

MINUTES FOR THE REGULAR CITY COUNCIL MEETING October 10, 2023

Bellevue City Council met on Tuesday, October 10, 2023, at 7:30 p.m. Following the Pledge of Allegiance, a prayer was offered by Councilwoman, Mrs. Ommert. Council members present: MS. DOWNING, MR. HILL, MRS. OMMERT, MR. SHEPHERD, and MR. WYNBISSINGER.

Minutes of the regular City Council meeting of September 25, 2023, were presented for approval. A motion was made by Mr. Wynbissinger to approve the minutes as written. It was seconded by Mrs. Ommert. The minutes are approved as written.

REPORTS AND COMMUNICATIONS FROM CITY OFFICIALS:

Auditor, Mr. Smith, distributed his year-to-date report through September 30. He stated that the Auditor of State should have his audit done soon and he will update Council when he hears from him.

Law Director, Mr. Wallingford, stated that today he received an email from our Recreation Department Director, Amy Palsa, regarding grants that she can apply for as a way to augment their funding and services. She is asking for a resolution authorizing her to apply for a grant through the Sandusky County Park District 2023 Local Park Improvement Grants Program. He stated that Mr. Hill could explain it a little more during his comments tonight.

At the last meeting we talked briefly about the Planning Commission letter we received concerning the denial of the request for vacation of the southern portion of Hartland Drive public right-of-way, proposed lot split to create two parcels, re-zoning of the split (southern) parcel from R-1 Single-Family Residential to B-2, General Commercial District Zoning, and proposed Site Plan. It would be helpful to mention it during the President's report where we can ask for a motion and a second to accept the denial.

We talked tonight about an ordinance to amend the permanent appropriations. We will get it ready and have it available for the agenda on October 23.

In the 3rd quarter of the year we will be working on the temporary budget for the first three months of 2024. We have an ordinance prepared and it should be ready for the first meeting in November.

REPORTS OF CITY COUNCIL MEMBERS:

Mr. Shepherd inquired about the status of the street resurfacing project for 2023. Safety-Service Director, Mr. Brugnone, stated that they are right on schedule. Yesterday they did Sherman and Green and Sheridan will be done soon and then Yorkshire. We will have scraping done of Route 20 this year. They postponed the work on the bike trail until spring.

Mr. Shepherd asked if there any way we can increase the budget for street repair for next year? Mr. Brugnone stated that if we have the same amount for next year we are on track.

He has heard complaints about the railroad crossings, and if there is anything that can be done. Mr. Brugnone stated that they have had talks with railroad personnel but not much can be done about it.

COMMITTEE REPORTS:

Mr. Hill stated that Amy is going to apply for three grants with the Sandusky County Park District 2023 Local Park Improvement Grants Program. One project will fit into a \$1,000.00 grant,

another project will fit into the \$2,000.00 grant, and the last one will fit into the \$3,000.00 grant. This has nothing to do with the legislation that is on tonight. These are separate issues where she can use the money at the pool or one of the other parks. It will be another resolution for the next Council meeting. Mr. Wallingford inquired if a motion can be made to add this new resolution to the agenda for October 23. President Smith asked for a motion. A motion was made by Mr. Wynbissinger to add the new resolution to the next agenda. It was seconded by Mr. Hill. A vote was taken and passed by the vote 5-0.

Mrs. Ommert stated that a **Budget & Finance Committee** meeting was held tonight at 7:00 p.m. They discussed updating the budget items for 2023, and also talked about adding a new police officer and the possible purchase of a new police vehicle.

President Smith stated that a **Committee of the Whole** work session was held tonight at 7:15 p.m. They discussed Resolution R-9-23 preliminary non-binding resolution expressing support for improvements to the playground equipment at Robert Peters Park. It was voted to take it out of committee and add it to tonight's agenda. A motion was made by Mr. Wynbissinger to add Resolution R-9-23 to the agenda tonight. It was seconded by Mr. Hill. A vote was taken and passed by the vote 5-0.

