

MINUTES FOR THE REGULAR CITY COUNCIL MEETING
October 12, 2021

Bellevue City Council met on Tuesday, October 12, 2021, at 7:30 p.m. Following the Pledge of Allegiance, a prayer was offered by Council President, Ron Smith. Council persons present: MR. BAKER, MR. BRUGNONE, MS. DOWNING, MR. HILL, MRS. OMMERT, MR. SHEPHERD, and MR. WALDRUP.

Minutes of the September 27, 2021 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:

Mayor Strecker congratulated Mayor, Melissa Fries-Seip, and Village Administrator, Tom Gray, from the Village of Monroeville, for making Monroeville the newest member of the Purple Heart Trail.

He congratulated Tom and Lavin Schwan on their new business venture, the Vue Banquet and Event Center, formerly the Bierkeller Restaurant. He wished them the best.

This Saturday Hogues IGA will host a Trunk-or-Treat in the afternoon and Coppertop will host a Trunk-or-Treat in the City lot next to them from 5:00 to 8:00 p.m.

On October 19 the Kiwanis Club will be celebrating their 100th year of serving the children of the world. They will be having a recognition dinner and he will attend and present them with a proclamation from the Administration and Council.

This year's Halloween parade will be on Thursday, October 28. Lineup will be at 5:30 p.m. at Central Park and the parade will begin at 6:00 p.m. Trick-or-treating will be on Saturday, October 30, from 5:00 to 7:00 p.m. and if there is inclement weather, they will have it on Sunday, October 31.

Auditor, Mr. Smith passed around copies of his report for the end of September. The report shows an increase of 4% in the municipal income tax collections for the last two years. Everything continues to be in good order. A large project is coming up with the Waste Water Treatment Plant but they increased the balance to accommodate that.

REPORTS OF CITY COUNCIL MEMBERS:

Mr. Waldrup stated that it is good seeing the various streets being re-done and the demolition of the former Ben Franklin building.

Mr. Shepherd stated that at the last Council meeting we received news that a section of west Main Street is going to be repaved and we may need a resolution for that. He inquired if the resolution is going to be ready soon and if there is anything he needs to be doing. Mr. Wallingford stated he hasn't heard anything further about it. He inquired about the section of Route 20 to be done and perhaps the talk that more could possibly be added. The Auditor said the hope is to add a little more money and do more than what the initial grant was for. They are hoping to take it from CVS to Burger King.

He inquired if it would be possible if there is enough time to paint some stop bars and cross walks on some streets, particularly on High Street by the Credit Union.

He inquired if there are any other options for contracting for our compost site next year. We entered into a contract with Barnes for this year and at the time we discussed perhaps looking into another company for next year. Mayor Strecker stated that Mike Lantz has been looking into a couple of other companies.

Mr. Baker stated that it is now obvious why we took the the Ben Franklin building down as it definitely needed to be demolished.

Mr. Brugnone stated that streets are getting resurfaced in his Ward and there are many happy citizens.

He inquired if a pedestrian was hit on Route 20 the other day. He inquired if we could look at the crosswalk system and change it so that when someone pushes the button, all four crossings are stopped. Mayor Strecker stated he has recently sent a letter to the City Engineer asking that question. It would close all four crossings but only when the button is activated.

Mr. Hill inquired if the buildings on the sides of the former Ben Franklin building will be finished off. The Mayor stated that the engineering company came in and they will make sure the walls will be strengthened and finished off.

Mrs. Ommert stated that she has heard many positive comments about the former Ben Franklin building coming down.

COMMITTEE REPORTS:

Mr. Waldrup stated that a Public Safety Committee meeting was held tonight prior to this Council meeting to discuss North Central EMS. Ashley Ballah, Director, was in attendance and gave an update of their services and talked about concerns.

CITIZEN COMMENTS: None.

PRESIDENT'S REPORT:

President Smith stated that he had distributed two reports to Council members from the Bellevue Area Tourism and Visitors Bureau. One is a statement of income and expenses from October 1, 2020 to September 30, 2021. The second handout is the budget for October 1, 2021 to September 30, 2022. The board members were discussed. It was determined that at this time they don't have a director. It was discussed that they may tie into another county whether it be Sandusky or Erie and Ottawa. They contract with the City Administration and Council gets reports so it is a combined effort between Administration and Council. They discussed the possibility of working together with Erie and Ottawa Counties. There are things we need to discuss with them. They discussed the budget they are proposing. Auditor, Mr. Freitag, stated that they won't want to carry a big balance. They need to spend what they have put in. They discussed that different clienteles are served by Erie and Ottawa Counties and Sandusky County. President Smith stated that if we want to make changes, we would need a committee meeting to discuss this and craft new legislation.

LEGISLATION: None.

CLOSING REMARKS:

Mayor Strecker thanked Auditor, Mr. Smith, for adding the year 2019 to his reports as it helps to see where we were at before Covid.

He stated that the City has 3-4 pallets of bricks from the demolition of the former Ben Franklin building. They would like to make an archway with the bricks welcoming people into the new park.

ADJOURNMENT:

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

Respectfully submitted,

Ronald Smith
President of Council

Rhonda R. Soper
Clerk of Council