water ice and so on. And so, he started with the City to build a small shack up at the Recreation Center so that the Lions would be protected from the elements essentially. Well, what the Recreation Center now has is a forty-thousand dollar pavilion - concrete base, steel post, steel roof and chairs and places to cook things. So that's an example of what can happen in the City if you have people who are dedicated to the betterment of the environment. So to go from a shack that's going to cost, you know, several thousand dollars to a forty-thousand dollar pavilion is a credit to not only the City, but in particular, a former mayor, Gary O'Neal. And so, I don't think I have anything more to say. I

think that I am proud to be a member of this Council, and am proud and honored that they have accepted me and allowed me to perform. Mr. Mayor, I'm finished.

## B. Mayor Report

Mayor Austin: I just want to thank all of you as well. We've definitely pushed each other, and made each other think some different things. And the accomplishments that were mentioned here are all things that you should all be proud of. So with that – and we will have on the 8<sup>th</sup>, there is the swearing in ceremony there at the, that happens at 5:30 p.m. And I do want to speak that we do have a small little token for each outgoing Council Member that we're going to give to them before this meeting concludes this evening. It's just a small token for everything that you guys have done.

But I don't want to dwell on all of that, but talk about a couple of other things. And with that, Council Member Martine mentioned that we had our CCUA meeting last Thursday. I am happy to report, we have talked a little bit about this at the last meeting, but the CCUA meetings are going to now start taking place here in Bel Aire for our January meeting. And I was actually able to, I worked with Mayor Ray Mann in Park City to where the CCUA now is on a schedule. So for the next twelve months, we're going to meet here in the City of Bel Aire. Then, in 2019, we go back to Park City – 2020, Bel Aire. It just seems to be that makes sense that we equally share. So I do want to let everybody know that beginning in January, the CCUA does return to meeting here in Bel Aire. And actually, we're going to have our first meeting January 11<sup>th</sup> at 4:30 p.m. That's going to be a special meeting because we need to go over some insurance bids that just weren't quite ready. So that's kind of our big information with that.

And before I turn it over, actually I'm going to call Tristin up – if you want to come forward. She has come, on behalf of the Community Development Committee, to announce the winners of the Bel Aire Christmas lighting contest. And I just have to tell you – you guys all got to see my granddaughter up here for thirty seconds before the meeting started – but we had a number of evenings where she would make me, I know she's only three and a half, but she could make me take a different way home to see the different lights. And we had mentioned up here, on more than one occasion, how many more homes were decorated this year, and some still are quite a bit. So it was just really, really neat. But I'll turn it over to Tristin.

Mrs. Terhune: Like Mayor Austin said, I'm here tonight to recognize the winners in the Making Bel Aire Bright contest, which is the Christmas light contest that Bel Aire has. First, I want to begin by thanking the fourteen residents that registered their homes. All were great, and all of those homes deserve recognition for their hard work. This is our second year for the Making Bel Aire Bright contest, and this year we did do things a little different. We asked the homeowners to register their homes by sending us a picture or a small video through our website. And then, we posted every picture and every video that we got on our Facebook page. And we asked people to vote on their favorite by liking that picture. We thought that would be, the CDC committee and the Community Development staff thought that would be a fun way to be able to spread around how many great houses we do have up here that are

lit up. And so, voting started on December 8<sup>th</sup>, and then ended December 19<sup>th</sup> at noon. So that gave just around twelve days to vote, and the total amount of votes combined out of all the pictures was over twelve-hundred votes. That's a lot of people to come out and look at those fourteen pictures or videos; so that was really awesome. That turnout was great.

I also want to point out before I recognize the top three winners that all the comments were so extremely positive on each picture and the videos that were on there. There were neighbors acknowledging neighbors, and there were people getting inspired for their own decorations. So I wanted to share just a few of those comments because I thought they were great. Jan Watts Eckles commented, "I so enjoy driving up to my house, and seeing it every night; good luck, neighbors." Jeanie Baker Hans wrote, "This home is awesome year after year." Another commenter wrote, "So it is your house that the astronauts are reporting to NASA on the GEICO commercial - laugh out loud, seriously love your joy and decorating for Christmas. Another person wrote, "Absolutely love this; love all the lights, my favorite part of the season – just gave me some ideas for my own yard. Totally want it decked out like this."

So I thought I just would pick out those handful of comments that really show how it kind of brought together some neighbors that might not have told their neighbor, 'Your house looks great,' but they shared it online; or how other people got ideas, and hopefully sparks more and more Christmas lights each season.

So now I want to announce the winners. Third place was Lily and Derek Duncan at 4842 E 44<sup>th</sup> Ct N, and they will receive one of these fun Christmas awards. I will deliver it to their houses. They also got some recognition in the Bel Aire Breeze, and in the Bel Aire Beacon. But this is their video; it's ten seconds. I thought I would just share it so everyone could see it. So that was our third place winner. Our second place winner was at 5726 Perryton, Brad Moss. He had three-hundred and one likes on his video. And then, our first place house was at 5398 N Rock Spring, and it was Jeff Fisher's home; and they had six-hundred and seventy-three likes.

