



Borough of Bellevue

Incorporated 1867

Borough Council Meeting Minutes

April 23, 2024, 7:00 pm

Municipal Building

2nd Floor Council Chambers

Call to Order:

President Cerminara called the meeting to order at 7:00 p.m.

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 Mr. Hrynda, Ms. Sloane, Ms. Mule, Ms. Templeton, Mr. McKelvey, Ms. Denton, Mr. Disney, Mr. Ellis and President Cerminara. A quorum was established.

Also in attendance were Mayor Val Pennington, DAS Jim Kelly, Treasurer Joe Scioscia, Fire Chief Hartman, and Solicitor Matt Racunas.

Public Contribution on Agenda Items:

Connie Rankin: 116 Arch Ave, asked about the tax incentive for the volunteers and what it was going to cost the Borough also what line item will this come from.

Questioned the Fire Department billing will insurances charge extra or double deductibles if they don't have the correct coverage.

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 April 2, 2024, Finance, Parks & Recreation, Public Safety, and Public Works Committee Meetings.
- b. Motion to accept Minutes of the April 9, 2024, Pre-Council Meeting.
- c. Motion to accept Minutes of the March 26, 2024, Council Meeting.

Moved: President Cerminara Second: Mr. McKelvey

All present in favor Motion carried, 9-0.

Agenda Items

Finance Committee:

- a. Motion to Approve Payment of the April 24th, 2024 Bill List.
Moved: President Cerminara Second: Ms. Sloane
All voted in favor of the motion. Motion carried, 9-0.
- b. Motion to adopt Resolution 12-24 Making May National Bike Month in the Borough of Bellevue.
Moved: President Cerminara Second: Mr. McKelvey
All voted in favor of the motion. Motion carried, 9-0.
- c. Motion to adopt Ordinance 24-05, Amending the personal code to set sick time accrual.
Moved: President Cerminara Second: Mr. Disney
All voted in favor of the motion. Motion carried, 9-0.

Parks and Recreation Committee:

- a. Motion to Motion to amend DCNR grant for Memorial Park to now include replacing playground equipment.

Mr. Disney asked for the location of the equipment.

Ms. Denton asked about the plans and if they were final. Mr. Kelly advised they are complete except for some color changes.

Moved: Ms. Denton Second: Mr. McKelvey
All voted in favor of the motion. Motion carried, 9-0.

- b. Motion to allow the Farmers market to use Bayne Park for the 2024 season, Wednesdays 3-7 pm June 5th to October 30th.

Moved: Ms. Denton Second: Mr. McKelvey
All voted in favor of the motion. Motion carried, 9-0.

- c. Motion to adopt Resolution 13-24 Hiring Clarissia Amaya to the Library Assistant position.

Moved: Ms. Denton Second: Ms. Templeton
All voted in favor of the motion. Motion carried, 9-0.

Public Safety Committee:

- a. Motion to authorize the purchase of 14 Tasers from Axon Enterprises Inc.
Total cost \$68,590.40 over 5 payments from acct (01.410.700).

Mr. Ellis questioned the language of the pricing and wanted to confirm this to be the correct price. Chief Sentner confirms the price is still valid.

Mr. Disney stated he called Axon sales rep personally and questioned the need and justification to purchase 14 as opposed to 5 to share. He does not see evidence to show sharing would be unsafe. He also would like more answers to the questions presented.

Ms. Templeton called Axon and got more clarification on some discussion items and would like to have some of the information before voting.

Ms. Cerminara stated she felt the questions and abilities of the taser had been answered in previous meetings.

Moved: Ms. Sloane Second: Mr. Hrynda
Motion carried, 8 in favor 1 opposed. No vote Mr. Disney

- b. Motion to authorize advertisement of Ordinance 24-06 Volunteer Tax Credit.
Not to exceed \$400.00 from acct (01.406.341).

Mr. McKelvey asked what line-item funds will be paid from.

