

# MINUTES FOR THE REGULAR CITY COUNCIL MEETING

March 9, 2026

Bellevue City Council met on Monday, March 9, 2026, at 7:50 p.m. Following the Pledge of Allegiance, a prayer was offered by Pastor and Council President, Mr. Smith. Council Members present: MR. BAKER, MR. DANIEL, MR. MORRISON, MS. MUNIZ, MR. SHEPHERD, and MR. WYNBISSINGER. Mr. Hill was excused.

The minutes of the regular City Council meeting of February 23, 2026, were presented for approval. A motion was made by Mr. Morrison to approve the minutes as written. It was seconded by Mr. Daniel. A vote was taken and the minutes are approved as written.

President Smith introduced Patti Gray, Secretary of the Bellevue Area Tourism & Visitors Bureau. She distributed the October 1, 2024 to September 30, 2025 expense report. She also distributed a Discover Bellevue brochure and a copy of the Sandusky County 2026 Community Guide. They are currently working on a job description for a new director. Once it is in place they will start looking for someone to fill the position. President Smith inquired how many they have on their board. She stated they have a president, vice-president, secretary (her position), and treasurer. She invited anyone interested to attend their meetings. They meet on the third Thursday of the month. They had a conflict this month, however, and they will be meeting this Thursday, March 12.

## REPORTS AND COMMUNICATIONS FROM CITY OFFICIALS:

**Mayor Strecker** stated that in the Sandusky County Community Guide, Page 3 has an ad for Bellevue, and the City of Bellevue is featured on pages 36 to 41. He thanked Patti and everyone on the Board for all they do.

He distributed a revised copy of the 2026 Boards and Commissions. He requested that Council review it and he will need Council to approve it at a City Council meeting soon.

On Wednesday, March 11, at 11:00 a.m., Hogue's Super Market will be receiving the Pinnacle Award by the Ohio Grocers Association. It is the highest award a grocery store can receive, and the City wants to congratulate them.

On Saturday, April 4, pictures of children can be taken at Central Park with the Easter Bunny at no charge. Each child will also receive a gift. This activity is sponsored by the Bellevue Holiday House.

On Saturday, June 20, 2026, there will be a 50<sup>th</sup> anniversary celebration of the MKP Railroad and Museum. There will be a ribbon-cutting ceremony at 11:00 a.m. There will be more exciting news coming soon that will be huge for our community.

There will be dinner and entertainment by Duling Pianos at the Eagles on Saturday, March 21, 2026. It will be sponsored by the Bellevue Eagles Club 490 and the Holiday House. Dinner will be from 5:00 p.m. to 7:00 p.m. and entertainment will be from 7:30 p.m. to 10:00 p.m.

**Safety-Service Director, Mr. Brugnone**, stated that he and Mayor Strecker met with a citizen regarding issues with solicitors coming through the City. When they come to the City, they need to fill out paperwork and have it approved. They then have to show it when they are going from house to house. There has been some unwanted solicitation and solicitors coming at odd times. He would like to revisit

Bellevue's ordinances and possibly tweak them. If anyone feels uncomfortable with a solicitor, feel free to call the Police Department.

He welcomed members of the Administration in attendance tonight. He noted that many of them attended a showing this afternoon for Phil Cloud who passed away March 5. After retiring from Norfolk Southern RR, Phil cared for the Bellevue Cemetery and did a wonderful job. He was a great citizen who contributed so much to the City and will be missed.

He introduced Robert Sutherland, Superintendent of Bellevue's Street Department. He in turn introduced members of the Administration and Street crew. He thanked them for the great job they are doing. They support each other and are always willing to go the extra mile.

#### REPORTS FROM CITY COUNCIL MEMBERS:

**Mr. Shepherd** stated that his mother's church had a water line issue and he notified Mr. Brugnone. He thanked Mr. Wallingford and Mr. Brugnone for helping to have the some of the water bill amount forgiven. He noted that the water bill still has the City's old address. Mr. Brugnone stated that it is a long process and will take time to have the address changed on all documents. The City is changing and updating its website and assigning new email addresses with better security. Everything is in transition. Eventually the new address will appear on all sites and documents.

