



Borough of Bellevue

Borough Pre-Council Meeting Minutes

November 9, 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. Hause, Mr. Pritchard, Mrs. Pikul, Mr. Stuncard, Ms. Cerminara, Mr. DiTullio, and President Pennington. Ms. Sloane was absent. A quorum was established.

Also in attendance were Mayor Marburger, Junior Councilperson Andrew Beckas, Director of Administrative Services Cindy Bahn, Treasurer Joe Scioscia, and Solicitor Matt Racunas.

Public Contribution on Agenda Items

- Karen Herne, 171 N. Balph Avenue: Noted that the intersection of Forest and Balph Avenues is difficult to traverse and is the site of 4-6 accidents each year; would like to see a 4-way stop.
- John Skovran, 511 Teece Avenue: Has collected 100 signatures on a petition to rename Gillott Field to recognize Bob Loch for his dedication to the Park and BAGAA. President Pennington responded that he has heard from several citizens, and recommends that the Park not be renamed, but that Mr. Loch's name be incorporated in some way, such as "Loch Field at Gillott Park". Mr. Pritchard suggested that 35th Street be renamed "Loch Street" and that it be dedicated on BAGAA's opening day.

Presentation: Tim Frenz, Janney Montgomery Scott and Jamie Inferrera, Dinsmore & Shohl

- Mr. Frenz and Ms. Inferrera updated Council on bond rates, noting that not much has changed, and the Borough is planning to take savings in the first 2 years of the re-issued bonds. They are working on finalizing the financial application and project that the 2017 Bonds will be sold the first or second week of December.

Motion: Amend the agenda to include a vote to authorize advertisement of Ordinance 21-08, at a cost not to exceed \$200. (01.406.341)

Moved: President Pennington Second: Mrs. Pikul

There was no public contribution on this motion.

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

Motion: Advertise Ordinance 21-08 at a Cost Not to Exceed \$200. (01.406.341)

Moved: President Pennington Second: Ms. Cerminara

There was no public contribution on this motion.

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

Reports

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

- No comments were made, or questions asked.

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

- Mr. Scioscia reported that the Borough's bank balances were \$600,000 less than last year at this time.

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)

- Mrs. Pikul asked if anyone had reached out regarding locks on the Porta-John at Bayne Park, and the answer was "no".

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

- No comments were made, or questions asked.

DAS Report

- No comments were made, or questions asked.

Engineer's Report

- No report was provided in advance, and Mr. Churilla was not present at the meeting.

Joint Planning Commission

- Catherine Tulley, who represents the Borough on the JPC, noted that there are 3 pending ordinance changes related to walls and fences, signage, and the Zoning Ordinance. The JPC is hoping to have a website, with links to each of the 3 participating Boroughs for additional information. She also noted that Ben Avon is undergoing the process to develop a Climate Action Plan.

Northwest EMS Report (written report provided to Council)

- No comments were made, or questions asked.

Quaker Valley Council of Governments Report

- No comments were made, or questions asked.

Committee Reports

Finance Committee: Jodi Hause, Chair

1. Motion to Approve Payment of the November 9, 2021, Bill List.

Moved: Ms. Hause

Second: Ms. Edmondson

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

2. Update: Ordinance 21-05, Event/Gathering Ordinance.

Ms. Hause reported that the Finance Committee received additional feedback at the November meeting, and that this will remain on the agenda with additional consideration at the January Finance Committee meeting.

- ### 3. Discussion: LERTA (Local Economic Revitalization Tax Assistance)

Ms. Hause noted that this will be discussed further in 2022; the LERTA Act provides for a tax abatement for purchasers of property where major improvements are made. She also stated that the Northgate School Board President is open to implementing a LERTA program in Bellevue.

Parks and Recreation Committee; Val Pennington, Chair

1. Discussion: Observance of the 100th Anniversary of the Installation of the Doughboy Statue.

Patrick Tracy, Assistant Scoutmaster of BSA Troop 226 did some research and learned that the Doughboy Statue in Bayne Memorial Park was dedicated November 29, 1921. The Troop would like to do something in observance of this anniversary and are available the weekend of November 20th or 27th; Sunday November 21st at 9 or 10 am was proposed. Mayor Marburger and President Pennington would

be involved in the program. Northgate Teacher Tom Michalow will be invited to speak about the history of the statue, and the High School Choir has offered to sing.