Mr. Kelly advised it will be a budget decision there will not be any credits paid until the 2025 Budget year.

Mr. Penington Reminded that personnel will have to participate to receive the credit.

Mr. Disney asked if the expense can be shared with the Volunteer department.

Moved: Ms. Sloane Second: Mr. Hrynda
All voted in favor of the motion. Motion carried, 9-0.

- c. Motion to authorize advertisement of Ordinance 24-07 Fire Department billing. Not to exceed \$400.00 from acct (01.406.341).

Mr. Kelly Stated payment to Fire Department will only occur after deductible is paid for other services deductible will not be paid directly to the Fire Department.

Ms. Templeton wanted to confirm no billing will go past the Insurance Company.

Moved: Ms. Denton

Second: Mr. Hrynda

All voted in favor of the motion. Motion carried, 9-0.

- d. Motion to authorize Bona Fide Bellevue's Street closure for the annual Wine Crawl.

Moved: Ms. Sloane

Second: Mr. McKelvey

All voted in favor of the motion. Motion carried, 9-0.

- e. Motion to advertise Quality of Life Ordinance 24-08. Not to exceed \$400.00 from acct (01.406.341).

Ms. Templeton Is confused on what was discussed at Pre-Council and what is presented for advertising also several questions on changes we should look to make.

Discussion followed.

President Germinara asked if we could repeal the motion?

Moved: Ms. Sloane

Second: Mr. Hrynda

Ms. Sloane Withdrew motion and asked to have Ordinance sent back to committee for further review.

Public Works Committee:

- a. Motion to accept HRG's recommendation to award West Bellevue Station Phase 1 Contract to Piccolomono Development for \$141,143.93 from acct (08.429.721).

Moved: Mr. McKelvey

Second: Ms. Denton

Motion carried, 9-0.

- b. Motion to accept HRG's recommendation to award the demolition contract to Green Development And construction for \$42,000.00 from acct (30.430.000).

Ms. Templeton asked about the timeline to complete the project and if it would be completed before the grant deadline to make sure we receive funding.

Moved: Mr. McKelvey

Second: Ms. Denton

All voted in favor of the motion. Motion carried. 9-0.

Unfinished Business:

Mr. McKelvey asked if Mr. Racunas had any update on the Emergency demo reimbursement.

Mr. Racunas procedure is in process still waiting to hear from property owners' legal team.

New Business:

Mr. Kelly informed everyone the USDA is asking anyone with damage from recent storms to go to their website and fill out a report.

Mr. McKelvey questioned the police department's current overtime. Chief Sentner advised due to being short staffed and working details it shows a high Overtime number.

Mr. Kelly Informed The movie crews will be in town again filming at the Hospital on May 3, 2024

President Cerminara presented certificates to Council Members Mule', Templeton, and Ellis for completing the newly appointed public official's course.

Public Contribution on Non-Agenda Items:

Dionisia Dingler 45 S. Bryant asked if the Professional fire fighters have training in how to handle solar panels on homes and businesses in an emergency.
She also asked if someone needs to register their home with the fire department if they have solar panels.

Chief Hartman assured her all UL classes necessary are taken and refreshed. The Fire department gets an update from the Code department when installation has occurred.

Joe Scioscia 260 Lincoln Ave. Does the Borough allow people to store untitled abandoned vehicles on their own property?

Chief Sentner, we have laws to handle these situations.

Joe stated, so we have Ordinances already in place to handle why are we discussing a change.

Joe asked what was being done to West Bellevue Station.

Joe stated we need to watch what is put in the compost pile and if not appropriate notify Code department.

Joe advised if you have a deductible, you will pay that deductible.

Executive Session:

Began 8:17 pm Discussion was held regarding Fire Department CBA and Civil service test requirements.

Adjournment:

There being no further business, President Cerminara adjourned the meeting at 8:35 p.m.

ATTEST



James E. Kelly, Director of Administrative Services/Secretary



Jodi Cerminara, Council President

