

MINUTES FOR THE REGULAR CITY COUNCIL MEETING
April 11, 2022

Bellevue City Council met on Monday, April 11, 2022, at 7:30 p.m. Following the Pledge of Allegiance, a prayer was offered by Council Clerk, Mrs. Soper. Council members present: MR. BAKER, MR. BRUGNONE, MS. DOWNING, MR. HILL, MRS. OMMERT, MR. SHEPHERD, and MR. WALDRUP.

Minutes of the March 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 Mrs. Ommert. All were in favor. The minutes are approved as written.

REPORTS AND COMMUNICATIONS FROM CITY OFFICIALS:

Mayor Strecker stated that an Arbor Day celebration will be held on April 29. They will be planting trees throughout the park system.

Safety-Service Director, Mr. Lantz stated that City Engineer, Mr. Scagnetti, requested that Mr. Lantz announce that any Council member who would like to have a non-expiring email password to let him know.

The compost site opened on April 1 and everyone appears to be pleased.

The waterline work on Gunther Street is complete. The City had hoped to have the street repaved this year but unfortunately Columbia Gas is going to move in and do some work. The City will fix it up as much as they can and put it on the docket for resurfacing next year. After completing Gunther Street, the Street crew moved to Center Street.

The ditch line work on the big ditch continues. The contractor is waiting for the go-ahead to finish the stoning there. What they have done is very nice.

Auditor, Mr. Smith stated that the monthly distribution report from RITA of the municipal income tax has been received. The year-to-date comparison with 2021 shows that we are up 3%.

All Council members were provided a copy of the State Auditor's 2020 report. It is a draft and is not public information yet. We will be going over the report in the Budget & Finance Committee meeting tonight after Council. The final report for the public will probably be coming through next week.

Treasurer, Mr. Freitag, gave an update on the delinquent and subpoena program from RITA. They issued 4,203 letters to delinquent tax payers and 1929 subpoenas were sent out. They discovered over \$74,900.00 in taxes that weren't paid. With interest and penalties, it totals \$151,693.00. \$68,000.00 has been paid and \$83,000.00 is still outstanding. The cost of the program is \$1.00 per subpoena. The cost for the City was \$1,929.00. RITA does an excellent job with this program.

Law Director, Mr. Wallingford, stated that we received a notice from the Ohio Division of Liquor Control concerning a new proposed liquor permit for Family Dollar Stores of Ohio. If we had any reason to believe they have issues that should prohibit them receiving a liquor license (these have to be very tangible recommendations from the Police Chief or the Safety-Service Director) we can request a hearing. The deadline to respond to this request has passed but we still want to consider it and send back a notice that we do not wish to schedule a hearing. He checked with the Police Chief and Mr. Lantz and they do not indicate that there are any particular issues. If there is no objection, we could entertain a motion that we are not requesting a hearing. Motion was made by Mr. Hill to not request a hearing. It was seconded by Mrs. Ommert. Motion passed by the vote 7-0.

REPORTS OF CITY COUNCIL MEMBERS:

Mr. Brugnone inquired about the status of the railroad property going up for bid. Mr. Wallingford stated that Council passed a motion to go ahead and set it for publication. We will check into it and see what the status is.

Mr. Hill stated that at the Rec Center there is a group interested in getting the Rec Club put back together again. One of the projects they are discussing is the inclusive park. Bellevue Rec Club received a donation from the owners of the Copper Top for the purpose of the inclusive park. This will not be an all-inclusive park. It will be done in pieces. This will be at Robert Peters Park. Amy also has several other projects she is working on.

He noticed the great job on the rock work of the big ditch. It is looking very nice.

Mrs. Ommert thanked Mr. Lantz for taking care of the trees on her street. Some of them were raising driveways. They took two trees out and will take more later.

COMMITTEE REPORTS:

Mr. Baker stated that a Public Utilities Committee meeting was held tonight at 7:00 p.m. They discussed the Wastewater Treatment Plant improvements and expenditures.

Mr. Waldrup stated that a Public Safety Committee meeting was held tonight at 7:15 p.m. Bellevue's Fire Chief and Police Chief were in attendance. They voted to add the resolution for the annual EMA contract to the next agenda. They discussed the new fireworks law and requested that an ordinance be drawn up to stay with the law already on record.

Mrs. Ommert reminded Council members that a Budget & Finance Committee meeting will be held tonight directly following the regular meeting.

CITIZEN COMMENTS:

Midge Covella, 119 Ridge Drive, thanked Safety-Service Director, Mr. Lantz, for having the rock work done so quickly on the big ditch. She and her neighbors really appreciate it. She stated that at the end of the ditch there used to be trees where the kids could climb down and hold on to the branches. Now there is nothing and she inquired if something could be put there to help them not fall down. She brought doughnuts to share tonight to express her appreciation for the nice work on the ditch.

PRESIDENT'S REPORT:

President Smith reminded everyone to let Vicki know if they will be attending the State of the City luncheon scheduled for Thursday, April 21.

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

LEGISLATION:

Resolution No. R-3-22 was given its first reading: A RESOLUTION PURSUANT TO SECTION 5705.03 OF THE OHIO REVISED CODE REQUESTING THE SANDUSKY COUNTY AUDITOR, THE HURON COUNTY AUDITOR AND THE ERIE COUNTY AUDITOR TO CERTIFY TO THE COUNCIL OF THE CITY OF BELLEVUE, OHIO, THE CURRENT TAX VALUATION OF THE CITY OF BELLEVUE, OHIO, IN SANDUSKY COUNTY, HURON COUNTY AND ERIE COUNTY, AND THE DOLLAR AMOUNT OF REVENUE THAT WOULD BE GENERATED BY A RENEWAL ONE (1) MILL

TAX LEVY FOR PARKS AND RECREATION PURPOSES AS AUTHORIZED BY SECTION 5705.19 OF THE REVISED CODE, AND DECLARING AN EMERGENCY.

Motion was made by Mr. Hill to suspend the rules and give Resolution No. R-3-22 its second and third readings by title only, and declaring an emergency. The motion was seconded by Mr. Brugnone. A vote was taken. Motion passed by a vote of 7-0.

Resolution No. R-3-22 was given its second and third readings by title only: A RESOLUTION PURSUANT TO SECTION 5705.03 OF THE OHIO REVISED CODE REQUESTING THE SANDUSKY COUNTY AUDITOR, THE HURON COUNTY AUDITOR AND THE ERIE COUNTY AUDITOR TO CERTIFY TO THE COUNCIL OF THE CITY OF BELLEVUE, OHIO, THE CURRENT TAX VALUATION OF THE CITY OF BELLEVUE, OHIO, IN SANDUSKY COUNTY, HURON COUNTY AND ERIE COUNTY, AND THE DOLLAR AMOUNT OF REVENUE THAT WOULD BE GENERATED BY A RENEWAL ONE (1) MILL TAX LEVY FOR PARKS AND RECREATION PURPOSES AS AUTHORIZED BY SECTION 5705.19 OF THE REVISED CODE, AND DECLARING AN EMERGENCY.

Motion was made by Mr. Hill to adopt Resolution No. R-3-22, and declaring an emergency. It was seconded by Mr. Brugnone. A vote was taken. Motion passed by a vote of 7-0.

Resolution No. R-4-22 was given its first reading: A RESOLUTION DECLARING THE NECESSITY FOR THE RENEWAL OF A ONE (1) MILL LEVY FOR PARKS AND RECREATION PURPOSES, AND DECLARING AN EMERGENCY.

CLOSING REMARKS: None.

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

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