

MINUTES FOR THE REGULAR CITY COUNCIL MEETING OCTOBER 26, 2015

The regular City Council meeting of Monday, October 26, 2015, began at 7:30 p.m. Following the Pledge of Allegiance, a prayer was offered by Pastor Catherine Lawrence of Zion United Church of Christ, Fireside. Council persons present: DUANE BAKER, DENNIS FEUERSTEIN, RISE HENRY, STEVE HILL, JOHN MILLER, PEGGY MISSLER AND ROSE MARY NASCONE.

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

REPORTS AND COMMUNICATIONS FROM CITY OFFICIALS:

Safety-Service Director, Jeffrey Crosby, said that before the November 9th City Council meeting, Waste Water Superintendent Eric MacMichael would like to give a presentation regarding the new telemetry system for the lift stations and for the subway. With this system, each pump may be monitored and adjusted on a computer. If something is not working properly, the system will also send an alarm.

The newly-purchased vector truck, which will be delivered tomorrow, will be here for the City Council members to view on November 9th. This will help alleviate several drainage problem areas in the City. Bids were offered for the position of a full-time vector truck operator. The storm water drains and sinkholes will be cleaned and put on a cleaning rotation schedule.

Mr. Crosby stated the Community Reinvestment Area Housing Survey of Bellevue has been done. Bellevue Development Corporation Director, Steve Fuhr, will also be in to discuss having the entire City designated a Community Reinvestment Area (CRA). Bellevue would be the third city in the State of Ohio to do so. This will allow 15-year property tax abatements for newly-constructed homes and 12-year property tax abatements on the remodeled portion of existing homes. The same applies for industry. If new buildings are constructed, there are 15-year property tax abatements and 12-year property tax abatements for the remodeled portions of existing structures. There will be a meeting with the school system so they are on board with this and so the taxes for the schools will be paid.

Auditor, Steven Smith, reported that the Utility Billing Office is now accepting credit/debit card payments and electronic check payments at the office window or on line.

Mr. Smith said the City of Bellevue has received the Ohio Auditor of State Award for having a clean audit. He is very proud to receive this. Mr. Smith thanked Mayor Donald Berkey and Safety-Service Director, Jeffrey Crosby, for their continuing support of him and his office to accomplish this. The last line on the award says it all, "The citizens you represent are well-served by your effective and accountable financial practices."

Mr. Smith asked the rules be suspended and an ordinance passed for additional funds for the Water Plant for the cost of chemical purchases. He would like \$70,000 transferred from the Water Capital Improvement fund into the Water Production Plant fund.

Mr. Crosby said that because of the algae bloom in the reservoirs this past summer, approximately an additional \$75,000 was spent on potassium for Reservoir 4, and especially, Reservoir 5.

Treasurer, David Freitag, stated that tonight is the final reading of the income tax ordinance. He would like Ordinance 17-15 forwarded to R.I.T.A. as soon as it is finalized. The deadline is December 1st.

REPORTS OF CITY COUNCIL MEMBERS:

Mr. Miller asked if the new vactor truck will clean out sinkholes. Mr. Crosby said it will clean the existing sinkholes, but it will not drill them.

Mr. Baker said it was very nice to see the police officers participating in the trick-or-treat event held on Sunday, October 25th.

Mr. Hill congratulated the Bellevue High School football team, coach, staff and players on their efforts toward winning the NOL Championship. He also said the marching band is a great asset; they put in a lot of time and work. He agreed it was a great night for trick-or-treat and it was really nice to see the police officers and police chief participating in it.

COMMITTEE REPORTS:

Miss Nascone said she would like to schedule a Budget and Finance Committee meeting after the November 9th City Council meeting. There will be an update through the end of September and work on the temporary budget, which will be passed before the end of the year.

Mrs. Missler said ditto to what Mr. Crosby said about the vactor truck.

Mr. Hill said the Jungle Junction building is almost totally enclosed and recommends everyone check out the progress. Hopefully, it will be opened sometime in January 2016.

