



Borough of Bellevue

Borough Pre-Council Meeting Minutes (rev.)

May 11, 2021, 7:00 pm
Via Zoom Teleconference

Call to Order

Vice-President Jodi Hause called the meeting to order at 7:00 pm.

The call to order was followed by the Pledge of Allegiance and a moment of silence.

Roll Call

The roll was called to establish a quorum. Present were Mrs. Pikul, Ms. Edmondson, Ms. Sloane, Mr. Pritchard, Ms. Cerminara, Mr. Ditullio, Mr. Stuncard, and Vice-President Hause. Mr. Pennington was absent. A quorum was established.

Also in attendance were Mayor Emily Marburger, Treasurer Joe Scioscia, Director of Administrative Services Cindy Bahn; Financial Services Administrator Andrea Contes, Library Director Ellen Goodman, DPW Superintendent Jim Kelly, Police Chief Matt Sentner, BCO Jeff Wissner, Engineer Bryan Churilla, and Solicitor Matt Racunas.

Public Contribution on Agenda Items

- There was no public contribution at this time.

Changes or Corrections to Minutes

- No changes or corrections were made to the minutes of the April Committee, Pre-Council or Council meetings.

Reports

Mayor's Report (written report was included with Council packet)

- The Mayor had nothing to add to her report.

Treasurer's Report (written report was included with Council packet)

- Mr. Scioscia had nothing to add to his written report.

Financial Report (Budget, Tax and Services reports were included with Council packet)

- No comments were made or questions asked.

Code Enforcement Report (written report was included with Council packet)

- Mr. Wissner had nothing to add to his written report.

Library Report (written report was included with Council packet)

- Ms. Goodman noted that the Library is preparing for June 1 changes in Covid-19 restrictions.

Public Works Report (written report was included with Council packet)

- Mr. Kelly reported that as of May 7, all DPW employees were vaccinated.

Director of Administrative Services Report

- DAS Bahn had nothing to report.

Engineer's Report (written report was included with Council packet)

- Mr. Churilla stated that he provided a proposal for the survey of the North Jackson Avenue retaining wall in the amount of \$2000.
- He noted that 2020 paving is underway; the contractor expects to begin paving on Lincoln Avenue Wednesday May 12.
- Dawson Avenue sewer lining is nearly complete; smoke testing will be conducted May 12 and 13.

Joint Planning Commission

- Catherine Tulley reported that representatives from Popeyes restaurant will attend the May JPC meeting.
- At the April JPC meeting, Starbucks presented plans for their new Avalon site for JPC review; they plan to open in October or November of this year.
- Owners of 196 Lincoln Avenue presented a plan for lot consolidation at the April meeting.
- Ms. Tulley reported that the JPC is reviewing items in the Joint Plan, and that Avalon is working on a SALDO for their Borough.
- She requested that the JPC be copied on requests for conditional use received by the BCO.

Northwest EMS Report (written report provided to Council)

- No comments were made.

Quaker Valley Council of Governments Report

- Mr. DiTullio reported that the COG has hired a new manager, Patrick Conners, who has ArcGIS experience.

Committee Reports

Finance Committee; Jodie Hause, Chair

1. Motion to Approve Payment of the May 11, 2021 Bill List.
Moved: Ms. Hause Second: Ms. Edmondson
All voted in favor of the motion. Motion carried, 8-0.
2. Discussion: Junior Councilperson Applicant Andrew Beckas.
Ms. Hause noted that Mr. Beckas started the "Snow Buddies" program that matched volunteers with residents for snow shoveling; Mrs. Pikul thanked him for initiating this program. His appointment will be added to the May Council meeting agenda.
3. Discussion: Candidates for Joint Planning Commission Leann Chaney and Dameon Holmes
Both Ms. Chaney and Mr. Holmes were in attendance and spoke to their desire to serve on the JPC.

Motion: Appointing Leann Chaney to the Joint Planning Commission for a term expiring December 31, 2023 and Dameon Holmes to the Joint Planning Commission for a term expiring December 31, 2021.
Moved: Mrs. Pikul Second: Mr. Stuncard
All voted in favor of the motion. Motion carried, 8-0.
4. Discussion: General Code (eCode 360) Supplement Quote
DAS Bahn reported that the Borough has received a quote from General Code to update the online version of Bellevue's ordinances. The quote ranged from \$3,600 to \$4,320. This will be added to the agenda for the May Council meeting.

Parks and Recreation Committee; Jeff Stuncard, Chair Pro Tem

1. Discussion: Dek Hockey Operations (Team Pittsburgh)
Mr. Kelly noted that representatives from Team Pittsburgh are not available Tuesday nights. The organization would like to use the rink for a Memorial Day championship. If Bellevue agrees to Team Pittsburgh managing operations of the Dek Hockey rink, they will maintain a schedule, and would like to increase participation by Bellevue youth in the Penguins' "Learn to Play" program. Ms. Edmondson suggested a temporary sign with rules for usage, including no pucks and no skates on the rink.
2. Discussion: Library Repairs
The Borough has received only one quote for the exterior repairs, from Carmel Construction. They revised their previous bid to only include the exterior repairs. Mr. Kelly will try to solicit additional quotes to do the work included in the Carmel quote.
3. Discussion: Farmers Market Site
DAS Bahn and Ms. Contes met with Bryan Davidson from the Farmers Market Committee to formulate a plan for additional vendors and food trucks. Vendors will be located on both sides of the library, with vendor truck parking along the Library side of Teece Avenue and food trucks on the other side.
4. Discussion: Drinking Fountain at Memorial Park
Mr. Kelly reported that people are currently using a pipe with a faucet on the end as a drinking fountain. He has obtained bids for an ADA-compliant drinking fountain with a bottle filler, similar to the one in Bayne Park (which is not ADA compliant). The cost is about \$6,000. This will be put on the agenda for the May Council meeting.
5. Discussion: Hours for Pool Usage
At the Committee meeting, members discussed opening and closing the pool later. Pool Manager Sarah Jobe has advised that staff prefer not to be there late, and given the challenge in hiring sufficient lifeguards, she would like to honor their preference. In previous years, the pool has operated from noon until 7:30. Ms. Hause noted that May is Melanoma Awareness month and a "shift to later hours provides a safer way for people to enjoy the pool".
6. Discussion: Summer Concert Series
Ms. Hause would like to see the concerts return and stated that there were sponsors in the past which helped to offset the costs. Mr. Stuncard stated his belief that the \$500 per band cost was a little high. Staff will look for musicians to play, perhaps at a lower cost.
7. Motion to Approve the Purchase of Chemicals for the Memorial Park Pool from B&R Pools at a Cost of \$12,760.00 (01.452.222, COSTARS vendor).
Moved: Mr. Stuncard Second: Ms. Cerminara
All voted in favor of the motion. Motion carried, 8-0.