So those were our three winners. I just want to recognize the winners. We'll give them their awards, and share how awesome of Christmas displays we did have in Bel Aire. And we hope – we're already looking forward to next year's Christmas contest.

Mayor Austin: Thank you so much.

Mr. MacDonald: Mr. Mayor, I have a question. Are there any economic rewards besides the little statues?

Mrs. Terhune: Yes, they did. The prizes were first place got free water and sewer for one month. Second place got free water only. And then, third place got free trash. And those have already been applied to their accounts so during the Christmas holidays it kind of helps have a little bit extra cash around our home.

Mr. MacDonald: Thank you for that answer. I think that since this is my last night on City Council, I think that I will make a motion to make a more positive economic reward to the winners of this event. And I had no amount of money in mind, but I

think it should be enough money to, you know, pay for the expenses that they have in putting these light displays on. So a motion is made, I don't know if I will get a second, but that's what I'm doing.

Ms. Martine: Second.

Mayor Austin: So we have a first and second that the City give, just want to make sure I understand this correctly, a monetary donation but we don't know how much. And we need to probably need to know what budget it would come from, and make sure that we have it. Again, this is not something we have on our agenda.

Mr. MacDonald: I'm not talking about a large amount of money, Mr. Mayor.

Mayor Austin: I think we definitely need to get some –

Mr. MacDonald: I will give you, I will give you an answer. And the answer is, I'm going to say five-hundred dollars, and I think we can get five-hundred dollars out of our budget. And I'm the guy that runs as a person, I ran as a person, who was concerned about the budget and wanted to conserve as much as I can. And I'm the one who reduced the budget by ten percent in my first term. So yes, I'm going to say five-hundred dollars should go to whoever wins this contest. That's my motion.

Mayor Austin: Ok, we have three winners.

Mr. MacDonald: Five-hundred dollars to the winner, one winner.

Mayor Austin: To the first place winner. Before I call for votes –

Ms. Martine: Mr. Mayor, are you talking about next year or this year?

Mr. MacDonald: I'm talking about next year, and continuing after that.

Ms. Martine: Ok; so it wouldn't be to these people this year; it would be in December 2018.

Mr. MacDonald: Yes, it has passed.

Dr. Becker: I would say, we're going to have some mighty fine decorations in Bel Aire next year.

Mayor Austin: Well I think, let me just ask this, so we have the motion to put that in, and certainly, you know, the incoming Council will pass the next budget. So the motion passes tonight, this is something that the incoming Council would take as a recommendation from this Council. I don't know that we can tell what next year's budget can be, but we can certainly make this as a recommendation. I think that's a good recommendation.

Mr. MacDonald: No, Mr. Mayor, this is not a recommendation. This is a motion, and if the City Council passed – and we have a second – and if the City Council

passes the five-hundred dollars then this should go on unless the incoming City Council wants to rescind this. And that would be, I think, something that would be unusual because I'm not talking about a great deal of money. But it's something that would perhaps not only alleviate but, you know, motivate someone to continue this process of Christmas lights. But, you know, it's a motion; it's not a recommendation. It's something that I expect to continue on unless some other, some future Council, rescinds it. That's it, Mr. Mayor.

Mayor Austin: I'm going to need to talk to our City Attorney first; because again, we're making something that will then automatically – we're not talking budget, but we're putting something, in essence, in a future budget. So what do we do here?

Mrs. Kelly: As the current Council, you can make that sort of motion and pass it. You're just, I think, you're very right to cautiously be aware that the next Council can come in and rescind, repeal that action. So generally, the best practice is to not do anything to bind the next Council, but you are within the authority to make this motion as long as it's clear, you know, as to the specific terms. And I think you've gotten those ironed out.

Dr. Becker: After all, everything we vote on tonight is moving forward into the next Council in the next year, and everything we did last week and the week before that or the month before that, the meeting before that. And I really think this is possibly a great marketing tool for the City because, you know, when you have fantastic Christmas lights, people drive around the City and come and see them. I know I go around, driving around, to look at Christmas lights. And it might bring some more people out here to Bel Aire if we have a really even better show next year than we have this year. So I think that's a pretty good idea. I would say, in our neighborhood, we give financial awards to our members who win the contest. I think it's just a measly seventy-five dollars for first, fifty for second, and twenty-five for third. But of course, we don't have near the resources in our neighborhood HOA that the City has. So that's my two cents worth.

Mayor Austin: Is everybody comfortable taking action on an item that is not on the agenda?

Ms. Wynn: Yes.

Ms. Martine: Yeah.

Dr. Becker: Absolutely.

Mayor Austin: Ok, so we are binding the future for the budget with that. All in favor say aye. Opposed. Ok.

