

## MINUTES FOR THE REGULAR COUNCIL MEETING JULY 27, 2015

The regular City Council meeting of Monday, July 27, 2015, began at 7:30 p.m. Following the Pledge of Allegiance, a prayer was offered by Pastor Venno Kuhl of the River Church. Council persons present: MR. BAKER, MR. FEUERSTEIN, MRS. HENRY, MR. HILL, MR. MILLER, MRS. MISSLER, and MISS NASCONE.

The minutes of the July 13, 2015 regular Council meeting were presented for approval. Mrs. Missler made a motion to approve the minutes as written. Mr. Baker seconded the motion. All were in favor. The minutes are approved as written.

### REPORTS AND COMMUNICATIONS FROM CITY OFFICIALS:

**Mayor Berkey** stated that a video of the dedication of Central Park and the Ohio Flags of Honor is available for all to view on the website. The City garage sale will be held on July 31 through August 2. Open air markets start this Thursday, July 30, and will go from 4:00 to 7:00 p.m. There will be concerts afterward with the first one being The Legends of Rock featuring Walt Sanders as Elvis, Dan Moyer as John Lennon. Be sure to bring lawn chairs.

He stated that Safety-Service Director, Mr. Crosby, and he went to a township meeting last week and there were several favorable comments of appreciation regarding the new firetruck and updated fire equipment.

**Safety-Service Director, Mr. Crosby**, stated that the fire chief showed the new firetruck at the township meeting. He said that hydrants in the townships are not capable of providing all the water that is needed during fire emergencies. The new truck is really something they need as first responders and it is very much appreciated.

He also expressed his appreciation to Steve Fuhr from the BDC representing Tower Automotive in receiving State's approval for the job creation tax credit. The tax credit is a big draw for new businesses coming to Bellevue. He stated it is his recommendation that the City follow suit in approving the tax credit. Tower stated that they underestimated the number of jobs they will need. They will have a large payroll which will be great for City income tax.

**Auditor, Mr. Smith**, stated that Ordinance 13-15 will be read tonight. This ordinance will allow the City to appropriate \$175,000.00 for a number of different road related projects. These funds can only be used for road and highway improvements. If it is Council's pleasure, he requests all three readings to be done tonight and the ordinance passed.

**City Treasurer, Mr. Freitag**, stated that he received a draft of an ordinance from the Ohio Municipal League regarding the requirements arising from the passage of House Bill #5. He will be working with Law Director, Mr. Wallingford in the next few weeks and hope to have an ordinance in September. Mr. Wallingford stated that they are also proposing some rules

and regulations that we are going to be adopting for uniform enforcement. He stated that hopefully a committee meeting can be held on the first Council meeting in September. The new ordinance regarding tax uniformity throughout the State can then be read the last meeting in September and both meetings in October and then passed. Everything needs to be in place by the end of the year. He stated that he is glad we are with RITA (Regional Income Tax Agency) who helps to pave the way for us. They work with other municipalities and have good recommendations for us.

#### REPORTS OF CITY COUNCIL MEMBERS:

**Mr. Hill** stated that the Rec Center is progressing with the new two-story, indoor play structure which was donated by Kalahari. He stated that he appreciates Janotta & Herner, and in particular, Jim Shelley, Gary Woodruff and Mick Dywer, for their efforts and support. It will hopefully be completed by winter. It is a great addition to the City of Bellevue and it is a one-of-a-kind structure in Ohio.

**Mr. Miller** asked Mr. Baker to pass on to his bosses his appreciation for their attending to the street lights and getting them repaired.

#### COMMITTEE REPORTS:

**Miss Nascone** reminded Council that a Budget & Finance Committee meeting will be held directly after the regular City Council meeting on Monday, August 24, 2015.

**LaRose Meadows of the Committee to Grow Bellevue and Shop Bellevue Committee** stated that the Open Air Markets will start this Thursday. There are 20 vendors that have signed up. She stated that the flowers that were planted and hanging in Bellevue are beautiful thanks to mother nature and the diligence of volunteers who water four times a week. It takes three hours each time to do the watering. From the Shop Bellevue Committee, they are excited about the first Thursday in August activity which they named the "Dog Days of Summer." There will be a sidewalk chalk drawing contest starting at 1:30 p.m. Prizes and chalk have been donated by Pat Catan's. Anyone entering will be eligible for a \$25 gift certificate from Pat Catan's. Everyone under the age of 12 will have to be accompanied by an adult. They are encouraging citizens to walk along the sidewalks and encourage the artists. With the help of Recreation Director, Marc Weisenberger, and the Rec Department, they will have a "Pet Walk" starting at 5:30 from the Railroad Museum to the downtown area and back again. All animals must be on leashes. There will be an "Adopt-a-Thon" at Mary's Catering on Buckeye Street sponsored by the Humane Society of Huron County.

