

City of Baldwin City
Minutes
Tuesday, July 1, 2025
Regular Council Meeting

A. Call to Order

The Baldwin City Council was called to Regular Session at 7:00 p.m. at the Baldwin City Community Center, 712 Chapel Street, with Mayor Casey Simoneau presiding.

Present were Council Members: Jay King, Susan Pitts, Cory Venable, Scott Lauridsen, and Julie Constantinescu.

Also, attending: Russ Harding-Interim City Administrator; Amara Packard-City Clerk; Lynn Meador-Communications Director; and Chief Patrick-Police Department.

B. Approval of Agenda

Cory Venable moved and Jay King seconded to approve the agenda as presented. Motion carried with a vote of 5 yes and 0 no.

C. Consent Agenda

Julie Constantinescu moved and Susan Pitts seconded to approve the consent agenda as presented. Motion carried with a vote of 5 yes and 0 no.

1. Minutes - 6.17.25
2. Scheduled Claims List
3. Special Event-BC Fashion Show

D. Public Comment

E. Special Reports or Presentations

Swearing in of new Police Officer Liam Murphy

Chief Patrick introduced Officer Liam Murphy as the newest officer on the police department.

Liam is a certified law enforcement officer that lives in Baldwin City, and wanted to police in the town that he lived in. Officer Murphy was sworn in and welcomed to the Baldwin City Police Department.

Proclamation-Girls State Track

Mayor Simoneau read a proclamation honoring Coach Broxterman, Shea Griffith, Rachel Watkins, Cammy Moore and Ireland Kennedy that were 4A state champs in the 4X800m. The girls also set the new school record in the 4X800m.

F. Old Business

G. New Business

1. Brick Street Project

After the last meeting, Mayor Simoneau asked Jason from BG Consultants to reach out to the low bidder on the project and see if they would be able to put some sort of a design in that intersection.

The city put a survey on the website to see if citizens were more interested in using old brick or new brick for the street project. There were 141 responses with 118 of those responses saying they preferred using the old brick.

Council would like to get some input from the citizens on whether they want a design in the intersection, and if so, their preference on the design. There will be a poll online.

Cory Venable moved to approve the old bricks for the brick street project at the intersection of 8th and High Street, the bid in the amount of \$159,000.00. Cory rescinds his motion.

Cory Venable moved and Susan Pitts seconded to approve the bid for \$158,796.00 to Heartstone Inc. for the brick street project at 8th and High Street, and waving the engineering estimate with the option to add the additional cost for the design.

2. Ordinance 1512-Rezone 101 8th St.

This rezone went before the planning commission on June 10th. Currently the property is zoned commercial and the owners would like to have it rezoned to residential. The house has been a residential dwelling for over 120 years.

Scott Lauridsen moved and Jay King seconded to approve ordinance 1512 as presented. Motion passes 5-0.

Roll call vote: Julie Constantinescu-yes, Scott Lauridsen-yes, Cory Venable-yes, Susan Pitts-yes, and Jay King-yes.

3. KMEA Appointment

The City needs an appointment to represent the city on the KMEA Board. Mayor Simoneau recommended Russ Harding to take that position.

Cory Venable moved and Susan Pitts seconded to appoint Russ Harding to the KMEA Board of Directors. Motion passes 5-0.

4. KMGA Appointment

The City needs an appointment to represent the city on the KMGA Board. Mayor Simoneau recommended Russ Harding to take that position.

Julie Constantinescu moved and Cory Venable seconded to appoint Russ Harding to the KMGA Board of Directors. Motion passes 5-0.

5. Treasurer Appointment

Mayor Simoneau recommended Russ Harding to the treasurer position.

Susan Pitts moved and Scott Lauridsen seconded to appoint Russ Harding as the treasurer for the City of Baldwin City. Motion passes 5-0.

6. Council Hiring Committee

The city administrator position is appointed and removed by the city council so Mayor Simoneau would like to appoint two council members to work with city staff to start the process of posting the job and moving forward in the hiring process of a new city administrator. The two council members to be appointed to start this process are Scott Lauridsen and Julie Constantinescu.

Jay King moved and Cory Venable seconded to appoint Scott Lauridsen and Julie Constantinescu to the hiring committee for the new city administrator. Motion passes 5-0.

H. Committee Reports

1. Budget and Finance - Scott Lauridsen/Cory Venable

- Budget Workshop
- Electric rate options

Next meeting 7/11/2025 at 7:30am, second floor of City Hall

2. Community Development - Cory Venable/Susan Pitts

- Pole Banners
- Food Truck Ordinance

Next meeting will be 7/21/2025 at 4:00pm, second floor of City Hall

3. Public Safety - Susan Pitts/Jay King

Next meeting will be 7/08/2025 at 4:00pm, second floor of City Hall

4. Public Works and Utilities - Julie Constantinescu/Jay King

Next meeting will be 7/10/2025 at 9:00am, second floor of City Hall

5. Strategic Planning-Scott Lauridsen/Julie Constantinescu

Next meeting TBD at 2:00pm, second floor of City Hall

I. City Administrator and Staff Comments

J. Council & Mayor Comments

K. Executive Session

L. Adjourn

Julie Constantinescu moved and Cory Venable seconded to adjourn the regular meeting. Motion passes 5-0. Time: 8:01 p.m.

Attest:

Amara M. Packard
City Clerk