

MINUTES FOR THE REGULAR CITY COUNCIL MEETING
August 22, 2022

Bellevue City Council met on Monday, August 22, 2022, at 7:30 p.m. Following the Pledge of Allegiance, a prayer was offered by Justin Jump, Pastor, First United Methodist Church of Bellevue. Council members present: MR. BRUGNONE, MS. DOWNING, MR. HILL, MRS. OMMERT, and MR. WALDRUP.

Minutes of the August 8, 2022 City Council meeting were presented for approval. Motion was made by Mr. Waldrup to approve the minutes as written. It was seconded by Ms. Downing. All were in favor. The minutes are approved as written.

REPORTS AND COMMUNICATIONS FROM CITY OFFICIALS:

Mayor Strecker stated that the crosswalk has been completed on Arlington. He thanked the street crew and everyone involved for their hard work and dedication to have it finished by the time school started. Norwalk and Fremont mayors were instrumental in letting us borrow some of the equipment needed. He is grateful for the mutual aid agreement we have with the communities nearby for help with equipment they have and we might need.

He represented Bellevue at the Justice for Migrant Women Project held yesterday at the Sandusky County Fairgrounds. He said he felt proud to take part in it.

Treasurer, Mr. Freitag, stated that he received notice from RITA that they mailed out 1,536 subpoenas for non-payment of income tax. They attempted to contact the individuals who have not paid and if they were unable to contact them, they sent subpoenas. It could be oversight as some people don't owe taxes but they need to file the forms. He has information regarding this to put on the City's website.

Law Director, Mr. Wallingford, gave a heads up at the last City Council meeting that the Planning Commission had scheduled a meeting regarding the re-plat situation at Prairie Ridge. They have five lots now, they want to re-plat it and make four larger lots. Their meeting was held on August 17. He and President Smith received letters recommending that it be done so the official notice was sent to Council. Dave has prepared an ordinance. He recommends at some point in the meeting tonight Council make a motion and vote to add the ordinance to the next agenda on September 12.

REPORTS OF CITY COUNCIL MEMBERS:

Ms. Downing gave a shout out to the Rec Center. She heard from several that the Back to School Bash was very nice and the fireworks were wonderful.

Mr. Brugnone stated that he called about a couple of lawns that needed attention and they both were promptly taken care of. He had mentioned to the Mayor that the bike path needed sweeping and the Street Department was out there this morning taking care of it.

A couple of people have commented about the corner where Ellis School used to be and the alley coming out of Louise where the tree came down in the tornado. The whole corner needs to be cleaned up.

Mr. Hill stated that the pool at the Rec Center closed on Saturday. It was doing well until the rainy weather hit in August which slowed it down. Amy stated they still have had a typical year. They don't make money on the pool but it is a great service for the community. They will be installing the new liner which Council helped them with through the budget. They didn't have a chance to put it in for this season but they will be installing it the first week in September.

The Back to School Bash got hit by bad weather also. Amy stated last year they sold approximately 1,000 wristbands. This year they sold only 170. The weather was rainy and cold. Fireworks were the same.

Summer activities are winding down and fall sports are getting ready to start.

He wanted to give a shout out to the staff and crew who put on the various camps this summer. Sheriffs were there almost every day to help with the kids. They are doing an outstanding job there. There are so many new choices now for camps to attend. He really appreciates Amy and her staff. She is definitely understaffed. At some point we need to look at getting money in the budget for her so she is staffed properly.

He discussed helping Mrs. Covella and her neighbors with maintenance of the ditch. Mayor Strecker stated he has met with Kevin and Bob and they have a new excavator head coming in that will take care of it. He apologized for it getting that way. He stated they will make sure it is taken care of. Mr. Hill mentioned that when he talks with Bob perhaps they can come up with an idea for some type of railing. Mayor Strecker stated he has talked with Kevin about it. The railing company the City uses is many miles away. They save four or five different jobs and they schedule the company to come in once a year and do all the projects.

Mrs. Ommert stated that she enjoyed the fireworks. It was sad that it was cold and not too many people came out. She had a couple of citizens inquire why the City has fireworks in August instead of on the 4th of July and some people have asked her about maintenance of the ditch. Mayor Strecker stated that many people go out of town during the 4th of July and the City gets a much better price for fireworks in August. The companies want to get rid of their stock and we get a lot better price. Last year it was a big success because the weather was better. He stated that the excavator head should be coming in this week and the ditch will be taken care of.

Mr. Hill inquired if there had been any complaints about fireworks being set off in neighborhoods. Mayor Strecker stated there were some complaints.

COMMITTEE REPORTS:

President Smith stated that a Committee of the Whole work session was held tonight at 7:15 p.m. for the further discussion of an application expanding DORA to Central Park.

Mrs. Ommert stated that a Budget & Finance Committee meeting was held tonight at 7:00 p.m. to discuss amending the budget. They will have more information at the next meeting.

CITIZEN COMMENTS:

Patricia Gray, 252 Guenther Street, inquired if there is any kind of ordinance for roaming cats. Mr. Wallingford answered that there is not. She stated there are a large amount

of roaming cats that gather on her property. She is allergic to cats and her dog doesn't like them. Her neighbors have inside cats. The roaming cats are a nuisance.

She stated that the lights on the speed limit signs aren't working. A semi with a trailer going at least 40 miles an hour came barreling down Main Street on Saturday. Drivers don't seem to care about slowing down.

There is a property on Brinker Street at the corner of Brinker and Strayer where no one seems to be living. The neighbors are mowing the grass. There is a raccoon family living behind the house.

She inquired if there are any plans to repave Guenther Street.

Midge Covella, 119 Ridge Drive, stated that she appreciates everyone discussing maintenance of the ditch. It is getting out of hand.

Spectrum has a big unit in her front yard sidewalk area. She isn't sure how much property she owns there but she maintains around it. Mr. Hill stated that it should be on the right of way easement.

PRESIDENT'S REPORT:

President Smith stated that Acting Safety-Service Director, Mr. Scagnetti, and Councilmen, Mr. Shepherd and Mr. Baker, were excused tonight. He asked for a motion to add an ordinance for the re-plat of the Prairie Ridge Subdivision Inlots 2385-2389 to the next agenda. Mr. Brugnone made a motion to add it to the next agenda. It was seconded by Mr. Hill. All were in favor.

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

LEGISLATION:

Ordinance No. 15-22 was given its first reading: AN ORDINANCE TO REVISE THE CODIFIED ORDINANCES BY ADOPTING REPLACEMENT PAGES, AND DECLARING AN EMERGENCY.

CLOSING REMARKS:

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

ADJOURNMENT:

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

Respectfully submitted,

Ronald Smith
President of Council

Rhonda R. Soper
Clerk of Council