**Ms. Muniz** stated that the Bellevue Society for the Arts is holding a Karaoke Bar for a fundraiser. It is a fun event where \$5.00 gets you in, gets you snacks, and you can karaoke all night until you don't want to sing anymore. It will be on March 27 at 8:00 p.m.

#### COMMITTEE REPORTS:

**President Smith** stated that a Committee of the Whole work session was held tonight at 7:00 p.m. to discuss the revisions to the proposed pay ordinances. It was proposed and passed by vote to take Ordinances No. 4-26, 5-26, 6-26, 7-26 and 8-26 out of committee and have them presented during the regular City Council meeting to add to tonight's agenda.

A motion was made by Ms. Muniz to add Ordinances No. 4-26, 5-26, 6-26, 7-26, and 8-26 to tonight's agenda. It was seconded by Mr. Wynbissinger. A vote was taken and passed by a vote of 6-0.

**Mr. Shepherd** stated that a Streets & Sidewalks Committee meeting was also held tonight. It was proposed and passed by vote to take Ordinances No. 3-26 and 9-26 out of committee and have them presented during the regular City Council meeting to add to tonight's agenda.

A motion was made by Mr. Shepherd to add Ordinances 3-26 and 9-26 to tonight's agenda. It was seconded by Mr. Daniel. A vote was taken and passed by a vote of 6-0.

#### CITIZEN COMMENTS:

**Tom Folk, 123 Brinker Street**, stated that he has been trying to view his water bill online. When he pulls it up it states that it is temporarily unavailable. It has been that way for four months. President Smith told him if he stayed after the meeting a member of our Administration would be able to talk with him about it.

**Jennifer Reed, 110 Glendale Street**, thanked Council for reviewing and revising the pay ordinances. Regarding the exhibits, they state that with every pay period six hours are earned for sick leave. Because there are twenty-six pay periods a year, it contradicts itself. Most government jobs give

4.6 hours of sick leave per pay period. Sick time is not like personal time or vacation time. Section 124.36 of the O.R.C. is regarding reemployment within ten years. The Mayor's comments in The Hub mentioned that union employees cash out sick leave at 70 percent and supervisors cash out at 100%. Most cities don't have 100 percent payout.

Three of the pay ordinances still have car mileage and uniform allowance. The uniform allowance ranges from \$300.00 to \$800.00 to \$1,000.00. It is difficult to understand the reasoning.

She stated that she appreciates the Safety-Service Director discussing solicitor issues in the City, but she would like to hear more about the pay ordinances during the meetings. She would also like to hear more about the increased income tax we pay in Bellevue.

#### PRESIDENT'S REPORT:

**President Smith** stated that Mr. Hill is excused tonight. He welcomed members of the high school government class who are in attendance tonight.

Pictures will be taken at 7:00 p.m. before our next Council meeting on March 23.

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

A motion was made by Mr. Shepherd to suspend the rules and read tonight's ordinances by title only. It was seconded by Ms. Muniz. A vote was taken and passed by a vote of 6-0. All ordinances on the agenda tonight will be read by title only.

#### LEGISLATION:

**Ordinance No. 3-26 was given its first reading by title only:** AN ORDINANCE AUTHORIZING THE SAFETY-SERVICE DIRECTOR TO ADVERTISE FOR BIDS AND FOR THE BOARD OF CONTROL TO ENTER INTO A CONTRACT OR CONTRACTS FOR STREET REPAVING, AND DECLARING AN EMERGENCY.

A motion was made by Mr. Shepherd to suspend the rules and give Ordinance No. 3-26 its second and third readings by title only. It was seconded by Mr. Wynbissinger. A vote was taken, and failed by the vote 5-1, Mr. Baker, nay.

**Ordinance No. 4-26 was given its first reading by title only:** AN ORDINANCE REVISING THE SALARY AND BENEFITS OF THE FINANCE SUPERINTENDENT OF THE CITY OF BELLEVUE, OHIO, THEREBY REPLACING ANY AND ALL PREVIOUS ORDINANCES OR RESOLUTIONS PERTAINING THERETO, AND SPECIFICALLY TO AMEND THE PREVIOUS ORDINANCE NO. 14-19, REGARDING THE PROVISIONS FOR SALARY AND BENEFITS, AND DECLARING AN EMERGENCY.

