Borough of Bellevue

Incorporated 1867

Borough Council Meeting Minutes
January 28, 2025, 7:00 pm
Municipal Building
2nd Floor Council Chambers

Call to Order:

Council President Jodi 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:

Present at time Roll was taken: Mr. Hrynda, Mr. Ellis, Mr. Disney, Mr. McKelvey, Ms. Denton, and President Cerminara.

Absent at time Roll was taken: Ms. Mule

Borough Representatives in attendance: Mayor Val Pennington, DAS Jim Kelly, ADAS Contes, Solicitor Reis, JPC Rep Dingler and Junior Councilperson Pennington.

Public Contribution on Agenda Items:

Alicia Templeton, 105 N. Euclid Avenue, expressed her support for Dionisia Dingler to fill the Ward 1 Council seat vacancy as a friend and a neighbor, it would be an honor to consider her for the seat.

Bri Erskine, 75 S Euclid Avenue, expressed her support for Dionisia Dingler to fill the Ward 1 Council seat, stating she has constantly shown her leadership skills and professionalism while she has served with the JPC.

Brenden Rogers, 236 Summit Avenue, spoke on his own behalf and how he would be honored to fill the Ward 3 Council seat vacancy. He defined his accomplishments in his career and his ability to listen to be able to provide the best possible assistance to the residents and staff.

Presentation

Presentation of Bellevue's Bird Town certification from Nick Stahlman with the Audubon Society.

Nick Stahlman presented Bird Town certification to Ms. Denton. The Bird Town committee will meet at the Borough building on February 7th at 10:00am.

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 January 14, 2025, Pre-Council Meeting.
b. Motion to Accept Minutes of the December 17, 2024, Council Meeting.
c. Motion to Accept Minutes of the January 7, 2025, Parks and Recreation, Public Works, Finance, and Public Safety Committee Meetings.
   Moved: President Cerminara
   Second: Mr. McKelvey
   All present in favor.
   Motion carried, 6-0.

Agenda Items

Finance Committee:

a. Motion to Approve Payment of the January 28, 2025, Bill List.
   Moved: President Cerminara
   Second: Mr. Hrynda
   All present in favor.
   Motion carried, 6-0.

b. Motion to Adopt Resolution 1-25, providing for the Refund of Real Estate Taxes as a result of Changes in Assessed Values and/or Overpayments.
   Moved: President Cerminara
   Second: Mr. McKelvey
   All present in favor.
   Motion carried, 6-0.

c. Motion to Ratify Council decision to waive interest charges of $114.16 on a delinquent sewer bill of 630 North Avenue.
   Moved: President Cerminara
   Second: Mr. Hrynda
   All present in favor.
   Motion carried, 6-0.

Parks and Recreation Committee

a. Motion to Authorize the advertising for the hiring of a Library Assistant at a cost not to exceed $400.00 from account 01.406.341.
   Moved: Ms. Denton
   Second: Mr. KcKelvey
   All present in favor.
   Motion carried, 6-0.

Public Safety Committee

a. Motion to Authorize the purchase of a new Police Patrol SUV from 911 Rapid Response to be financed at a cost not to exceed $20,024.44 annually for 4 years from account 01.410.700.
   Moved: Mr. Hrynda
   Second: Mr. McKelvey
   All present in favor.
   Motion carried, 6-0.

b. Motion to Authorize the purchase of a new Police Station base radio from BearCom Communications at a cost of $6,009.28 from account 01.410.700.
   Moved: Mr. Hrynda
   Second: Mr. McKelvey
   All present in favor.
   Motion carried, 6-0.

c. Motion to Authorize the establishment of a Civil Service list for the hiring of a Patrol Officer and to offer the application at no charge to the candidates.
   Moved: Mr. Hrynda
   Second: Mr. McKelvey
   All present in favor.
   Motion carried, 6-0.

d. Motion to Approve the 2025 Emergency Management Plan.
Mr. Ellis asked we make sure the vice president is updated.
Moved: Mr. Hrynda
Second: Mr. McKelvey
All present in favor.
Motion carried, 6-0.

e. Motion to Adopt Ordinance 25-01 amending Ordinance 93-20, altering metered parking rates.
Moved: Mr. Hrynda
Second: Ms. Denton
All present in favor.
Motion carried, 6-0.

f. Motion to Authorize the purchase of a 2025 EV Blazer from Tri-Star Motors to be financed at a Cost of not more than $21,102.88 annually for 3 years from account 01.413.700.
Moved: Mr. Hrynda
Second: Mr. McKelvey
All present in favor.
Motion carried, 6-0.

Public Works Committee

a. Motion to Authorize the purchase of a Ford F-550 Dump/Plow truck from Shultz Ford to be financed at a cost of no more than $26,754.04 annually for 5 years from account 01.430.740.
Moved: Mr. McKelvey
Second: Ms. Denton
All present in favor.
Motion carried, 6-0.

b. Motion to Authorize the purchase of a 2025 EV Silverado from Tri-Star Motors to be financed at a cost of no more than $21,022.60 annually for 3 years from account 01.430.740.
Discussion followed verifying the shared use of the Silverado and how it will be used by DPW, to see if it will be useful in other departments.
Moved: Mr. McKelvey
Second: Mr. Disney
Nay: Mr. Hrynda
Motion carried, 5-1.

c. Motion to Authorize Builders Supply to replace the Police squad room exterior door at a cost of $3625.00 from account 01.409.373.
Moved: Mr. McKelvey
Second: Mr. Hrynda
All present in favor.
Motion carried, 6-0.

d. Motion to Authorize the purchase of twelve (12) concrete barriers at a cost not to exceed $2100.00 from account 01.430.740.
Moved: Mr. McKelvey
Second: Mr. Ellis
All present in favor.
Motion carried, 6-0.

e. Motion to Authorize payment of Pay App Number 1 in the amount of $186,042.39.60 to Noralco Corporation for work completed on the North Jackson wall project from account 30.430.000.
Moved: Mr. McKelvey
Second: Ms. Denton
All present in favor.
Motion carried, 6-0.

Unfinished Business:

President Cerminara opened the floor to Ward 1 candidates' comments.

Dionisia Dingler stated she looks forward to the opportunity and is very excited to be involved with the community and its future. This is a community she loves and wants to be a part of.

President Cerminara asked, what do you see as the biggest challenges facing the Borough today?

Community engagement.

Joe Scioscia stated I've been coming to meetings for 20 years except while serving, I am disappointed in the expense currently incurred and that we have raised taxes, #1 would be to work within your budget.

President Cerminara asked, what do you see as the biggest challenges facing the Borough today?

Controlling taxes.

a Motion to Appoint Dionisia to the Ward 1 Council seat.
  Moved: Ms. Denton
  Second: Mr. Disney
  All present in favor.
  Motion carried, 6-0.

President Cerminara opened the floor to Ward 3 candidates' comments.

President Cerminara asked, what do you see as the biggest challenges facing the Borough today?

Brenden Rogers responded to the need to get people involved and we need to make sure the people in the community are represented.

b. Motion to Appoint Brenden Rogers to the Ward 3 Council seat.
  Moved: Ms. Denton
  Second: Mr. McKelvey
  All present in favor.
  Motion carried, 6-0.

c. Swearing in of new Council members by Mayor Pennington.

New Business:

There was no new business.

Public Contribution on Non-Agenda Items:

There was no public comment.

Executive Session:

Discussion: Borough Solicitor

Adjournment:

There being no further business, President Cerminara adjourned the meeting at 8:21 p.m.

ATTEST

James E Kelly, Director of Administrative Services/Secretary

Jodi Cerminara, Council President