

**MINUTES FOR THE REGULAR CITY COUNCIL MEETING
NOVEMBER 25, 2024**

Bellevue City Council met on Monday, November 25, 2024, at 7:30 p.m. Following the Pledge of Allegiance, a prayer was offered by Pastor Justin Jump of Bellevue's First United Methodist Church. Council members present: MR. BAKER, MR. BURKHART, MR. HILL, MS. MUNIZ, MRS. OMMERT, MR. SHEPHERD, and MR. WYNBISSINGER.

Minutes of the regular City Council meeting of November 12, 2024, were presented for approval. A motion was made by Mr. Burkhart to approve the minutes as written. It was seconded by Mrs. Ommert. The minutes are approved as written.

REPORTS AND COMMUNICATIONS FROM CITY OFFICIALS:

Mayor Strecker stated that The Willows is having a Home for the Holidays fundraiser on Thursday, December 5 from 10:00 a.m. through 1:00 p.m. Sandwiches from Bone Boys can be purchased and all donations will go to Cancer Services in Sandusky.

The Christmas Parade will be on Thursday, December 5. It will be sponsored by First National Bank of Bellevue. After the parade there will be a petting zoo, nativity, Christmas carols, tree lighting, etc. at the Holiday House in Central Park. He thanked Mrs. Ommert for all the work she did and stated that everyone really appreciated it.

Safety-Service Director, Mr. Brugnone, wished everyone a happy Thanksgiving.

Law Director, Mr. Wallingford, informed Council that when there are liquor license transfers or new applications for a license, Council considers it and decides if there is any reason to have a hearing on it. Every year all the licenses in town are subject to renewal. Each year we have an opportunity to weigh in and if we feel that there are any that are not in the City's best interests, we can call for a hearing. Obviously, it is a serious matter and it would need to be considered very carefully. We received that notice and if there is a good reason to object to a renewal, we would have to submit a resolution and an opinion from him. He asked the Safety-Service Director to check with the police Chief and see if there are any concerns. If we don't hear anything from the Administration and/or the Police Department, we will assume there is no problem with the renewal of each license in the City. Mr. Hill inquired if there had been a liquor license transfer request for the new Mexican restaurant. Mr. Wallingford stated he has not heard anything about it but it does appear that they already have a license.

REPORTS OF CITY COUNCIL MEMBERS:

Ms. Muniz wished Suki, the Police Department's K-9, a happy birthday.

Mr. Hill thanked the Mayor and everyone on his committee for the great job they do with holiday festivities. The Halloween activities were fun and well done. It is great for the City to have a Mayor who works so diligently to put on such fun activities and he looks forward to the upcoming Christmas festivities.

Mr. Shepherd reminded Council that at the last meeting he suggested Council consider starting a charter. He received an email from Mr. Wallingford and It doesn't look like a realistic endeavor. It is a lot of work and the likelihood of it passing is slim, so unless there is a push by citizens who are interested, we will consider the matter dead.

COMMITTEE REPORTS:

Mr. Wynbissinger stated that an Economic Development Committee meeting was held tonight at 7:15 p.m. Proposed Ordinance No. 25-24 for an income tax credit for businesses was discussed. It was unanimously agreed by committee members to add the ordinance to tonight's agenda by motion during the regular City Council meeting.

A motion was made by Mr. Wynbissinger to add Ordinance No. 25-24 to tonight's agenda. It was seconded by Mr. Hill. A vote was taken and passed by the vote 7-0. Ordinance No. 25-24 is added to tonight's agenda.

CITIZEN COMMENTS:

Patti Gray, 252 Gunther Street, stated that on behalf of the Silver Sneakers. the women thank you for the wonderful parking lot. Everyone is thrilled. Also, she can't wait for the snowflake lights to be lit.

PRESIDENT'S REPORT:

President Smith turned the time over to Law Director, Mr. Wallingford, for tonight's legislation.

LEGISLATION:

Ordinance No. 25-24 was given its first reading: AN ORDINANCE APPROVING A JOB CREATION INCOME TAX CREDIT AGREEMENT WITH EPC COLUMBIA, INC., AND DECLARING AN EMERGENCY.

A motion was made by Mr. Wynbissinger to suspend the rules and give Ordinance No. 25-24 its second and third readings by title only, and as an emergency. It was seconded by Mr. Hill. A vote was taken and passed by a vote of 7-0.

Ordinance No. 25-24 was given its second and third readings by title only: AN ORDINANCE APPROVING A JOB CREATION INCOME TAX CREDIT AGREEMENT WITH EPC COLUMBIA, INC., AND DECLARING AN EMERGENCY.

A motion was made by Mr. Wynbissinger to adopt Ordinance No. 25-24, and as an emergency. It was seconded by Mr. Hill. A vote was taken and the motion passed by a vote of 6-1, Mr. Shepherd, nay.

CLOSING REMARKS:

Economic Director, Mr. Sabo, thanked Council for passing Ordinance No. 25-24 and wished everyone a happy Thanksgiving.

ADJOURNMENT:

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

A 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