

MINUTES FOR THE REGULAR COUNCIL MEETING AUGUST 10, 2015

The regular City Council meeting of Monday, August 10, 2015, began at 7:30 p.m. Following the Pledge of Allegiance, a prayer was offered by Reverend Juli Lejman-Guy, of St. Paul's Lutheran Church. Council persons present: MR. BAKER, MR. FEUERSTEIN, MRS. HENRY, MR. HILL, MRS. MISSLER, and MISS NASCONE.

The minutes of the July 27, 2015 regular Council meeting were presented for approval. Mr. Fuerstein 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 declared August 11, 2015 "811 Day" in Bellevue to recognize the State's free hotline number to call to locate underground utilities. Each year in Ohio lives are endangered and property is destroyed when people fail to have underground utilities located before they start digging.

Bellevue made the front page of the Sandusky Register with a positive story about the new play area ("Jungle Junction") which is coming to Bellevue.

The Open Air Markets have started. The weather was great for the first one. There were between 300-400 citizens that attended. Last week there were about 100 attendees. He has heard nothing but positive comments from everyone. There are three weeks remaining for the market and concert series. He stated that the number of people at the August 6 concert was down from the first concert, but more money was generated by the 50/50 raffle. He reminded everyone that the Open Air Markets begin on Thursdays at 4:30 p.m. and go to 7:00 p.m., and the concerts start at 7:00 p.m. and go to about 8:30 p.m.

Sgt. Tyi McCarley, of the Bellevue Police Department Canine Unit, has organized the first annual Halloween Ball and Raffle. This will raise funds to support the Canine Unit. Lasso has been a wonderful addition to the Department and very important to the community. The Mayor thanked Dr. Ted Clark of the Bellevue Animal Hospital who donates food to Lasso. He also waives charges for Lasso's medical visits.

He read a letter regarding economic development he received from the developers of Advance Auto Parts who expressed appreciation to the Mayor, Jeff Crosby, Kevin Scagnetti and Vicki Meyers for their great attitude and help in bringing in new businesses. They are pursuing other retailers for Bellevue because they have had such a pleasant experience.

He recently met Jeff Cook regarding Bellevue's new dog park. The dog park will be next to Robert Peters Park. There will be two areas for dogs, one for small dogs one for larger dogs. Jeff Cook will attend Council soon with additional details.

Regarding the new bike trail, groundbreaking will take place in the spring. They are getting closer to having a bike trail that extends from Elmore to Elyria. This will be a big boost to Bellevue.

He stated that the conference room on the first floor at the City Office building has been named the "Buckeye Room." Five framed photos of the Ohio State Buckeyes have been donated and are hanging on the wall. He announced that "Big Nut" will be at the City for photographs on Saturday, August 15, 2015 at 7:30 a.m.

Safety-Service Director, Mr. Crosby, stated that there is a tentative agreement regarding the contract with the Police Department. The contract is in the hands of the Police Dept. and hopefully he will be getting it back before the next Council meeting. Negotiations went very well this year.

Law Director, Mr. Wallingford, stated that good progress is being made concerning the income tax code revisions we need to make under the new State law. We received a new format with options. He has made an in-depth review of existing Code and the proposed form and has come up with the first draft to give to Treasurer Dave Freitag for his review. He will report further at the next meeting and hopefully a committee meeting will be set up for the first meeting in September with the last meeting in September available for additional fine-tuning. The first two readings will be in October and the last reading and passing in November so we will be able to meet the year-end deadline.

REPORTS OF CITY COUNCIL MEMBERS:

Mrs. Missler thanked the Street Department for spraying for mosquitoes. She has been asked to inquire if the City could possibly address the issue of the train engineers sounding their horns all the way through the City. Law Director, Mr. Wallingford, stated that they have to sound their horns at intersections per federal requirements for safety.

Mr. Hill thanked everyone for coming tonight and taking part. Jeff Cook requested to come to Council's first meeting in September to update Council on the progress of the new dog park. On Saturday, September 12, 2015 there will be an activity at Robert Peters Park. Flag football teams will play in the afternoon. There will be tents and vendors all day and fireworks at 8:30. More information will be forthcoming.

COMMITTEE REPORTS:

Lorraine Robinson of the Committee to Grow Bellevue stated the first two Open Air Markets have been very successful. The concert music has been great. There will be three more weeks of markets and concerts. Citizens have thanked the Committee and stated how much they enjoy attending the new park for these events. Visitors have been very respectful when visiting Central Park. They are using the trash receptacles and keeping the area very clean.

George Keller of the NKP Railroad Museum, Committee to Grow Bellevue and the Bellevue Historical Society gave an update on the Rail Fest which will begin Saturday. He made a map of the City to pass out to train enthusiasts that will feature over 20 businesses in Bellevue. For the Historical Society, they are continuing to prepare for the upcoming Wine & Cheese Festival scheduled for September 5. There will be 20 different kinds of cheese to purchase. President Smith thanked all the committees for what they do to make Bellevue a wonderful place to live.

CITIZEN COMMENTS: None.

PRESIDENT'S REPORT:

President Smith stated that Mr. Miller is excused from tonight's meeting.

LEGISLATION: None.

CLOSING REMARKS:

Mr. Baker stated that the storm drains are being repaired and they look very professional. The Street Department is doing a great job.

Safety-Service Director, Mr. Crosby, stated that the trash bins at the compost site have continued to be very well received.

Mayor Berkey thanked the Street Dept. for spraying for mosquitoes.

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