



Borough of Bellevue

Incorporated 1867

Borough Council Meeting Minutes

June 27, 2023, 7:00 pm

Municipal Building

2nd Floor Council Chambers

Call to Order

President Pro Tem Sloane 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, Mr. Hrynda, Ms. Denton, Mr. McAfee, Mr. Stuncard, and President Pro Tem Sloane. Ms. Cerminara and Mr. McKelvey were absent. A quorum was established.

Also, in attendance were JCP Andrew Beckas, Mayor Val Pennington, DAS Cindy Bahn, CEO/Fire Marshal Jack Davin, Fire Lt. Bill Hartman, Treasurer Joe Scioscia, and Solicitor Matt Racunas.

Public Contribution on Agenda Items

- Joe Scioscia, 260 Lincoln Avenue: Stated that he had "rhetorical questions", including asking why the meeting was started with "a lie", why the Borough is "wasting \$500,000 on a self-castrating fire department" and suggesting that the Borough "cut a drug deal with the City of Pittsburgh". Further stated that the "DAS is pushing for a new tax to balance the budget" and "hiding from me what people are paid".

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 May 2, 2023, Finance, Parks & Recreation, Public Safety, and Public Works Committee Meetings.
- b. Motion to Accept Minutes of the May 9, 2023, Pre-Council Meeting and May 23, 2023, Council Meeting.

Moved: President Pro Tem Sloane Second: Ms. Edmondson
All voted in favor of the motion. Motion carried, 6-0

Agenda Items

Finance Committee:

- a. Motion to Accept the Resignation of Sabreena Miller from Bellevue Borough Council, effective immediately.

Moved: President Pro Tem Sloane Second: Ms. Edmondson
All voted in favor of the motion. Motion carried, 6-0.

- b. Motion to Amend the Agenda to Include a Motion to Approve Payment of the June 27, 2023 Bill List.
Moved: President Pro Tem Sloane Second: Ms. Edmondson

Discussion: The floor was opened to public contribution on the motion; there was none.
All voted in favor of the motion. Motion carried, 6-0.

- c. Motion to Approve Payment of the June 27, 2023 Bill List.

Moved: President Pro Tem Sloane Second: Ms. Edmondson
All voted in favor of the motion. Motion carried, 6-0.

- d. Motion to Adopt Resolution 10-23, Providing for the Refund of Real Estate Taxes as a Result of Changes in Assessed Values and/or Overpayments.

Moved: President Pro Tem Sloane Second: Ms. Edmondson
All voted in favor of the motion. Motion carried, 6-0.

Parks and Recreation Committee:

- a. Motion to Approve the Expenditure of \$7,727.64 for Repairs to the Memorial Park Tennis Courts and Surrounding Fencing. (01.451.260)

Moved: Mr. Stuncard Second: Ms. Denton

Discussion: The DAS recommended that Council delay this vote to give Borough staff an opportunity to contact the former resident who indicated that he would be willing to pay for the restoration. Mr. Stuncard withdrew his motion.

- b. Motion to Approve the Quote from Mr. John to Provide an Additional Portable Toilet at Bayne Memorial Park at a Cost of \$134/week Through October 31, 2023. (01.451.260)

Results of Online Vote:

Moved: Mr. Stuncard Second: Ms. Denton
All voted in favor of the motion. Motion carried, 6-0.

- c. Motion to Approve the Quote from Secure Technical Solutions to Install 2 Additional Exterior Cameras in Bayne Memorial Park at a Cost of \$1,714.00 (01.410.268)

Moved: Mr. Stuncard Second: Ms. Edmondson
All voted in favor of the motion. Motion carried, 6-0.

- d. Motion to Adopt Resolution 11-23, Providing for the Hiring of Additional Pool Staff for the 2023 Season.

Moved: Mr. Stuncard Second: Ms. Denton
All voted in favor of the motion. Motion carried, 6-0.

- e. Motion to Authorize the Advertisement, at a Cost Not to Exceed \$500, of Ordinance 23-03, Providing for the Amendment of Ordinance 22-09 to Provide for the inclusion of a Library Assistant Position at \$12/Hour in Accordance with the 2023 Adopted Borough Budget and the Personnel System.

Moved: Mr. Stuncard Second: Ms. Denton
All voted in favor of the motion. Motion carried, 6-0.

Public Safety Committee:

- a. Discussion: Solicitor Review of the Draft Fire Escape Ordinance.

The Solicitor stated that the "nuts and bolts" of the proposed Ordinance make sense and that his only concern is the clause "includes existing" will cause property owners to evict tenants. He believes that a 3-unit property is a pre-existing nonconforming structure, and that the ordinance could be applied when a new tenant rents the unit. Mr. Racunas recommends crafting slightly different language and he will work with the Fire Department and the Building Code Official. Mr. Davin noted that only new construction is covered by the International Fire Code. Mr. Racunas will tweak the language; this will go back to Committee.

- b. Motion to Authorize the Expense of \$3,800 to Provide for Fire Department Training for Pumper Drivers/Operators. (01.411.461)

Moved: President Pro Tem Sloane Second: Mr. Hrynda
All voted in favor of the motion. Motion carried, 6-0.

- c. Motion to Authorize the Director of Administrative Services and the Borough Solicitor to Move Forward with the PLCB Process to Provide for Local Control of Noise Complaints Related to Businesses Serving Alcohol.

Moved: President Pro Tem Sloane

Second: Mr. Hrynda

Discussion: The Solicitor commented that the state requires Bellevue to have a noise ordinance in place in order to cede control of noise enforcement to the Borough, and Bellevue's ordinance is pretty vague. He recommended that Bellevue strengthen its noise ordinance because the PLCB will want to see it before approving the Borough's application. The Borough will need to submit a Petition, a Resolution requesting that the PLCB grant to the Borough control over noise complaint response, and a Map indicating a geographic area for local enforcement. The PLCB will then hold a public hearing in Council Chambers. He further suggested that Council amend our noise ordinance when we adopt a resolution requesting the PLCB to transfer enforcement of noise complaints related to businesses serving alcohol to the Borough. This will go back to Committee for further discussion around the Borough's noise ordinance.

- d. Motion to Accept the Quote from Secure Technical Solutions in the Amount of \$2,665.00 to Provide for Cameras on Lincoln Avenue to be Tied to the Police Station. (01.410.268)

Moved: President Pro Tem Sloane

Second: Mr. Hrynda

All voted in favor of the motion. Motion carried, 6-0.

Public Works Committee:

Unfinished Business:

- Ms. Edmondson asked the Solicitor about the status of a reimbursement to the Borough for the costs of the emergency demolition on Forest Avenue, and Mr. Racunas responded that he has filed a lien on the property, and that the owners have other properties that might also be subject to lien.

New Business: None

Public Contribution on Non-Agenda Items

- Joe Scioscia, 260 Lincoln Avenue: Repeated his comments from the first public contribution period.
- Dionesia Dingler, 45 S. Bryant Avenue: Stated that when she participated in the June 13 Pre-Council meeting via Zoom, she had difficulty hearing.

Executive Session

Council adjourned into Executive Session at 7:53 to discuss a personnel matter related to the Fire Department and returned to the regular meeting at 8:09 pm.

Adjournment

There being no further business, President Pro Tem Sloane adjourned the meeting at 8:09 pm.

ATTEST



Cindy L. Bahn, Director of Administrative Services/Secretary



Amanda Sloane, Council President Pro Tem