Public Safety Committee; Jodi Cerminara, Chair Pro Tem

1. Discussion: Permit Parking, Straw Avenue
The Chief noted that the current parking Ordinance, 93-7, would need to be amended to include permit parking on Straw. He suggested that property owners only be allowed to purchase 2 permits plus 1 visitor permit per residence, and that he estimates 6 vehicles would fit in the space. The updated Ordinance will be prepared for the May Council meeting.
2. Motion to Advertise, at a Cost Not to Exceed \$250, for a Police Department Office Manager (01.406.341).
Moved: Mrs. Pikul Second: Ms. Edmondson

Discussion: Mr. Pritchard questioned the need for the position. Chief Sentner responded that he has been doing the work of the Office Manger for the last year, and that he previously had 3 fulltime and 2 part-time positions.

Aye: Ms. Sloane, Ms. Cerminara, Mr. Stuncard, Mr. DiTullio, Ms. Hause, Mrs. Pikul, Ms. Edmondson

Nay: Mr. Pritchard

Motion carried, 7-1 with no abstentions.

Public Works Committee; Jillian Edmondson, Chair

1. Discussion: Sewer Tap for New Popeyes Restaurant
Mr. Churilla explained that the developers are required to get sewer planning approval from the Borough, Alcosan and DEP. The restaurant could add about 400 gallons/day more than the previous business on the site. Mr. Churilla recommends that the Borough sign off on the this and the Solicitor noted that this is an administrative approval that does not require a Council vote.
2. Discussion: LED Retrofit for Bellevue
Mr. Kelly reported that one element in the light is not working and is beyond repair. He has one quote for about \$3,000. Mrs. Pikul recalled that the Borough replaced some or all of these lights in 2018 or 2019, and Mr. DiTullio reported that in December 2018, lights and plastic covers were replaced in the three "ovals"; the current issue is with the larger "Bellevue" sign. Mr. Kelly will obtain additional quotes to repair.
3. Motion to Authorize, at a Cost Not to Exceed \$250, for a DPW Laborer (1.406.341) This item was moved to the April Council meeting for action.
Moved: Ms. Edmondson Second: Ms. Cerminara
All voted in favor of the motion. Motion carried, 8-0.
4. Motion to Approve the HRG Proposal to Provide Engineering Services for the 2021 Paving Project.
Moved: Ms. Edmondson Second: Mr. Cerminara
All voted in favor of the motion. Motion carried, 8-0.

Unfinished Business

- **Discussion: Returning to In-Person Meetings**
Mrs. Pikul moved, and Ms. Hause seconded the motion to return to in-person meetings. After discussion, Mrs. Pikul withdrew her motion and the item will be added to the May Council meeting agenda.

New Business

- **Discussion: Vacant Property on South Fremont Avenue**
The Solicitor reported that he received a letter from an attorney representing the estate of the owner of this property offering it to the Borough. The property comprises about 3.8 acres and has outstanding taxes of nearly \$10,000. After much discussion, this will be added to the agenda for the May Council meeting.
- **Motion to Authorize the Closure of Hawley Avenue from Lincoln Avenue to Citizen Way on June 19, 2021 from 3-10 pm for an Event.**
Chief Sentner stated that he received a request from Lincoln Avenue Brewery to close Hawley Avenue for a block party. Because Hawley terminates at Lincoln, a major artery, he requested Council approval. The event will not use Borough resources. Mrs. Pikul noted the lack of information about the event, and

Ms. Hause withdrew her motion to approve the closure. The business owner will be asked for more information.

Public Contribution on Non-Agenda Items (limit of 2 minutes)

- Tom Hyrnda, 523 Roosevelt Avenue: Addressed the agreement with the Pittsburgh Penguins for the operation of the Dek Hockey rink, whether there will be a water fountain at the adult exercise stations in Memorial Park, and the drainage pipe at East Bellevue Station.
- Linda Woshner, 137 S. Euclid Avenue: Commented on the need to hire skilled laborers, and the Hawley Avenue closure.
- Zac Cummings, 378 Calderwood Avenue: Asked about the presence of lead and asbestos in the Fire Department and was told by Mr. Kelly that testing revealed the lack of asbestos and minimal lead. Mr. Kelly suggested that the volunteers assist with the repainting.

Executive Session

Council adjourned to Executive Session to discuss two issues involving personnel at 9:10 pm, and returned to the Council Meeting at 9:23 pm. No legislative action was taken as a result of the Executive Session.

Adjournment

There being no further business, President Pennington adjourned the meeting at 9:25 pm.

ATTEST



Cindy L. Bahn, Director of Administrative Services/Secretary



Val Pennington, Council President