



Borough of Bellevue

Borough Council Meeting Minutes

January 25, 2022, 7:00 pm

Municipal Building, 2nd Floor Council Chambers

Call to Order

President Cerminara 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. Sloane, Ms. Miller, Ms. Edmondson, Ms. Denton, Mr. McKelvey, Ms. Slavicek (by phone), Mr. Stuncard (by phone) and President Cerminara. A quorum was established.

Also, in attendance were Director of Administrative Services Cindy Bahn and Solicitor Matt Racunas.

Public Contribution on Agenda Items

- Tom Hrynda, 523 Roosevelt Avenue: Introduced himself as a candidate for the vacant Ward 2 Council seat, noting his previous experience as a Borough Councilmember.
- Jeremy Thieroff, 72 N. Jackson Avenue: Also introduced himself as a candidate for the vacant Ward 2 Council seat. His goal would be to try and improve the lines of communication.
- Meg Watt, 213 Spring Avenue: Also, a candidate for the vacant Ward 2 Council seat, noting her experience as a community advocate and her service to the Friends of the Library.
- Linda Woshner, 137 S. Euclid Avenue: Stated that the 4-way stop sign at Balph, and Forest Avenues is ludicrous and unnecessary and that people should be able to look both ways before crossing a 2-lane street.
- Glenn Pritchard, 545 Forest Avenue: Commented on the Borough response to the recent fatal shooting, and to directives issued regarding females staying overnight in the fire station during a snow event.
- Jack Davin, on behalf of the IAFF: Responded to Mr. Pritchard's remarks, stating that the paid firefighters were not dispatched to the shooting, and that they had been told by a previous Council not to respond to QRS calls.

Consent Agenda

Items of business and matters listed under the Consent Agenda are considered to be routine and noncontroversial and will be enacted by one motion and one vote. There will be no separate discussion of these items. If discussion is desired by Council Members, that item is to be identified and removed from the Consent Agenda, and will be considered separately at the appropriate place on the Agenda.

- a. Motion to Accept Minutes of the August 4, 2021, Finance, Parks & Recreation, Public Safety, and Public Works Committee Meetings.
- b. Motion to Accept Minutes of the August 10, 2021, Pre-Council Meeting and August 24, 2021, Council Meetings.
- c. Motion to Accept Minutes of the September 7, 2021, Finance, Parks & Recreation, Public Safety, and Public Works Committee Meetings.
- d. Motion to Accept Minutes of the September 14, 2021, Pre-Council Meeting and September 28, 2021, Council Meeting.
- e. Motion to Accept Minutes of the October 5, 2021, Finance, Parks & Recreation, Public Safety and Public Works Committee Meetings.
- f. Motion to Accept Minutes of the October 12, 2021, Pre-Council Meeting and October 26, 2021 Council Meeting.

Second: Ms. Edmondson

- a. Motion to Adopt Resolution 03-22, Authorizing the Council President, and the DAS to Executive Documents Related to the Allegheny County Health Department Consent Order and Agreement.
Moved: Ms. Edmondson Second: Mr. McKelvey
All voted in favor of the motion. Motion carried, 8-0.
- b. Motion to Adopt Resolution 04-22, Approving the Acquisition and Disposition of Lot/Block 114-A-258, 164 Washington Avenue, Under the Allegheny County Vacant Property Recovery Program as Consistent with the Borough's Comprehensive Plan.
Moved: Ms. Edmondson Second: Ms. Sloane
Discussion: Ms. Miller asked if the Borough verified that this property abuts another property owned by the applicant, and the DAS responded in the affirmative, noting that the Council would not approve the application if it did not.
All voted in favor of the motion. Motion carried, 8-0.

- c. Motion to Award a Contract in the Amount of \$47,949.00 for the Demolition of 255 Dakota Avenue and 529 Tingley Avenue under CDBG 46 to WreckCrew Demolition, LLC. (30.430.000)

Moved: Ms. Edmondson

Second: Mr. McKelvey

Discussion: Ms. Edmondson asked about the status of the funds remaining after the demolition, which was bid much lower than the Borough's grant award, and Mr. Kelly responded that the Borough had not yet received a response. Ms. Miller asked about a rubric for determining which properties are demolished, and the DAS responded that it depends on the program under which the demolitions are funded.

All voted in favor of the motion. Motion carried, 8-0.

- d. Ms. Edmondson thanked DPW for their hard work clearing the roads during the recent snow events.

Ethics Committee (Ad Hoc):

- a. Code of Conduct: Next Steps

President Cerminara stated that since there is nothing new, the current version should be disseminated to all Council members for feedback. Ms. Sloane suggested that President Cerminara step back from the Committee and Ms. Denton be added. Ms. Sloane added that the Committee meeting be open to the public for input. This will be discussed further at February's Pre-Council meeting.

Unfinished Business

- There were no items of unfinished business to discuss.

New Business

- a. Motion to Appoint Tom Hrynda to the Vacant Ward 2 Council Seat for a Term to Expire December 31, 2023.

Moved: President Cerminara

Second: Ms. Edmondson

Discussion: Ms. Edmondson thanked all of the applicants and added that Mr. Hrynda would bring Council experience. Mayor Pennington stated that he served with Mr. Hrynda on Council for 2 years and agrees with his statement that he is only interested in serving for the betterment of the residents. Other Council members observed that it was a difficult decision and that any of the 3 would do an excellent job. President Cerminara added that Mr. Hrynda could hit the ground running, and Ms. Miller stated that while experience is valuable, other things should be looked at. Ms. Denton asked why Mr. Thieroff listed Ms. Miller and Mr. Stuncard as references, and Ms. Miller responded that she had worked with Mr. Thieroff on projects.

Aye: Ms. Sloane, Ms. Slavicek, Ms. Edmondson, President Cerminara

Nay: Ms. Denton, Mr. McKelvey, Mr. Stuncard, Ms. Miller

Mayor Pennington broke the tie in favor of the motion; motion carried.

Mayor Pennington noted that he could administer the oath of office to Mr. Hrynda.

- b. President Cerminara appointed Ms. Miller as the Borough's Representative to the Quaker Valley Council of Governments with Mr. McKelvey as the Alternate.
- c. President Cerminara appointed Ms. Edmondson as a Delegate to the Allegheny County Boroughs Association, with Ms. Slavicek as the Alternate.

Public Contribution on Non-Agenda Items

- Tom Hrynda, 523 Roosevelt Avenue: Thanked everyone for the vote of confidence.
- Connie Rankin, 116 Arch Avenue: Stated that she appreciated President Cerminara's comment that Mr. Hrynda brings a different perspective to Council.

Executive Session

- Council adjourned to Executive Session to discuss discipline of a Borough employee at 8:08 pm and returned to the Council Meeting at 9:31 pm. No legislative action was taken as a result of the Executive Session.

Adjournment

There being no further business, President Cerminara adjourned the meeting at 9:31 pm.

ATTEST



Cindy L. Bahn, Director of Administrative Services/Secretary



Jodi Cerminara, Council President

