

MINUTES FOR THE REGULAR CITY COUNCIL MEETING April 14, 2025

Bellevue City Council met on Monday, April 14, 2025, at 7:30 p.m. Following the Pledge of Allegiance, a prayer was offered by Councilman, Mr. Wynbissinger. 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 March 24, 2025, were presented for approval. A motion was made by Mr. Burkhardt to approve the minutes as written. It was seconded by Ms. Muniz. The minutes were approved as written.

REPORTS AND COMMUNICATIONS FROM CITY OFFICIALS:

Mayor Strecker stated that with April 22 being Earth Day, they will be planting two trees in one of the City's parks.

He announced that Community Days will be held on July 26 in Central Park.

He previously distributed the Boards & Commissions list for Council's review. At Council's pleasure, he would like to have it approved.

He would like Council once again to look into legislation that would change the time of service for Council members from two to four-year terms.

President Smith called for a vote to approve the 2025 Boards & Commissions. Motion was made by Mrs. Ommert. It was seconded by Mr. Wynbissinger. A vote was taken and passed by the vote 7-0. The 2025 Boards & Commissions are approved.

Safety-Service Director, Mr. Brugnone, stated that the work on Route 20 water line project has begun. So far there are no issues.

They did research on the problems with the crossing light at South Sandusky Street and Main Street. They were able to determine that the culprit was a faulty pedestrian crossing button. They have ordered new parts and it will be repaired as soon as the parts are received.

The dumpsters have been quite full recently due to spring cleanup. They will monitor them and if needed, they will add a couple more bins.

They have contracts ready for AFSCME Group 1 (service, maintenance and clerical employees), and Groups 2 & 3 (City firefighters and lieutenants). He is requesting an Executive Session to discuss the contracts at the end of the next meeting on April 28, 2025, to return to Council only for adjournment.

He welcomed Bill Meyer as the City's new seasonal Code Enforcer.

Treasurer, Mr. Freitag, reminded Council that the deadline for reporting income tax is tomorrow, April 15.

Law Director, Mr. Wallingford, stated that we have received a new liquor license request from the Division of Liquor Control. Hut Bar & Grill, LLC, 938 West Main Street, is applying for a D-5 license, which is carry-out and on-site consumption. He checked with the Mayor, the Safety-Service Director, and Bellevue's Police Chief, and they have no issues with approving the liquor license request. The deadline to respond is April 18. He is suggesting that we have a motion to **not** request a hearing during our meeting tonight.

A motion was made by Mr. Hill to NOT request a hearing for the new liquor license request. It was seconded by Mr. Shepherd. A vote was taken and passed by the vote 7-0. The Clerk will notify the Ohio Division of Liquor Control that we approve the license and will **not** request a hearing.

REPORTS OF CITY COUNCIL MEMBERS:

Mr. Baker inquired if the clutter around homes pertains to the porch area or if that determined to be part of the home. It was stated that it is part of the home.

He inquired when the City will be taking the winter lights down. It was discussed that some new banners have been ordered and when they arrive, they will take down the winter lights and put up the summer lights and new banners.

Mr. Wynbissinger thanked Safety-Service Director, Mr. Brugnone, for working to resolve the issue with the crossing lights on South Sandusky Street and Main Street. He welcomed Mr. Meyers as seasonal Code Enforcer.

Mr. Hill thanked Mr. Brugnone for the Street Department's patching of potholes. He mentioned that there will be a lot going on with Main Street being worked on. Mr. Brugnone stated that there will be some torn up yards and broken sidewalks. Council can inform citizens that it will be a process that will take some time and the yards and sidewalks will be repaired at the conclusion.

Amy Palsa needs proof of restrictions and encumbrances of the property to move forward with the track in the park. He asked for clarification from Mr. Wallingford who stated that ODNR wants a title search done which will list the restrictions and encumbrances. A title search has been requested to be performed by a law firm in Fremont.

Mr. Shepherd mentioned that a citizen on Redwood Road placed a sign in his yard with profanity. It was discussed that it is the right of all citizens to put up signs in their yards.

He stated that the Jon Martin sign is looking worn or perhaps has had spray paint put on it. He welcomed Mr. Meyer as seasonal Code Enforcer.

COMMITTEE REPORTS:

President Smith stated that a Committee of the Whole work session was held tonight at 7:15 p.m. to discuss proposed Resolution No. R-5-25, and proposed Ordinance No. 7-25. It was voted to bring the resolution and ordinance out of Committee and add them to tonight's agenda. A motion was made by Mrs. Ommert to add Resolution No. R-5-25 and Ordinance No. 7-25 to tonight's agenda. It was seconded by Mr. Burkhart. A vote was taken and passed by the vote 7-0. Resolution No. R-3-25 and Ordinance No. 5-25 will both be added to tonight's agenda.

He scheduled an Executive Session at the closing of the next meeting on April 28, 2025, to discuss contracts for AFSCME Group 1 (for City employees), and Groups 2 and 3 (for firefighters). The police contract is still being negotiated. Council members will return to the regular Council meeting only to adjourn with no further City business.

CITIZEN COMMENTS:

Patti Gray, 152 Gunther Street, thanked Mayor Strecker for his support of the Backpack Program. He has been wonderful to work with. He volunteers his time and has been willing to do anything necessary to help her, even packing bags and delivering them to the classrooms. The teachers and students love to see him. She proclaimed him the newest member of the Backpack Bunch.

