



Borough of Belleue

Incorporated 1867

Borough Pre-Council Meeting Minutes
January 10, 2023 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. Slavicek, Ms. Sloane, Ms. Denton, Mr. Hrynda, Ms. Edmondson, Mr. Stuncard (via Zoom) and President Cerminara. Mr. McKelvey and Ms. Miller were absent. A quorum was established.

Also in attendance were Junior Councilperson Andrew Beckas, Mayor Pennington, Director of Administrative Services Cindy Bahn, Library Director Ellen Goodman, DPW Superintendent Jim Kelly, Building Code Official Shawn Jacobs, Code Enforcement Officer/EMC Jack Davin, Firefighter Lt. Mark Ford, Police Sgt. Matt Sentner, Treasurer Joe Scioscia, Joint Planning Commissioner Dameon Holmes, Engineers Rob Arnold and Dan Barna, and Solicitor Matt Racunas.

Public Contribution on Agenda Items

- Joe Scioscia, 260 Lincoln Avenue: Noted that it's unreasonable to limit public contribution to agenda items; that a "rain tax" will make people angry; and that he requested payroll data from the Borough and was denied.

(Ms. Miller arrived)

- Dave Gillingham, 154 Riverview Avenue: Stated that he wanted to "caboose" on Mr. Scioscia's comments regarding a "rain tax"; suggested that the Borough find another way to do things.

Reports

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

- Mayor Pennington had nothing to add.

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

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

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

- No comments were made, or questions asked.

DAS Report

- Ms. Bahn reported that she is working with the Civil Service Commission on firefighter testing, and getting Mr. Davin settled in as the new Code Enforcement Officer.

Library Report (written report was included with Council packet)

- Ms. Goodman had nothing to add to her written report, but did note the Library is "awash" in grant dollars, including funding through ACLA for "Baby Bags" and also \$30,000 from ACLA for new STEAM coding kits through the Remake Learning initiative.
- The Library also received a \$10,000 anonymous donation.

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

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

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

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

Fire Department, Columbia Hose Hook & Ladder

- Lt. Ford reported that he had nothing to add to the Fire Department's written report.
- Chief Pritchard stated that it's "still pending what you guys are looking for" in terms of a report.

Police Chief Report

- Chief Sentner noted that he will have final 2022 numbers soon.

Northwest EMS Report

- No representative was in attendance.

Engineer's Report

- Mr. Arnold and Mr. Barna had nothing to add to their written report.

Joint Planning Commission

- Mr. Holmes stated that the JPC is working on their annual report.
- He added that they are waiting for comments from ACED on the proposed changes to the fence ordinance.
- The JPC is reaching out to DCED for funding for a separate eCode 360 site; the JPC would match the DCED funding.

Shade Tree Committee

- Mr. Beckas did not have a report; the DAS noted that the Committee will be conducting a tree inventory in the spring.
- President Cerminara noted that she has another volunteer interested in helping with the tree inventory.

Quaker Valley Council of Governments Report (Executive Director's written report provided to Council)

- Ms. Miller stated that the COG Board is continuing to meet in member municipalities locations.

Committee Reports

Finance Committee; Jodi Cerminara, Chair

1. Motion to Approve Payment of the January 10, 2023, Bill List.
Moved: President Cerminara Second: Ms. Sloane
All voted in favor of the motion. Motion carried, 8-0.
2. Motion to Ratify the Email Vote Adopting Resolution 35-22, Implementing Act 57 of 2022.
Moved: President Cerminara Second: Ms. Edmondson

Discussion: Results of the email vote:
Aye: Ms. Denton, Ms. Slavicek, Ms. Sloane, Mr. Stuncard, President Cerminara
Nay:
Abstain:
Did Not Vote: Mr. Hrynda, Mr. McKelvey, Ms. Miller

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

Parks and Recreation Committee; Jeff Stuncard, Chair

- ## 1. Discussion: Bellevue Pool – Collaboration with Avalon

Ms. Denton reported that the Committee felt there was no benefit to Bellevue for collaborating with Avalon, but that having each pool close on different days made sense. Ms. Edmondson suggested that Avalon and Bellevue recognize each other's season passes. The DAS recommended that the retention bonus for guards who remain into August and through the final weekend again be implemented, as it was highly successful last year. This will go back to Committee for further discussion.

Public Safety Committee; Amanda Sloane, Chair

1. Discussion: North Hills Special Response Team (SRT). Chief Senter explained how the program works and that Bellevue was invited to participate, noting that participation provides the Borough with additional resources in the event of a major incident. The cost is \$1,800 to join and would provide additional training for Bellevue officers. Ms. Sloane stated that the program has an excellent website. In response to a question, the Chief stated that the Borough would not be required to purchase any additional equipment and there is no requirement to provide officers, although he may want officers to take their negotiation training. He also stated that if the Borough's officers responded to an incident outside of their scheduled work hours, Bellevue would need to pay them. This will be added to the January Council meeting agenda for a vote.
2. Discussion: Emergency Operations Plan; Incident Command Training System.
Mr. Davin explained that the Borough must submit its Emergency Operations Plan every 2 years. Bellevue has received a limited version of the full plan, which is kept confidential because of the potential for misuse. He also noted that some Council members still have not taken the Incident Command Training System training, and that 01.11 is the deadline to register for the February class. Approval of the Emergency Ops Plan will be on the January Council meeting agenda for action.
3. Motion to Authorize Emergency Repairs to the Borough's Fire Engine in the Amount of \$1,443.73. (01.411.251)
Moved: Ms. Sloane Second: Mr. Hrynda
All voted in favor of the motion. Motion carried, 8-0.
4. Motion to Authorize the Advertisement of an Opening as a Part-Time Crossing Guard in the Borough of Bellevue, Costs not to Exceed \$250. (01.406.341).
Moved: Ms. Sloane Second: Mr. Hrynda
All voted in favor of the motion. Motion carried, 8-0.

Public Works Committee: Jillian Edmondson, Chair

1. Discussion: 2023 Paving Program.
Mr. Kelly explained that El Campo Industries, Inc. was the low bidder, with a bid of \$564,467, which was much more than he was expecting. He spoke to Columbia Gas, who was willing to contribute \$226,266 with the remainder to be borne by the Borough. He recommended that the Borough accept the bid, and then immediately complete a change order removing the alley behind N. Jackson and Shade Avenue; the latter will be paved as part of the scheduled 2024 gas line replacement by Columbia Gas. In regard to Shiloh Avenue, the bid to pave from Laurel to Ohio River Boulevard, including brick restoration, is \$56,000. With the reduced scope, the cost would be \$462,521 with Shiloh brick restoration and \$406,406 without brick restoration. Borough costs would be, respectively, \$236,256 and \$180,140. Mr. Kelly stated that the 2023 budget for paving is \$225,000. The merits of paving vs. restoring the brick were discussed and general consensus was to pave that section, as it would eliminate the transition between asphalt and brick, and make it easier to salt, plow, etc. This will be an action item on the January Council meeting agenda.

Unfinished Business

New Business

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

