



Borough of Bellevue

Borough Pre-Council Meeting Minutes

August 10, 2021, 7:00 pm
Municipal Building, 2nd Floor Council Chambers

Call to Order

President Pennington 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 Ms. Edmondson, Ms. Sloane, Mr. Stuncard, Mr. DiTullio, Ms. Cerminara, Mrs. Pikul, and President Pennington. Mr. Pritchard and Ms. Hause were absent. A quorum was established.

Also in attendance were Mayor Emily Marburger, Junior Councilperson Andrew Beckas, Director of Administrative Services Cindy Bahn, Engineer Bryan Churilla, and Solicitor Matt Racunas.

Public Contribution on Agenda Items

- There was no public comment on Agenda items.

Reports

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

- The Mayor had nothing to add to her written report.

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

- No comments were made, or questions asked.

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)

- No comments were made, or questions asked.

Library Report (written report was included with Council packet)

- Ms. Goodman had nothing to add to her written report.

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

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

Director of Administrative Services Report

- DAS Bahn had nothing further to report.

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

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

Joint Planning Commission

- No report was provided.

Northwest EMS Report (written report provided to Council)

- No comments were made, or questions asked.

Quaker Valley Council of Governments Report

- Mr. DiTullio had nothing to report.

Committee Reports

Finance Committee; Jeffrey Stuncard, Chair Pro Tem

1. Motion to Approve Payment of the August 10, 2021, Bill List.
Moved: Mr. Stuncard Second: Ms. Edmondson
All voted in favor of the motion. Motion carried, 7-0.
2. Discussion: Event and Gathering Ordinance.
After much discussion, President Pennington asked that this go back to the Finance Committee; it will be on the agenda for the September meeting. Comments should be directed to the Solicitor.

Parks and Recreation Committee; Val Pennington, Chair

1. Discussion: Recommended Changes to the Personnel System Related to Library Personnel.
Ms. Goodman would like to create a new library staff position – Youth Services Coordinator - to reflect current library best practices as well as an identified need for programming. She has created a job description, and the DAS will provide that to Council for consideration.
2. Mr. Kelly reported that there are 7 dead trees in Memorial Park near the tennis courts, and he has requested bids to remove them. Tall Timber was the low bid at \$2,450. DAS Bahn will provide the written quote to Council for further consideration.

Public Safety Committee; Jodi Cerminara, Chair Pro Tem

1. Discussion: Establishing a Street Address for Columbia Hose Hook and Ladder Company.
Ms. Cerminara reported that the Volunteer Fire Department is seeking a physical mailing address in the wake of the Bellevue Post Office closure and the loss of their PO box there. The question was raised as to whether or not this requires Council approval, and the DAS will refer them to the Post Office for clarification.
2. Discussion: Elimination of Parking Meters on South Balph Avenue
The Police Chief recommends their removal; the meters were originally installed because of the Verizon offices, which are no longer there. Removing the meters would allow for several additional parking spaces for residents.

Motion: Authorize the Removal of Parking Meters Between 20 South Balph Avenue and 36 South Balph Avenue.

Moved: Mrs. Pikul

Second: Ms. Cerminara

Discussion: Because action on this discussion item was not on the meeting agenda, the floor was opened for public comment; no comments were made.

All voted in favor of the motion. Motion carried, 7-0.

3. Discussion: Changes to the Street Sweeping Ordinance, No. 12-05.
Mr. Kelly noted that some streets are not included in the Ordinance, which includes street names and the corresponding days on which they will be cleared. At least one street has no parking on both sides, one side in the morning and the other side in the afternoon, making it difficult for residents who are parked there all day while working to avoid being ticketed. Ms. Cerminara added that it makes it

difficult for residents during snow events. The Police Chief and DAS will work with the Solicitor on language to amend the Street Sweeping Ordinance.

4. Discussion: Coal Tar Ordinance

This item relates to the presentation by Fox Chapel Borough Councilwoman Mandy Steele explaining the dangers of the chemicals included in "coal tar", a substance frequently used to seal asphalt surfaces. Some of the chemicals are known carcinogens and have been known to cause issues with fetal development as well as cardiovascular disease.

Motion: Authorize the Advertisement of a Proposed Coal Tar Ordinance Prohibiting its Use Within the Borough of Bellevue, at a Cost not to Exceed \$250. (01.406.341)

Moved: Ms. Cerminara

Second: Ms. Edmondson

Discussion: Because action on this discussion item was not on the meeting agenda, the floor was opened for public comment; no comments were made.

