

MINUTES FOR THE REGULAR CITY COUNCIL MEETING
February 22, 2021

Bellevue City Council met on Monday, February 22, 2021, at 7:30 p.m. Following the Pledge of Allegiance, a prayer was offered by Council Person, Mrs. Ommert. Council persons present: MR. BAKER, MR. BRUGNONE, MS. DOWNING, MR. HILL, MRS. OMMERT, MR. SHEPHERD, and MR. WALDRUP.

The minutes of the February 8, 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 thanked the Street Department for the great job they did with clearing the huge amount of snow that came in recently. He also thanked Safety-Service Director, Mr. Lantz, for working alongside the Street Department. He always goes over and beyond and he is very much appreciated for his work.

Safety-Service Director, Mr. Lantz, stated that the 2021 compost contract with Barnes has been received. There is quite an increase in cost for this year. He talked with Jarrett Tree Service to see if they were able to take on the compost site and they are not able to do this kind of work. Anything done by the City has to be approved by the EPA and in order to do it, there would have to be a lot of upgrades. There is a company in Fremont that does it. Perhaps near the end of this year we could discuss it with them and possibly hire them for next year. In the meantime, if the compost site is to open for this year, we will need to go with Barnes. They have two proposals. The difference in the cost is how many days they will be open.

Auditor, Mr. Smith, thanked Council for approving the 2021 permanent budget.

REPORTS OF CITY COUNCIL MEMBERS:

Ms. Downing thanked the Street Department for the great job they did with snow removal. She thanked Amcor for donating masks to Bellevue's organizations.

Mr. Shepherd stated that he and his son tried to walk to the grocery store after the big storm. The parking lots were cleared out but it would help if the sidewalks were shoveled as well.

He inquired if it is possible to get something placed around yellow traffic lights for better visibility. For instance, the traffic light at the intersection of County Road 302 and U.S. 20 could use more visibility. It was discussed that any traffic light on U.S. 20 requires the State to make the changes. It is something that can be looked into.

Mr. Baker noticed that the Street Department pushed the snow out into the streets and didn't block the driveways. They did a very good job.

Mr. Hill also thanked the Street Department for the great job they did after the heavy snowfall. He inquired about what time they did it and Mr. Lantz stated that they began at 11:30 p.m. Thursday night and finished Friday morning at 7:00 a.m.

He stated that Amy Palsa has started remodeling the community room downstairs at the Rec Center. She is doing a great job.

Mr. Brugnone thanked the Street Department and the downtown businesses for the prompt snow removal.

Mrs. Ommert thanked Auditor, Mr. Smith, for getting the 2021 permanent budget ready for passing.

She thanked the Street Department for the snow removal.

She stated that several citizens have commented to her that they have been to the former Knights of Columbus building and said the remodeling is looking very nice.

COMMITTEE REPORTS:

Mrs. Ommert stated that a Budget & Finance Committee meeting was held tonight prior to this meeting where they discussed Ordinance 4-21 concerning the permanent budget. This ordinance will be read tonight.

Mr. Brugnone stated that an Economic Development Committee meeting was held tonight to discuss DORA (Designated Outdoor Refreshment Area). He made a motion to add Ordinance 5-21 to tonight's agenda. It was seconded by Mrs. Ommert. A vote was taken. Motion passed by the vote 7-0. Ordinance 5-21 is added to tonight's agenda.

CITIZEN COMMENTS: None.

PRESIDENT'S REPORT:

President Smith stated that he had a discussion with Mayor Strecker regarding how to handle citizens who are running for offices and want to speak at Council. They reached out to a couple of mayors and inquired what they are doing. They are allowing the individual to introduce themselves and state the office they are running for. If there are any questions, they will remain after the regular meeting to answer them. He asked Council to think about it and they will discuss it again.

Doug Gildenmeister talked with him about how the snow plows bunch up a lot of snow onto his property. The other day he approached one of the drivers and mentioned this. The driver quickly had a crew out to clear the snow and they completely cleaned off his sidewalk also. He wanted to thank City workers for that.

LEGISLATION:

Ordinance 4-21 was given its first reading: 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, 2021, AND DECLARING AN EMERGENCY.

Motion was made by Mr. Baker to suspend the rules and give Ordinance 4-21 its second and third readings by title only, and as an emergency. The motion was seconded by Mr. Brugnone. A vote was taken. Motion passed by a vote of 7-0.

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Motion was made by Mrs. Ommert to adopt Ordinance 4-21 and as an emergency. It was seconded by Mr. Hill. A vote was taken. Motion passed by a vote of 7-0.

Ordinance 5-21 was given its first reading: AN ORDINANCE CREATING A DESIGNATED OUTDOOR REFRESHMENT AREA (DORA) AND ENACTING REGULATIONS FOR THE DORA.

Law Director, Mr. Wallingford, stated that in connection with Ordinance 5-21, there has to be a public hearing with a notice published in a newspaper. We can publish a Notice of Hearing in the Attica Hub on March 4 and March 11. We had our first reading today, the second reading will be on March 8, then at the meeting on March 22, the ordinance will need to be tabled until after the public hearing on April 12. We need a motion to order the publication. A motion was made by Mr. Shepherd. It was seconded by Mr. Baker. All were in favor.

CLOSING REMARKS:

Mr. Hill recognized a citizen who passed away yesterday, Arthur "Louie" Raschke. He was a great friend of the Recreation Department. He did a lot of volunteer work for them and he is grateful for Mr. Raschke's dedication and service.

President Smith thanked everyone for attending.

ADJOURNMENT:

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

Respectfully submitted,

Ronald Smith
President of Council

Rhonda R. Soper
Clerk of Council