

MINUTES FOR THE REGULAR COUNCIL MEETING JUNE 8, 2015

The regular City Council meeting of Monday, June 8, 2015, began at 7:30 p.m. Following the Pledge of Allegiance, a moment of silence was observed for the passing of Reverend Lee Weiss, of Bellevue's First Baptist Church. A prayer was then offered by Reverend Juli Lejman-Guy, of St. Paul's Lutheran Church. Council persons present: MR. BAKER, MR. FEUERSTEIN, MRS. HENRY, MR. HILL, MR. MILLER, MRS. MISSLER, and MISS NASCONE.

The minutes from the May 26, 2015 regular Council meeting were presented for approval. A revision had been made in Mr. Miller's statement regarding the Bellevue Historical Society who received a grant for the restoration of the Tremont House. Mrs. Henry made a motion to approve the minutes as revised. Mr. Hill seconded the motion. All were in favor. The minutes are approved as revised.

REPORTS AND COMMUNICATIONS FROM CITY OFFICIALS:

Safety-Service Director, Mr. Crosby, stated that this weekend the dumpsters will be at the compost site. He said that the City continues to have a number of violations for junk vehicles and calls regarding them. To clarify again, a junk vehicle is any vehicle that cannot be driven on the road, no matter what the issue is.

Treasurer, Mr. Freitag stated that Mr. Wallingford and he went to a seminar last Friday regarding changes to Ohio Revised Code Chapter 718 which deals with income tax. With the passage of House Bill No. 5, effective January 1, 2016, some changes have to be made to conform to the new code. The seminar was a very good one. RITA is working on a draft of a tax ordinance that should be available in July.

Law Director, Mr. Wallingford stated that the seminar was very informative. Certain things will stay the same, and some changes will have to be made by the end of the year. Committee meetings can be held where decisions can be made and then an ordinance passed.

He reminded everyone about the public hearing on Ordinance 11-15 concerning the rezoning of the Ruta property which will be held at 7:20 p.m. on June 22, 2015, just prior to our next Council meeting. The ordinance is on the agenda for its second reading tonight. The third reading will be done during the next Council meeting.

REPORTS OF CITY COUNCIL MEMBERS:

Mr. Feuerstein stated that a Streets & Sidewalks Committee meeting was held tonight just prior to the City Council meeting regarding updates on repaving Walnut Street and widening County Road 302.

Mr. Miller stated that there is a lot behind some property on North Street where the grass is not getting mowed. Neighbors are getting upset. Mr. Crosby stated that he has not received any complaints regarding this particular property and he will look into it. Mr. Miller inquired what the policy is for notifying people who are leaving grass clippings in the street. Mr. Crosby stated that the first time the person will be sent a letter letting them know not to do it. If it happens again, they will be issued a citation.

Miss Nascone reiterated what Mr. Crosby said about how important it is that grass clippings are not left in the street. She tells neighbors about it. The drains can't operate correctly when it rains if there are grass clippings in them. Many times people who mow and leave clippings in the street are the same people who complain because the street floods when it rains. She also stated she is very happy about the landscaping going on at the five points intersection. It is looking great.

Mr. Baker spoke with Ohio Edison's area manager, Gary Mortus, who stated that he would like to come to Council's next meeting and speak about any issues that might be pertinent to street lighting. He will be able to answer any questions.

He also stated that a citizen asked if the house on West Main Street is scheduled yet to be demolished. Mr. Crosby stated that it is on the list but he doesn't have it scheduled yet. He sent a letter to Sandusky County's Prosecutor, Mr. Steirwalt, to see if he would consider putting the properties up for sheriff's auction. The Mayor wrote a letter in support and Judge Aigler has been asked to help.

Mr. Hill stated that the City's new mural is just amazing. The artists have put so much time and work into it and they have done an amazing job. It will be finished soon.

Mrs. Henry stated that a neighbor asked her if citizens can volunteer to mow some of the properties that aren't being mowed and have the City reimburse them. Mr. Crosby stated that the City cannot reimburse them. What he would like to see is a sheriff's sale so neighbors next to the property can bid and purchase it.

COMMITTEE REPORTS:

Mrs. Robinson of the Committee to Grow Bellevue commented about the weeding being done and flowers being planted in the five-corner intersection. She congratulated the City for the advancement of Central Park.

CITIZEN COMMENTS: None.

PRESIDENT'S REPORT:

President Smith stated that Mayor Berkey was excused. He reminded everyone that there will be a Council of the Whole work session after the meeting tonight. He then turned the time over to Law Director, Mr. Wallingford, for tonight's legislation.

LEGISLATION:

Ordinance 12-15 was given its first reading: 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.

Ordinance 11-15 was given its second reading: AN ORDINANCE RE-ZONING PARCELS OF LAND OWNED BY CARMELO & NUNZIA RUTA, THEREBY AMENDING THE PLANNING AND ZONING CODE OF THE CITY OF BELLEVUE, AND DECLARING AN EMERGENCY.

CLOSING REMARKS:

Safety-Service Director, Mr. Crosby, gave an update on Central Park. The electric has been hooked up, the sewer is in, the sprinkler system is functioning and grass has been planted. Footings are poured for the building and tomorrow they will put up the building. Everything is moving right along.

He also stated that if anyone decides to demonstrate during the Flags of Honor ceremony, there is a motorcycle group made up of veterans who are trained that will come in and put themselves between the protestors and the families. They are doing this all over the State where the Flags of Honor ceremonies are being held.

President Smith stated that there are fliers on the table available to everyone interested in the Flags of Honor ceremony that is coming up. He thanked everyone for attending.

Motion to adjourn was made by Mr. Baker and seconded by Mrs. Missler. All were in favor.

Respectfully submitted,

Ronald Smith
President of Council

Rhonda R. Soper
Clerk of Council