**Ordinance No. 5-26 was given its first reading by title only:** AN ORDINANCE REVISING THE SALARY AND BENEFITS OF THE ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT DIRECTOR OF THE CITY OF BELLEVUE, OHIO, THEREBY REPLACING ANY AND ALL PREVIOUS ORDINANCES OR RESOLUTIONS PERTAINING THERETO, AND SPECIFICALLY TO AMEND THE PREVIOUS ORDINANCE NO. 9-16, REGARDING THE PROVISIONS FOR SALARY AND BENEFITS, AND DECLARING AN EMERGENCY.

**Ordinance No. 6-26 was given its first reading by title only:** AN ORDINANCE REVISING THE SALARY AND BENEFITS OF THE RECREATION AND PARKS SUPERVISOR OF THE CITY OF BELLEVUE, OHIO, THEREBY REPLACING ANY AND ALL PREVIOUS ORDINANCES OR RESOLUTIONS PERTAINING THERETO, AND SPECIFICALLY TO AMEND THE PREVIOUS ORDINANCE NO. 8-14, REGARDING THE PROVISIONS FOR SALARY AND BENEFITS, AND DECLARING AN EMERGENCY.

**Ordinance No. 7-26 was given its first reading by title only:** AN ORDINANCE REVISING THE SALARY AND BENEFITS OF THE CITY SUPERVISORS OF THE CITY OF BELLEVUE, OHIO, THEREBY REPLACING ANY

AND ALL PREVIOUS ORDINANCES OR RESOLUTIONS PERTAINING THERETO, AND SPECIFICALLY TO AMEND THE PREVIOUS ORDINANCE NO. 5-14, REGARDING PROVISIONS FOR SALARY AND BENEFITS, AND DECLARING AN EMERGENCY.

**Ordinance No. 8-26 was given its first reading by title only:** AN ORDINANCE REVISING THE SALARY AND BENEFITS OF THE CITY ENGINEER AND SAFETY-SERVICE DIRECTOR OF THE CITY OF BELLEVUE, OHIO, THEREBY REPLACING ANY AND ALL PREVIOUS ORDINANCES OR RESOLUTIONS PERTAINING THERETO, AND SPECIFICALLY TO AMEND THE PREVIOUS ORDINANCE NO. 4-14, REGARDING THE PROVISIONS FOR SALARY AND BENEFITS, AND DECLARING AN EMERGENCY.

**Final Ordinance No. 9-26 was given its first reading by title only:** AN ORDINANCE ENACTED BY THE CITY OF BELLEVUE, OHIO, HEREINAFTER REFERRED TO AS THE LEGISLATIVE AUTHORITY/LOCAL PUBLIC AGENCY OR "LPA", IN THE MATTER OF THE STATED DESCRIBED PROJECT OF RESURFACING IMPROVEMENTS TO WEST MAIN STREET (US 20).

A motion was made by Mr. Baker to suspend the rules and give Final Ordinance No. 9-26 its second and third readings by title only. It was seconded by Mr. Wynbissinger. A vote was taken and it passed by the vote of 6-0.

**Final Ordinance No. 9-26 was given its second and third readings by title only:** AN ORDINANCE ENACTED BY THE CITY OF BELLEVUE, OHIO, HEREINAFTER REFERRED TO AS THE LEGISLATIVE AUTHORITY/LOCAL PUBLIC AGENCY OR "LPA", IN THE MATTER OF THE STATED DESCRIBED PROJECT OF RESURFACING IMPROVEMENTS TO WEST MAIN STREET (US 20).

A motion was made by Mr. Baker to adopt Final Ordinance No. 9-26. It was seconded by Ms. Muniz. A vote was taken and passed by the vote of 6-0.

CLOSING REMARKS:

**Safety-Service Director, Mr. Brugnone**, thanked Council for passing Ordinance No. 9-26 tonight.

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,

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

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