

MINUTES FOR THE REGULAR CITY COUNCIL MEETING
January 24, 2022

Bellevue City Council met on Monday, January 24, 2022, at 7:30 p.m. Following the Pledge of Allegiance, a prayer was offered by Councilmember, Mrs. Ommert. Councilmembers present: MR. BAKER, MR. BRUGNONE, MS. DOWNING, MR. HILL, MRS. OMMERT, MR. SHEPHERD, and MR. WALDRUP.

Minutes of the January 10, 2022 City Council meeting were presented for approval. Motion was made by Mr. Brugnone to approve the minutes as written. It was seconded by Mr. Waldrup. All were in favor. The minutes are approved as written.

REPORTS AND COMMUNICATIONS FROM CITY OFFICIALS:

Mayor Strecker stated that he needs the last page of the handbook he distributed at the last meeting signed and given to him tonight if possible. He has extras if anyone needs one.

He distributed the 2022 compost service contract proposal for Bellevue by Barnes Nursery, Inc. During 2021 the Administration researched various companies and contacted them to inquire if they would be interested in serving the Bellevue area. None were interested. He asked Councilmembers to look the contract over and let him know if they have any questions.

Auditor, Mr. Smith, handed out his year-to-date report for the end of December, 2021.

Law Director, Mr. Wallingford, reminded everyone that they need to file their 2021 financial report to the Ohio Ethics Commission. Because this is a non-election year, the reports are due May 16, 2022. Filing can be done online or you can print out a hard copy, fill it out and mail it in. If anyone needs a printed copy, please check with the Clerk.

REPORTS OF CITY COUNCIL MEMBERS:

Ms. Downing stated that she has seen the Street crew busy at work and has heard positive comments about the great job they are doing.

Mr. Shepherd noticed some graffiti where people come to watch the trains. He inquired if it is City property. It was discussed that it is probably owned by the railroad. He stated that it is a popular tourist attraction and it would be nice to keep it clean. He inquired if the City could clean it up or perhaps put a security camera up. Mr. Wallingford stated that it would be a good idea to contact the NKP and make sure they are aware of it.

Mr. Baker noted that the City of Sandusky received a \$1,000,000.00 grant for housing rehab. He inquired if Bellevue could apply for grants similar to this through the federal government. It was stated that it could be looked into. Mr. Wallingford stated we could also check with the land banks and see if there is money available for similar projects.

Mr. Hill inquired if information that is geared strictly to Councilmembers could be sent only to members and not all the people who receive agendas and other City Council documents. Several members received calls from citizens regarding one that was recently sent which got construed differently than what was intended. President Smith stated that there is the issue of public records. Mr. Wallingford stated that if there is something you want to send only to Council, be sure to make it clear to whoever is sending it out. Then we can see if it is permissible to send it only to Councilmembers to discuss before the public is informed. .

COMMITTEE REPORTS:

President Smith stated that a Committee of the Whole work session was held prior to this meeting where part-time firefighters Ordinance No. 1-22, committee assignments, and adding the new position and grant for the Bellevue Municipal Court were discussed.

He asked for a motion that Bellevue City Council supports the Bellevue Municipal Court's application for a grant through the Supreme Court of Ohio Technology Grant Fund and authorizes the Bellevue Municipal Court and/or the City of Bellevue to apply for said grant pursuant to grant guidelines. City Council understands that acceptance of said grant will involve entering into an agreement with the Supreme Court of Ohio and this may require a resolution and/or amending the permanent appropriations at a later date. Motion was made by Mr. Shepherd in support of the application and it was seconded by Mr. Hill. A vote was taken and passed by the vote 7-0.

Mrs. Ommert scheduled a Budget & Finance Committee meeting for Monday, February 14, 2022, at 7:00 p.m. to discuss the permanent budget.

CITIZEN COMMENTS:

Terry Williams, 124 Charlotte Avenue, stated that she just wanted to visit a Council meeting and see what is happening in the City. She was asked if they have issues with semi-trucks going down her road and she said it is an ongoing issue. She likes the sign that was installed but it hasn't solved the problem. She stated that a couple of winters ago a semi came down the alley behind her home and took out a telephone phone, a row of bushes, and almost clipped a pole shed.

PRESIDENT'S REPORT:

President Smith stated that Safety-Service Director, Mr. Lantz, and City Treasurer, Mr. Freitag, are both excused tonight.

He asked for nominations for President Pro Tempore for this year. Mr. Brugnone nominated Mr. Baker. Mr. Baker nominated Mr. Brugnone. Mr. Brugnone declined. Mr. Baker accepted the nomination and will serve as President Pro Tempore for 2022.

He asked for a motion to add Ordinance No. 1-22 to tonight's agenda. Motion was made by Mr. Hill and seconded by Ms. Downing. A vote was taken and passed by the vote 7-0. Ordinance No. 1-22 is added to tonight's agenda.

President Smith turned the time over to Mr. Wallingford for tonight's legislation.

LEGISLATION:

Ordinance No. 1-22 was given its first reading: AN ORDINANCE AUTHORIZING AND SETTING COMPENSATION FOR PART-TIME FIREFIGHTERS OF THE CITY OF BELLEVUE, AND DECLARING AN EMERGENCY.

CLOSING REMARKS:

President Smith thanked everyone for attending and then asked for a motion to adjourn.

ADJOURNMENT:

Motion to adjourn was made by Mr. Baker and seconded by Mr. Shepherd. All were in favor.

Respectfully submitted,

Ronald Smith
President of Council

Rhonda R. Soper
Clerk of Council