All voted in favor of the motion. Motion carried, 7-0.

5. Discussion: Straw Avenue Parking Permit Ordinance

After some discussion, including whether or not the residents who requested this change have handicapped parking permits, the DAS was directed to invite them to a future meeting to provide input on the need for this change.

6. Discussion: Temporary Suspension of Enforcement of Ordinance 12-07 to Allow Restaurants to Erect Umbrellas and Canopies Over Sidewalk Tables.

Mrs. Pikul expressed her support for this action, as did Ms. Cerminara. Mr. DiTullio stated that state law prohibits it. The Solicitor responded that the Borough is only suspending enforcement of our own law, and was not aware of any other PA or Federal laws that would affect this action.

Motion: Authorize the Suspension, through October 31, 2021, of Ordinance 12-07 to Permit Bellevue Businesses to Erect Appropriately Secured Umbrellas and Canopies, No Less than 7 feet in Height over Sidewalk Tables.

Moved: Ms. Cerminara

Second: Ms. Edmondson

Discussion: Because action on this discussion item was not on the meeting agenda, the floor was opened for public comment; no comments were made.

Aye: Mrs. Pikul, Ms. Edmondson, Mr. Stuncard, Ms. Cerminara, President Pennington

Nay: Mr. DiTullio, Ms. Sloane

Motion carried, 5-2-0, with no abstentions.

7. Motion to Approve the Conditional Use Application Submitted by Allegheny Health Network for a Medical and Health Research Laboratory at the Former Suburban General Hospital.

Moved: Mrs. Pikul

Second: Ms. Cerminara

All voted in favor of the motion. Motion carried, 7-0.

Chief Sentner took the opportunity to thank Jim Scisiani for his efforts on behalf of National Night Out August 3rd in Bayne Memorial Park.

Public Works Committee; Jillian Edmondson, Chair

1. Discussion: Streetscape

President Pennington observed that several weeks ago, Council agreed to issue an RFP for a new engineer to take over the Streetscape project. During a subsequent conference call with ACED, a reasonable solution was reached: have the Borough engineers review CEC's plans, and provide on-site construction supervision to mitigate any potential issues. He noted that the existing plans created by CEC are not the issue with previous phases of the project. Ms. Cerminara added that based on the timeline required for the use of these funds, Council needs to vote to approve the CEC proposal for extension of the project up Balph Avenue to Bayne Memorial Park.

Motion: Rescind the July 27, 2021 Council Vote to Issue an RFP for Engineering Services on the Streetscape Project.

Moved: Ms. Cerminara

Second: Ms. Edmondson

Discussion: Because action on this discussion item was not on the meeting agenda, the floor was opened for public comment; no comments were made.

Aye: Mr. Stuncard, Ms. Sloane, Ms. Cerminara, Ms. Edmondson, Mrs. Pikul, President Pennington

Nay: Mr. DiTullio

Motion carried, 6-1-0, with no abstentions

Motion: Accept the CEC Proposal in the Amount of \$14,500 to Provide Additional Engineering Services to Extend the Streetscape Project Up Balph Avenue to Bayne Memorial Park.

Moved: Ms. Edmondson

Second: Ms. Cerminara

Discussion: Because action on this discussion item was not on the meeting agenda, the floor was opened for public comment; no comments were made.

Aye: Ms. Sloane, Ms. Edmondson, Mr. Stuncard, Ms Cerminara, Mrs. Pikul, President Pennington

Nay: Mr. DiTullio

Motion carried, 6-1-0, with no abstentions.

Unfinished Business

- Mrs. Pikul addressed the need for improved acoustics in Council Chambers which would facilitate hybrid meetings. She stated that the former DAS reached out to an acoustics company, whose estimates to add sound-deadening panels was very expensive.

New Business

- There were no items of New Business.

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

- There was not public contribution at this time.

Executive Session

Council adjourned to Executive Session to discuss a potential new hire at 8:37 pm and returned to the Council Meeting at 8:57 pm. No legislative action was taken as a result of the Executive Session.

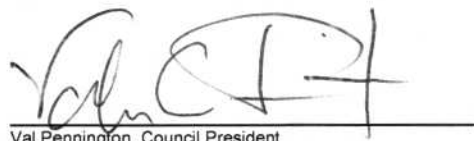
Adjournment

There being no further business, President Pennington adjourned the meeting at 8:58 pm.

ATTEST



Cindy L. Bahn, Director of Administrative Services/Secretary



Val Pennington, Council President