

**MINUTES FOR THE REGULAR CITY COUNCIL MEETING**  
**November 13, 2023**

Bellevue City Council met on Monday, November 13, 2023, at 7:30 p.m. Following the Pledge of Allegiance, a prayer was offered by Pastor Justin Jump, of First Church of Bellevue, Ohio. Council members present: MR. BAKER, MS. DOWNING, MR. HILL, MRS. OMMERT, MR. SHEPHERD, MR. WALDRUP, and MR. WYNBISSINGER.

Minutes of the regular City Council meeting of October 23, 2023, were presented for approval. A motion was made by Mr. Wynbissinger to approve the minutes as written. It was seconded by Mr. Baker. The minutes are approved as written.

**REPORTS AND COMMUNICATIONS FROM CITY OFFICIALS:**

**Mayor Strecker** thanked Jerry Risner for organizing the Veteran's Day ceremony at the Fallen Soldiers Memorial last Saturday. It was well attended. It was a very moving ceremony honoring all of our veterans. We should thank them every day for what they did for our country. He thanked Council President, Ronald Smith, for his participation in the ceremony.

On Thursday, December 7, Bellevue will have its annual Christmas parade sponsored by First National Bank. It will start at 6:00 p.m. and will be followed by lighting the lights at Central Park at 6:30 p.m. The whole park will be illuminated. Santa will be there with gifts for the children.

There will be a ribbon cutting ceremony on December 9 for a new business opening in Bellevue. He will send out more information later.

There will be a Christmas open house at the Library on December 14.

**Safety-Service Director, Mr. Brugnone**, stated that the demolition of the house on Gardner Road has been completed. There is still a little more cleanup to do, but the house is down. The re-striping of the lines on Route 20 has been finished. Leaf pickup started today.

**Auditor, Mr. Smith**, stated that he hasn't heard back from the Auditor of State regarding the 2022 audit they performed this year. When he gets the final report he will bring it to Council.

**Law Director, Mr. Wallingford** stated regarding fire contracts with townships, we normally do them every four years. Last year it was in limbo while changing safety-service directors, and we did a one year contract. The Safety-Service Director has been working on contracts with the townships and he is waiting for them to get back with him. He has one signed contract with Thompson Township. Mr. Wallingford would like Council to authorize adding the ordinance to the next agenda for all of the contracts that are completed. These contracts will be for four years.

**REPORTS OF CITY COUNCIL MEMBERS:**

**Mr. Shepherd** congratulated Joseph Burkhart and Nadean Muniz for recently winning their elections for City Council. He also inquired about what needs to be done by Council for the new law that passed regarding recreational marijuana.

**Ms. Downing** stated that Pass it On Clothing Closet had their annual coat giveaway recently. She thanked Mayor Strecker for passing out flyers at Fish and Loaves and Patty Gray for passing out flyers in her Backpack program. They had more coats, etc. this year than ever before.

**Mr. Waldrup** thanked Boy Scout Troop 203 for attending the meeting tonight. He wished everyone a late Happy Veteran's Day. EMS workers, firefighters, and police officers all make our lives safer and better.

**Mr. Hill** congratulated the Mayor and his committee for the outstanding job at the Central Park Halloween party. He is looking forward to the Christmas holiday celebrations.

**Mrs. Ommert** thanked everyone who organized and presented the Veteran's Day ceremony. She had two spouses who served in the military and she appreciates the way all veterans were honored. She stated it had the most attendees ever and was very well done.

COMMITTEE REPORTS: None.

CITIZEN COMMENTS:

**Jaime Garza, 2100 State Route 4**, distributed flyers from the Bellevue Area Tourism and Visitors Bureau regarding the next planning meeting at Cherry City Honey on December 9 with City Council, Chamber of Commerce, the Visitors Bureau, and the Rec Center regarding the total eclipse coming next April. They have a new website at [bellevueohtourism.com](http://bellevueohtourism.com). On the website they have a section solely for the activities surrounding the eclipse. They are expecting up to 40,000 people in the area that weekend to view the eclipse. We want to have lots of activities in Bellevue to attract many people. Five hundred viewing glasses have been donated by Sandusky County. They are hoping to receive many more. Everyone is invited to attend the meeting on December 9.

Shop Bellevue recently held their 9<sup>th</sup> annual Scarecrow Contest. They had eleven scarecrows. Two new businesses participated. This is the first year they did a non-donation version of voting. You didn't have to vote with money. They raised \$512.57 in donations, and all the money goes to Art at 106 for youth scholarships, classes, and helping local artists become established.

Celebrate Recovery Ministry meets every Sunday at the Bellevue Assembly Church. They handle all kinds of addiction issues. It is available to the public at no cost.

**President Smith** thanked Jamie for all she does for the community.

**Michael Hay, 431 Castalia Street**, stated that two weeks ago they had an electrical power outage for about a four block radius around where he lives. He drove around and noticed that there were certain streets in Bellevue with power and certain ones without power. He inquired if anyone knows what caused it. President Smith told him that he could discuss these issues with Administration members who may be available after the Council meeting.

PRESIDENT'S REPORT:

**President Smith** stated that Treasurer, Mr. Freitag, is excused tonight. He then turned the time over to Mr. Wallingford for tonight's legislation.

LEGISLATION:

**Ordinance No. 27-23 was given its first reading:** AN ORDINANCE TO MAKE TEMPORARY APPROPRIATIONS FOR CURRENT EXPENSES AND OTHER EXPENDITURES OF THE CITY OF BELLEVUE, STATE OF OHIO, DURING FISCAL YEAR ENDING DECEMBER 31, 2024, AND DECLARING AN EMERGENCY.

**Ordinance No. 28-23 was given its first reading:** AN ORDINANCE TO AMEND CHAPTER 193 OF THE CODIFIED ORDINANCES OF THE CITY OF BELLEVUE REGARDING MUNICIPAL INCOME TAX, 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. Wynbissinger. It was seconded by Mr. Baker. All were in favor.

Respectfully submitted,

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**Ronald Smith**  
**President of Council**

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**Rhonda R. Soper**  
**City Council Clerk**