**MOTION:** Mr. MacDonald made a motion to annually award \$500.00 to the first place winner of the Making Bel Aire Bright contest beginning in December 2018. Seconded by Ms. Martine. **Motion carried 4-0.**

C. City Manager Report

Mr. Lasher: Just a couple items, Mayor. As it was mentioned tonight that City Hall office hours changed today, and we actually had two people in before eight o'clock this morning. Obviously, we got the word out number one, and number two, people are using, coming in early. So I was talking to the ladies downstairs this morning, and they said 7:30 a.m. they had people walking in the door, and they were busy. So I think that's a positive thing that people are going to hopefully utilize that, and appreciate the different office hours. So that was, that was great.

And then, of course to finish out January, City Offices will be closed on January 15<sup>th</sup> in honor of Martin Luther King Day. So that's a couple Mondays away. And then, we get into the long haul until May for holidays. But that's the last one that's coming up. Thank you, Mayor.

D. City Attorney Report

Mrs. Kelly: I don't have a formal report, just to thank the current Council for allowing me to serve you as you've served. We've done a lot in the past six months – contracts, land transactions, bylaws, along with all the day-to-day legal matters that come up for the City – and I just wanted to thank you before you pass the torch.

E. Committees/Boards/Commissions Reports

None.

**XI. ORDINANCES, RESOLUTIONS AND FINAL ACTIONS:**

**A. Consideration of A SEWER AGREEMENT FOR OLIVER AND WOODLAWN SEWER MAINS BY AND BETWEEN CITY OF BEL AIRE, KANSAS AND CITY OF WICHITA, KANSAS.**

**MOTION:** Dr. Becker made a motion to approve **A SEWER AGREEMENT FOR OLIVER AND WOODLAWN SEWER MAINS BY AND BETWEEN CITY OF BEL AIRE, KANSAS AND CITY OF WICHITA, KANSAS** and authorized the Mayor to sign all related documents. Seconded by Ms. Wynn. **Motion carried 4-0.**

**B. Consideration of appointing Jeff Hawes, Jeff Elshoff, Justin Smith, Jim Benage and David Austin to The Bel Aire Land Bank Board of Trustees.**

**MOTION:** Mr. MacDonald made a motion to appoint Jeff Hawes, Jeff Elshoff, Justin Smith, Jim Benage and David Austin to The Bel Aire Land Bank Board of Trustees. Seconded by Dr. Becker. **Motion carried 4-0.**

**C. Consideration of AN ORDINANCE ADOPTING THE RECODIFICATION OF ORDINANCES OF THE CITY OF BEL AIRE, KANSAS, 2017 EDITION, PROVIDING FOR THE EFFECTIVE DATE THEREOF, PROVIDING FOR THE REPEAL OF CERTAIN OTHER ORDINANCES NOT INCLUDED THEREIN, SAVING CERTAIN ORDINANCES FROM REPEAL AND SAVING CERTAIN ACCRUED RIGHTS AND LIABILITIES.**

**MOTION:** Dr. Becker made a motion to approve AN ORDINANCE ADOPTING THE RECODIFICATION OF ORDINANCES OF THE CITY OF BEL AIRE, KANSAS, 2017 EDITION, PROVIDING FOR THE EFFECTIVE DATE THEREOF, PROVIDING FOR THE REPEAL OF CERTAIN OTHER ORDINANCES NOT INCLUDED THEREIN, SAVING CERTAIN ORDINANCES FROM REPEAL AND SAVING CERTAIN ACCRUED RIGHTS AND LIABILITIES and authorized the Mayor to sign. Seconded by Ms. Wynn. **Motion carried 4-0.**

**Roll Call:**

Dr. Ramona Becker aye      Guy MacDonald aye      Betty Martine aye

Diane Wynn aye

**D. Consideration of AN ADDENDUM TO EXISTING WHOLESALE WATER SALES AGREEMENT BY AND BETWEEN CITY OF BEL AIRE, KANSAS AND CITY OF WICHITA, KANSAS.**

**MOTION:** Ms. Wynn made a motion to approve AN ADDENDUM TO EXISTING WHOLESALE WATER SALES AGREEMENT BY AND BETWEEN CITY OF BEL AIRE, KANSAS AND CITY OF WICHITA, KANSAS and authorized the Mayor to sign. Seconded by Ms. Martine. **Motion carried 4-0.**

**XII. COUNCIL PRESENTATIONS:**

- Mayor Austin presented Council Members Becker, MacDonald, and Wynn with awards thanking them for their years of service to the City of Bel Aire as Governing Body Members.

**XIII. UPCOMING COUNCIL EVENTS:**

- City Council Oath of Office is scheduled for January 8<sup>th</sup> at 5:30 p.m. at City Hall.
- City Council Orientation is scheduled for January 13<sup>th</sup> from 8:30 a.m. to 2:30 p.m. at City Hall.

**XIV. EXECUTIVE SESSION:**

None.

**XV. ADJOURNMENT:**

**MOTION:** Ms. Martine made a motion to adjourn. Seconded by Dr. Becker. **Motion carried 4-0.** Meeting adjourned at 8:16 p.m.

Submitted by Stacey Cook, City Clerk

Next scheduled meeting January 16, 2018 at 7:00 p.m.