She stated that the fund raiser for the Holiday House at the Eagles on Saturday night was well attended and amazing.

Sheila Buchanan, 125 Redwood Drive, stated that her next door neighbor who has had garbage sitting all around since December, has not made any efforts to clean up. The garbage smells.

He not only has garbage sitting all around, but he also has a utility trailer and a camper that is over 8 feet tall which leans against her fence. He has one lot and not enough room to move around. If it catches fire, it will take out all the trailers around it. Losing her home to a fire is her greatest fear. There are also all kinds of animals and rodents attracted by the trash lying around his yard.

PRESIDENT'S REPORT:

President Smith turned the time over to Jill VanFleet, Director, Bellevue Area Tourism & Visitors Bureau, who gave Council an update of the Bureau's activities. She distributed copies of the Sandusky County 2025 Community Guide. She stated that there are many great things going on. She is in charge of advertising and promotions and works closely with Sandusky and Seneca Counties. She talked about the online calendar of events where members can log in and schedule their City events. She stated that the solar eclipse event wasn't as big as expected, but they are looking forward to many exciting events in the future and she is open to any new ideas. She is looking forward to seeing more businesses and hotels come into the area.

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

LEGISLATION:

Resolution No. R-4-25 was given its first reading: A RESOLUTION DETERMINING EMERGENCY MANAGEMENT SERVICES FOR THE POLITICAL SUBDIVISION OF THE CITY OF BELLEVUE, AND DECLARING AN EMERGENCY.

A motion was made by Mr. Baker to suspend the rules and give Resolution No. R-4-25 its second and third readings by title only, and as an emergency. It was seconded by Mr. Wynbissinger. A vote was taken and passed by the vote 7-0.

Resolution No. R-4-25 was given its second and third readings by title only: A RESOLUTION DETERMINING EMERGENCY MANAGEMENT SERVICES FOR THE POLITICAL SUBDIVISION OF THE CITY OF BELLEVUE, AND DECLARING AN EMERGENCY.

A motion was made by Mr. Baker to adopt Resolution No. R-4-25, and as an emergency. It was seconded by Mr. Wynbissinger. A vote was taken and the motion passed by the vote 7-0, and as an emergency.

Resolution No. R-5-25 was given its first reading: A RESOLUTION AUTHORIZING PARTICIPATION IN THE ODOT ROAD SALT CONTRACTS AWARDED IN 2025.

A motion was made by Mr. Shepherd to suspend the rules and give Resolution No. R-5-25 its second and third readings by title only. It was seconded by Mr. Hill. A vote was taken and passed by the vote 7-0.

Resolution No. R-5-25 was given its second and third readings by title only: A RESOLUTION AUTHORIZING PARTICIPATION IN THE ODOT ROAD SALT CONTRACTS AWARDED IN 2025.

A motion was made by Mr. Shepherd to adopt Resolution No. R-5-25. It was seconded by Mr. Wynbissinger. A vote was taken and the motion passed by the vote 7-0.

Ordinance No. 6-25 was given its first reading: AN ORDINANCE TO APPROVE THE COMMUNITY HOUSING IMPACT AND PRESERVATION 2025 JOINT COOPERATING AGREEMENT BETWEEN

THE CITY OF BELLEVUE AND SANDUSKY COUNTY AND TO AUTHORIZE AND DIRECT THE MAYOR OF BELLEVUE TO EXECUTE THE AGREEMENT, AND DECLARING AN EMERGENCY.

Ordinance No. 7-25 was given its first reading: AN ORDINANCE AMENDING THE 2025 PERMANENT APPROPRIATIONS ORDINANCE NO. 3-25, AND DECLARING AN EMERGENCY.

A motion was made by Mrs. Ommert to suspend the rules and give Ordinance No. 7-25 its second and third readings by title only, and declaring an emergency. It was seconded by Ms. Muniz. A vote was taken and passed by the vote 7-0.

Ordinance No. 7-25 was given its second and third readings by title only: AN ORDINANCE AMENDING THE 2025 PERMANENT APPROPRIATIONS ORDINANCE NO. 3-25, AND DECLARING AN EMERGENCY.

A motion was made by Mr. Burkhart to adopt Ordinance No. 7-25, and as an emergency. It was seconded by Ms. Muniz. A vote was taken and the motion passed by the vote 7-0, and as an emergency.

CLOSING REMARKS:

Mr. Shepherd requested that an ordinance be written authorizing the Safety-Service Director to advertise for bids for street resurfacing.

Mr. Baker mentioned that previous administration officials sat in front during City Council meetings where they could be heard better. It was discussed that it is their preference where they sit. A microphone could be placed on their table to facilitate better hearing.

Mr. Hill requested a new chair.

Safety-Service Director, Mr. Brugnone, thanked Council for passing tonight's legislation. He thanked Mr. Wallingford for his diligence in delivering the paperwork for the land purchase and address change.

He mentioned that he can talk with the citizen who placed a sign in his yard containing profanity. The Administration can do nothing more as it is ultimately the citizen's right to place signs in his yard.

Mayor Strecker thanked Council for approving his list of Boards & Commissions.

ADJOURNMENT:

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

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

Respectfully submitted,

Ronald Smith
President of Council

Rhonda R. Soper
City Council Clerk