2. Installation of the Peace Pole in Bayne Memorial Park by Girl Scout Troop 53314.
Troop 53314 has raised the funds to purchase a "Peace Pole" which will have a message of peace in the 8 languages most commonly spoken in Bellevue inscribed upon it. The Troop would also plant flowers and lay stones to define a path. Approval of this project will be added to the agenda for the November Council meeting.

Public Safety Committee; Anya Pikul, Chair

1. Update: Traffic Control at Bellevue Elementary.
This will be a discussion item for the December Pre-Council meeting.
2. Discussion: Street Sweeping Ordinance.
This will be added to the agenda for the January 2022 Public Safety Committee Meeting.
3. Update: Third Party Inspectors.
This will be added to the agenda for the January, 2022 Public Safety Committee Meeting.
4. Discussion: 4-Way Stop Sign at Balph and Forest Avenues.
Chief Sentner noted that the criteria for installation of a 4-way stop is cumbersome, but the Borough would need to meet PennDOT criteria, including 3 accidents within the intersection proper over the past resulting in personal injury or rendering the vehicle inoperable. He reported that there is a flow rate of 2,000+ vehicles a day, and some sight line issues. The flow of traffic cannot be disrupted. Ms. Cerminara suggested signage that a 4-way stop sign will be coming; Chief Sentner recommended that the stop signs be lighted. The Solicitor suggested that the Chief may need to devote officers to monitor when the signs are first installed until drivers become accustomed to the additional stop signs. Mrs. Pikul inquired about painting the street, perhaps with "Stop Ahead" language. Mr. Kelly noted that the paint is not currently available. Mr. Pritchard suggested removing the North and South stop signs at Orchard Avenue, stating that if there are stop signs at each intersection, people don't stop at any. This topic will continue to be discussed at the December Pre-Council meeting.

Public Works Committee; Jillian Edmondson, Chair

1. Motion to Advertise, at a Cost Not to Exceed \$500, a Request for Bids to Rehabilitate Orchard Avenue. (01.406.341).

Moved: Ms. Edmondson Second: Ms. Cerminara
All voted in favor of the motion. Motion carried, 8-0.
2. Motion to Adopt Resolution 35-21, Entering into a 5-Year Agreement with Waste Management for the Collection and Disposal of Solid Waste, Recycling, Household Hazardous Waste, and e-Waste.

Moved: Ms. Edmondson Second: Ms. Cerminara
All voted in favor of the motion. Motion carried, 8-0.
3. Motion to Accept the Bid of Bruce and Merrilees in the Amount of \$2,750 to Repair the Traffic Signal Damaged in a Traffic Incident on SR65 and Riverview (01.433.249; will be submitted to driver's insurance company)

Moved: Ms. Edmondson Second: Ms. Cerminara
All voted in favor of the motion. Motion carried, 8-0.
4. Discussion: Manhole Lining.
Mr. Kelly reported that he has discussed this with the Borough Engineer and that the cost of lining a fraction (about \$2,000) of what it would cost to replace the manhole (about \$15,000). There is an issue with groundwater seeping into the bricks, and a lining would seal the interior. The lining is bright orange in color, making it easier to see, and adding structure.

Unfinished Business

- There were not items of unfinished business to discuss.

New Business

- There were no items of new business to discuss.

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

- Wendy Blazier, 532 Highland Place: Would like to see the 2018 Ordinance for short-term rentals changed to prohibit them in high or moderate density areas because of the difficulty finding on-street parking. Upon questioning, suggested that owners be required to provide off-street parking for each unit that is rented, not each bedroom.
- Catherine Tulley, 538 Highland Place: Noted that an Emsworth Ordinance prohibits short-term rentals in high or medium density areas. She also stated that the Borough's Zoning Hearing Board has not rendered a decision on this as a special exception to the Zoning Ordinance.
- Joe Scioscia, 260 Lincoln Avenue: Asked if the ZHB can rule on an ordinance; the Solicitor responded that the ZHB can grant variances under 5 criteria.

Executive Session

- Council did not adjourn to Executive Session.

Adjournment

There being no further business, President Pennington adjourned the meeting at 8:31 pm.

ATTEST



Cindy Bahn, Director of Administrative Services, Secretary



Val Pennington, Council President

