

MINUTES FOR THE REGULAR CITY COUNCIL MEETING
January 25, 2021

Bellevue City Council met on Monday, January 25, 2021, at 7:45 p.m. Following the Pledge of Allegiance, a prayer was offered by Council President, Mr. Smith. Council persons present: MR. BAKER, MR. BRUGNONE, MS. DOWNING, MRS. OMMERT, MR. SHEPHERD, and MR. WALDRUP.

The minutes of the January 11, 2021 City Council meeting were presented for approval. A motion was made by Mrs. Ommert 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 distributed a handout of the 2021 Board of Commissions for Council members to look over. He would like to get approval at the next City Council meeting.

He stated that Amy Palsa and the Recreation Board have been doing a great job with renovating the Knights of Columbus building.

Auditor, Mr. Smith, stated that he has a final update of the City's general fund balance for 2020 and at the end of the year there is a little over five million dollars. The departments did a great job holding down finances for 2020.

Law Director, Mr. Wallingford, mentioned that there has been an annexation filed with the Sandusky County Commissioners for some property on Gardner Road that is not currently in the City. He said it has been scheduled for a teleconference public hearing on February 18, 2021. We have an annexation agreement with all the counties so no resolution is needed. Once it is approved it will be reported back to Council. He will prepare an ordinance for approving the annexation.

He stated he will be attending the public records webinar this Wednesday afternoon.

REPORTS OF CITY COUNCIL MEMBERS:

Ms. Downing stated she received a call from a resident on Brinker Street who is very happy with how the ditches have been improved.

She contacted the Mayor about a resident who was concerned about water meters and the he came out the same day and talked with them. She wanted Mayor Strecker to know she appreciated him doing that.

Mr. Shepherd thanked Mr. Brugnone for explaining DORA.

Mr. Baker inquired if we are moving ahead with the purchase of the Ben Franklin building. Mr. Wallingford stated progress has been made and we are ready to have the ordinances on the agenda for the next Council meeting. We will need sponsors to add it to the agenda.

He thanked the Street Department for the snow removal downtown.
He stated that more street lights are getting dim or completely out and need attention.

Mr. Brugnone stated that a resident in town, who has a permanent makeup business, called regarding licensing fees. Her business is in Sandusky County, which would cost less for licensing, but she has to go through the Huron County Health Dept. It was discussed that she does have to go through Huron County for licensing. The Mayor said he has spoken with Mr. Hollinger from the Health Department who stated that the rates may go down this year.

COMMITTEE REPORTS:

Mr. Brugnone stated that an Economic Development Committee meeting was held tonight to discuss DORA (Designated Outdoor Refreshment Area) for downtown businesses. He scheduled another Economic Development Committee meeting for Monday, February 8, 2021, at 7:15 p.m., prior to the regular City Council meeting, for further discussion.

Mrs. Ommert scheduled a Budget & Finance Committee meeting for Monday, February 22, 2021 at 7:00 p.m. to have a preliminary discussion about the permanent budget for 2021.

President Smith stated that there was a Committee of the Whole work session tonight prior to the regular meeting to discuss establishing a building department in the City of Bellevue.

CITIZEN COMMENTS:

Chris Caputo, owner of two businesses in Bellevue, stated that he has lived in many areas of the country, but settled in the Bellevue area fifteen years ago. He said there is so much to do and see in northwest Ohio and he really loves the area. He is in favor of the Designated Outdoor Refreshment Area and thinks it be great for the community.

PRESIDENT'S REPORT:

President Smith stated that Mr. Hill is excused tonight.

He requested sponsors for the ordinances regarding the purchase of property for demolition of the former Ben Franklin building. Mr. Baker and Mr. Shepherd will be the sponsors and the legislation will be on the next agenda.

LEGISLATION: None.

CLOSING REMARKS:

President Smith thanked Mr. Lantz, Mr. Sabo, and Mr. Wallingford for their work on the demolition of the old Ben Franklin building.

He asked for a motion to enter into Executive Session to discuss pending and imminent litigation and then return only to adjourn. Mr. Waldrup made a motion to enter into Executive Session. Mrs. Ommert seconded the motion, and all were in favor.

ADJOURNMENT:

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

Respectfully submitted,

Ronald Smith
President of Council

Rhonda R. Soper
Clerk of Council