Mr. Miller said he would like to schedule an Industrial Development Committee meeting for 7:00 p.m. before the November 9th City Council meeting.

David Robinson of the Committee to Grow Bellevue said their work is never done. The committee is now working on the Christmas season. They have purchased new articles to enhance the area and, hopefully, everyone will be pleasantly surprised.

Council President Ronald Smith noted the repaving of TR 302 is complete.

CITIZEN COMMENTS:

John W. Miller, 151 Walnut Street, asked if the City is still removing trees that are in bad shape. Mr. Crosby said more trees are being removed this week and he should call the office tomorrow morning.

Pat Manahan, 153 Robert Avenue, said, since 2006, the sidewalks on the corner of William Avenue and Castalia Street have been in awful condition. The owner has been notified they need replaced and nothing has been done. Council President Ronald Smith said City Council decided not to put an economic strain on citizens. Mr. Crosby said the sidewalks were replaced on North West Street and Kilbourne Street. Then, in 2008, because of the downturn in the economy, City Council decided not to enforce the replacement of sidewalks. He agrees that it should be looked at again.

PRESIDENT'S REPORT:

Council President Smith said Council Clerk, Rhonda Soper, is excused from tonight's meeting.

Also, he would like **Ordinance No. 18-15** to be placed on the Agenda.

Motion was made by Miss Nascone to add Ordinance 18-15 to the Agenda. The motion was seconded by Mrs. Missler. All were in favor.

LEGISLATION:

Ordinance 18-15 was given its first reading: AN ORDINANCE AMENDING THE 2015 PERMANENT APPROPRIATIONS ORDINANCE NO. 6-15, AND DECLARING AN EMERGENCY.

Motion was made by Miss Nascone to suspend the rules and give Ordinance 18-15 its second and third readings by title only. The motion was seconded by Mr. Feuerstein. A vote was taken. All were in favor.

Ordinance 18-15 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.

Motion was made by Mr. Miller to adopt Ordinance 18-15, and as an emergency. The motion was seconded by Mr. Feuerstein. A vote was taken. Motion passed by the vote 7-0, and as an emergency.

Ordinance 15-15 was given its third reading, by title only: AN ORDINANCE AUTHORIZING A PAY RAISE FOR THE DIRECTOR (CITY PROSECUTING ATTORNEY).

Motion was made by Mrs. Missler to adopt Ordinance 15-15. The motion was seconded by Mr. Hill. A vote was taken. Motion passed by the vote 7-0.

Ordinance 16-15 was given its third reading, by title only: AN ORDINANCE AUTHORIZING PAY RAISES FOR ELECTED OFFICIALS OF THE CITY OF BELLEVUE, THEREBY AMENDING SECTION 157.04 OF THE CITY OF BELLEVUE CODIFIED ORDINANCES.

Motion was made by Mr. Baker to adopt Ordinance 16-15. The motion was seconded by Miss Nascone. A vote was taken. Motion passed by the vote 6-1.

Ordinance 17-15 was given its third reading, by title only: AN ORDINANCE TO AMEND CHAPTER 193 OF THE CODIFIED ORDINANCES OF THE CITY OF BELLEVUE REGARDING MUNICIPAL INCOME TAX.

Motion was made by Miss Nascone to adopt Ordinance 17-15. The motion was seconded by Mr. Feuerstein. A vote was taken. Motion passed by the vote 7-0.

CLOSING REMARKS:

Mr. Hill congratulated Auditor Steven Smith on his certificate. He stated that Council appreciates all the work he does.

Council President Ronald Smith said ditto on the Auditor's certificate.

Safety-Service Director Jeffrey Crosby said he would like to commend Steve Smith on the certificate. If everyone knew exactly how hard he had to work to get to this point; it is quite an achievement.

Mayor Donald Berkey congratulated Steve Smith on his report and acknowledged the fact he has a very difficult job and he appreciates what he does.

Council President Ronald Smith thanked everyone for attending this evening.

ADJOURNMENT:

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

Respectfully submitted,

Ronald Smith
President of Council

Terri L. Sanders
Administrative Assistant/Acting Clerk