CITIZEN COMMENTS:

Tim Branco, 861 Monroe Street, stated that he didn't get his taxes done timely for a couple of years. He sent the payments to RITA but the City of Bellevue fined him \$150.00 per year for two years for being late. He is requesting a credit because he did pay the taxes to RITA. He talked with the Mayor, who referred him to Mr. Freitag. He hasn't been able to contact him. Another request where he lives there is a sign that states "Dead End". In these politically correct times, he would like to have a sign that states "Not a Through Street." Mr. Wallingford stated that Mr. Freitag is the one he needs to speak with and he is doing the right thing getting in touch with him. We can make sure he is aware of that. This is done by RITA not by Council.

PRESIDENT'S REPORT:

President Smith stated that Councilmen Mr. Baker and Mr. Waldrup, and Treasurer, Mr. Freitag, are all excused tonight.

Regarding the letter to the Planning Commission which Mr. Wallingford previously eluded to, he asked for a motion from Council regarding adopting the recommendation of the Planning Commission to deny the request. Mr. Wallingford read the motion. Mr. Wynbissinger made a motion that City Council adopts the recommendation of the Planning Commission made on September 20, 2023, to deny the request for vacation of the southern portion of Hartland drive public right-of-way, proposed lot split to create two parcels, re-zoning of the split (southern) parcel from R-1 Single-Family Residential to B-2, General Commercial District Zoning, and proposed Site Plan; and not to schedule a further public hearing. It was seconded by Mrs. Ommert. A vote was taken and the motion to adopt the Planning Commission's recommendation to deny the above requests passed by a vote of 5-0.

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

LEGISLATION:

Resolution No. R-9-23 was given its first reading: A PRELIMINARY NON-BINDING RESOLUTION EXPRESSING SUPPORT FOR IMPROVEMENTS TO THE PLAYGROUND EQUIPMENT AT ROBERT PETERS PARK IN THE CITY OF BELLEVUE.

Ordinance No. 24-23 was given its second reading by title only: AN ORDINANCE TO REVISE THE CODIFIED ORDINANCES BY ADOPTING REPLACEMENT PAGES, AND DECLARING AN EMERGENCY.

Ordinance No. 25-23 was given its second reading by title only: AN ORDINANCE AUTHORIZING THE MAYOR TO EXECUTE ANY AGREEMENTS AND TAKE ANY ACTION NECESSARY WITH RESPECT TO A PROPOSED GRANT TO OR ON BEHALF OF BELLEVUE ROTARY SENIOR HOUSING CORPORATION, FROM THE REVIVING LOAN FUND, AND DECLARING AN EMERGENCY.

Ordinance No. 22-23 was given its third reading by title only: AN ORDINANCE REVISING THE SALARY AND BENEFITS OF THE FULL-TIME RECREATION DEPARTMENT EMPLOYEES OF THE CITY OF BELLEVUE, OHIO, THEREBY REPLACING ANY AND ALL PREVIOUS ORDINANCES OR RESOLUTIONS, INCLUDING BUT NOT LIMITED TO THE PREVIOUS ORDINANCE 9-14, AND DECLARING AN EMERGENCY.

A motion was made by Mr. Hill to adopt Ordinance No. 22-23, and as an emergency. It was seconded by Mrs. Ommert. A vote was taken and the motion passed by the vote 5-0, and as an emergency.

Ordinance No. 23-23 was given its third reading by title only: AN ORDINANCE REVISING THE SALARY AND BENEFITS OF THE PART-TIME RECREATION DEPARTMENT EMPLOYEES OF THE CITY OF BELLEVUE, OHIO, THEREBY REPLACING ANY AND ALL PREVIOUS ORDINANCES OR RESOLUTIONS, INCLUDING BUT NOT LIMITED TO THE PREVIOUS ORDINANCE 11-14, AND DECLARING AN EMERGENCY.

A motion was made by Mr. Hill to adopt Ordinance No. 23-23, and as an emergency. It was seconded by Mr. Wynbissinger. A vote was taken and the motion passed by the vote 5-0, and as an emergency.

CLOSING REMARKS:

Mayor Strecker thanked Ms. Downing for her work with the free coat giveaway for children at the Pass it Along shop.

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

ADJOURNMENT:

Motion to adjourn was made by Mr. Baker. It was seconded by Mr. Wynbissinger. All were in favor.

Respectfully submitted,

Ronald Smith
President of Council

Rhonda R. Soper
City Council Clerk