**George Keller of the NKP Railroad Museum, Committee to Grow Bellevue and the Bellevue Historical Society** thanked the City for the expenditures they made on the new firetruck and equipment. He was present at the last Township meeting where all the equipment was showcased. He announced that there will be a Wine and Cheese Festival on September 5 to raise funds for the remodeling of the Tremont House. The NKP Train Festival

is coming up on August 15. He is hoping it will be a big success for City as well as the Museum.

#### CITIZEN COMMENTS:

**Council President, Mr. Smith** stated that since council meetings are not administration meetings, if citizens have questions regarding streets, water, or things that departments in the City Administration are responsible for, Safety-Service Director, Mr. Crosby, will avail himself after the meeting to answer questions and concerns. City Council only deals with legislation and appropriations.

**Ruth Ann Manders, 619 Dewey Street**, stated that she wants to make sure that the minutes reflect she is concerned not only with solid concrete at the Armstrong property, but also bricks and debris. It is across from her home and is an eyesore. She has brought it to Council's attention several times before and nothing has been done about it. She had pictures to show. Mr. Crosby stated that he will look into it.

**John Miller, 151 Walnut Street**, reiterated his concern about the City buying water from Erie County. He stated that he will talk with Mr. Crosby about it after the meeting.

#### PRESIDENT'S REPORT:

**President Smith** stated that he needs a motion to approve the latest adjustments to the local limits per EPA standards. A motion was made by Mrs. Missler and seconded by Mr. Feuerstein. A vote was taken and all were in favor. Motion passed by vote 7-0.

He then stated that he needs a motion to approve the application submitted by Tower Automotive for the job creation tax credit. It was already approved at the State level. It is a 50% refundable credit on the withheld city income tax from their employees for a 7-year period. This was discussed in the committee meeting held before tonight's Council meeting. Motion was made by Mrs. Henry and seconded by Mr. Baker to approve the application. A vote was taken. All were in favor. Motion passed by vote 7-0.

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

#### LEGISLATION:

**Ordinance 13-15** was given its first reading: AN ORDINANCE AMENDING THE 2015 PERMANENT APPROPRIATIONS ORDINANCE NO. 6-15, AND DECLARING AN EMERGENCY.

Motion was made by Mr. Miller to suspend the rules and give Ordinance 13-15 its second and third readings by title only. The motion was seconded by Mr. Feuerstein. A vote was taken. All were in favor.

**Ordinance 13-15** was given its second and third readings by title only: AN ORDINANCE AMENDING THE 2015 PERMANENT APPROPRIATIONS ORDINANCE NO. 6-15, AND DECLARING AN EMERGENCY.

Mr. Miller stated that it would be a good amount of money to put toward the work that will have to be done in the future on East Main Street. Mr. Smith stated that he and the committee are working on a plan internally to address that issue and will discuss it at the meeting at the end of August.

Motion was made by Mrs. Missler to adopt Ordinance 13-15 and as an emergency. The motion was seconded by Mr. Baker. A vote was taken. Motion passed by the vote 7-0, and as an emergency.

#### CLOSING REMARKS:

**Mr. Baker** stated respectfully that there is a fine line between what is brought before Council and what the Administration needs to handle. If citizens need to bring something up during City Council meetings, they should be allowed to speak. If after five minutes it is determined that it should be brought up to the Administration, they can handle it after the meeting. The citizens need to feel free to address their concerns.

**Mr. Hill** agreed and stated that citizens come to the meeting to speak their concerns and should be heard.

**Mrs. Missler** stated that she understands that citizens have concerns but it sometimes gets repetitious with the same citizens bringing up the same issues. Citizens need to be heard but limited to five minutes.

**Safety-Service Director, Mr. Crosby** citizens should be allowed to say what they have to say but not ask questions and expect to have them to be answered immediately. They should make their statements and then take their seat and if they want questions to be answered, they should come up after the meeting. Carrying on a conversation during the meeting it isn't fair to anyone.

He then discussed Mr. Miller's concerns regarding Bellevue using Erie County water. He invited citizens to come in to talk with the Administration at the City Offices at any time. They are welcome to come in and talk, or call, or email at any time.

**President Smith** stated that the doors are always open for citizens to talk with Administration. He said Council is concerned about all citizens and wants to serve them. He then opened the floor again for citizen comments. No one came up to the podium.

**Auditor, Mr. Smith**, thanked council for passing the ordinance tonight.

**Treasurer, Mr. Freitag**, stated that if anyone needs something to read, they can read the new HB #5.

**Mayor Berkey** thanked Steve Fuhr and the Bellevue Development Corporation. He feels the City has been very blessed lately with industry growth and all the new jobs coming in.

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

Respectfully submitted,

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Ronald Smith  
President of Council

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Rhonda R. Soper  
Clerk of Council