

**MINUTES FOR THE REGULAR CITY COUNCIL MEETING
March 14, 2022**

Bellevue City Council met on Monday, March 14, 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 February 28, 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:

President Smith welcomed Cub Scout Arrow of Light, Pack No. 204, to Council. He also welcomed students from Bellevue High School.

Safety-Service Director, Mr. Lantz, stated that waterline work on Gunther Street started last week and should be finished in a couple of weeks.

They are getting the list whittled down for street repaving projects.

Previous to contracting with Barnes for compost services, he requested information from adjoining communities around Bellevue regarding what companies they contracted with for compost work. The only one that replied was Clyde. The amount they pay per year was staggering. He feels Bellevue made a good decision contracting with Barnes again this year.

Minutes from the Tax Incentive Review Committee (TIRC) meeting regarding the annual compliance review were distributed to members of Council. Dave Sabo has requested that the TIRC meeting minutes be approved at some point soon.

President Smith inquired about the status of the demolition of the old Ben Franklin building. Mr. Lantz stated they have to wait for warmer weather to do the drain work and then they will go back in and start backfilling with dirt. Hopefully this spring it will be complete.

Auditor, Mr. Smith stated that the Auditor of State should be wrapping up the 2020 report soon.

In the previous meeting, members inquired about the revenue generated by the City's Municipal Court. He put together and distributed a handout for the years 2006 through 2012.

REPORTS OF CITY COUNCIL MEMBERS:

Mr. Waldrup stated it is good to see the Street Department filling potholes.

Mr. Shepherd thanked Mr. Lantz for following up with his questions regarding compost services.

Inasmuch as we will probably be passing the permanent budget tonight which has money budgeted for resurfacing. He inquired how soon the City can get started and go out for bids. Mr. Wallingford stated he can get an ordinance ready. Mr. Lantz stated they are working on a list for repaving. The amount in the budget is \$750,000.00. It won't go as far due to the

cost of oil. Mr. Shepherd asked if the cost is too atrocious, can we postpone resurfacing. Mr. Lantz stated there should be a way we can do that. Mr. Wallingford stated that an ordinance can be passed even if the City postpones the work.

Mr. Baker stated that he heard a familiar sound and inquired if it was the siren at Ashford. Mr. Lantz stated it works intermittently. An electrician was there working on it and it worked each time he tried. But when the Fire Department personnel tested it, for some reason it didn't go off. It is one of the ones we need to look at replacing. Mr. Baker inquired if there is money in the budget to do the one on the west side. Mr. Lantz stated he would like to replace three in the City and one for sure on the west side.

He inquired if the City could look into a pay raise for the Mayor. Not particularly for the person, but for the position to keep it competitive with inflation, etc. Mr. Wallingford stated it would need to be done by ordinance and it would have to be after this term which has two more years. Now is a good time to look into it.

He inquired about the Intersection on Sandusky and West Main and if it could be set up like a school crossing. It was discussed that it is mainly people turning left and some running the red light. Mr. Lantz stated that he is in talks with City Engineer, Mr. Scagnetti about it. There seems to be a lot of people on phones and not paying attention.

Mr. Hill inquired if the City is still going to patch the streets like last year. Mr. Lantz stated that they are. They have new equipment which will allow them to do better patching and it should be easier and quicker.

Mrs. Ommert stated that she had a couple of citizens call her regarding the street work being done on Guenther. They didn't understand what the flags were for so she explained and they were happy to know work is progressing.

COMMITTEE REPORTS:

Mr. Shepherd stated that he researched the last time the City had a sidewalk repair program and he said the City never got reimbursed when they did the work. Mr. Freitag stated that paperwork was not put through to put an assessment on the property owner's taxes. Mr. Shepherd stated he would like to do it fairly so the citizens don't feel they are being picked on.

CITIZEN COMMENTS: None.

PRESIDENT'S REPORT:

President Smith stated that Mayor Strecker is excused tonight.

He inquired if Council would like to make a motion to approve the minutes of the TIRC meeting tonight or at a later date. Mr. Hill stated that it would be good to review the minutes and approve them at the next meeting.

He then turned the time over to Mr. Wallingford for tonight's legislation.

LEGISLATION:

Ordinance No. 3-22 was given its third reading by title only: AN ORDINANCE TO MAKE PERMANENT APPROPRIATIONS FOR CURRENT EXPENSES AND OTHER

EXPENDITURES OF THE CITY OF BELLEVUE, STATE OF OHIO, DURING FISCAL YEAR ENDING DECEMBER 31, 2022, AND DECLARING AN EMERGENCY.

Motion was made by Mr. Baker to adopt Ordinance No. 3-22, and as an emergency. It was seconded by Mr. Brugnone. A vote was taken. Motion passed by a vote of 7-0.

CLOSING REMARKS:

Mr. Baker inquired about the Christmas lights that are still up. Mr. Lantz stated that they will be taken down the beginning of April.

Auditor, Mr. Smith, requested a signed copy of Ordinance 3-22 so he can forward it to the Sandusky County Treasurer. The Clerk will give him a signed copy.

President Smith asked for a motion to enter into Executive Session to discuss pending labor contract negotiations. Motion was made by Mr. Waldrup and seconded by Mrs. Ommert. A vote was taken and passed by the vote 7-0.

He thanked everyone for attending and stated that the Executive Session is closed to the public and Council would return to the regular meeting only to adjourn with no further City business.

ADJOURNMENT:

After the Executive Session, motion to adjourn was made by Mr. Baker and seconded by Mr. Brugnone. All were in favor.

Respectfully submitted,

Duane Baker
President Pro Tempore

Rhonda R. Soper
Clerk of Council