

RECORD OF PROCEEDINGS

Bellbrook City Council Meeting

September 26, 2022

CALL THE MEETING TO ORDER:

Mayor Schweller called the Regular Meeting of the Bellbrook City Council to order at 7:00pm

PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE:

Mayor Schweller led the Council in the Pledge of Allegiance.

ROLL CALL:

PRESENT

Mrs. Katherine Cyphers

Mr. Forrest Greenwood

Mr. Brady Harding

Mr. Ernie Havens

Mr. T.J. Hoke

Mrs. Elaine Middlestetter

Mayor Mike Schweller

ABSENT:

ALSO PRESENT:

Rob Schommer, City Manager

APPROVAL OF MINUTES:

Mayor Schweller asked if anyone had comments or corrections to the minutes of the September 12, 2022, meeting. Hearing none, the minutes were declared to be approved.

MAYOR'S ANNOUNCEMENTS / SPECIAL PRESENTATIONS:

Mayor Schweller introduced representatives of the Little Miami River Watershed Network for a presentation on the economic benefits of the watershed.

Chris Barnett presented the findings of an economic study done on the Little Miami River.

Testing was done over a seven-month time frame and 43 miles of the river were covered with 24 volunteers with 45 sites. The recreational value is estimated to be 14.9 million per year through a combination of direct spending and the value that people place on it, the consumer surplus value. The Little Miami is an economic engine that fuels Greene County.

The Bellbrook/Sugarcreek Twp recreational value is estimated to be \$596,381 million per year.

Mayor Schweller thanked Chris Barnett, Hope Taft and Bill Schieman for their information and presentation.

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Mr. Hoke asked if there is a way to maximize the value of the river, for example, connecting the bike path in Spring Valley to Bellbrook. Mr. Schieman noted the study shows people are attracted to amenities, and a bike path connecting Bellbrook to the Little Miami Scenic trail would be a great opportunity for Bellbrook, Sugarcreek Twp, and Spring Valley.

Mr. Havens asked if there was a breakdown of the noted \$596,000 local economic benefit per year. Mr. Schieman stated there is a table in the report showing the direct spending and the consumer surplus that shows how those totals were created.

Mayor Schweller read a Proclamation for October 2022 being Domestic Violence Awareness Month.

CITIZEN COMMENTS

None

PUBLIC HEARING OF PROPOSED ORDINANCES:

None

INTRODUCTION OF ORDINANCES:

None

RESOLUTIONS:

Resolution 2022-R-33 Authorizing merit and performance pay for the city manager (Mayor Schweller)

Mayor Schweller read the Resolution.

Adoption of Resolution 2022-R-33

Motion made by Mayor Schweller, Seconded Mrs. Cyphers
Voting Yea: Mrs. Cyphers, Mr. Greenwood, Mr. Harding, Mr. Havens, Mr. Hoke,
Mrs. Middlestetter, Mayor Schweller

Motion Carries

Resolution 2022-R-34 Declaring certain city owned property no longer required for municipal purposes as surplus and authorizing disposal of said property (Mrs. Cyphers)

Mrs. Cyphers read the Resolution.

Mr. Harding asked what website the auction items are sold on. Mr. Schommer noted the website is Govdeals.com

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Motion to Adopt Resolution 2022-R-34

Motion made by Mrs. Cyphers, Seconded Mr. Hoke

Voting Yea: Mrs. Cyphers, Mr. Greenwood, Mr. Harding, Mr. Havens, Mr. Hoke,
Mrs. Middlestetter, Mayor Schweller

Motion Carries

Resolution 2022-R-35 Authorizing the city manager to negotiate a memorandum of understanding for subsequent approval with the Bellbrook-Sugarcreek Schools District for providing a full-time resource officer. (Mr. Greenwood)

Mr. Greenwood read the Resolution and noted he was happy to see this action being taken, as school security is a top priority for the community.

Mr. Schommer noted the MOU is a necessary next step in order to follow the Ohio Revised Code to establish a school resource officer. He noted initial discussion with the superintendent of schools has led to this point in preparation for establishing a full time SRO.

Mr. Hoke asked about any feedback from Chief Carmin. Mr. Schommer noted Chief Carmin has been involved and agrees establishing a full time SRO is the best option.

Mr. Havens noted would like to see “threats of violence” added for mandatory reported crimes within the schools.

Motion to Adopt Resolution 2022-R-35

Motion made by Mr. Greenwood, Seconded Mrs. Cyphers

Voting Yea: Mrs. Cyphers, Mr. Greenwood, Mr. Harding, Mr. Havens, Mr. Hoke,
Mrs. Middlestetter, Mayor Schweller

Motion Carries

OLD BUSINESS:

Mayor Schweller introduces the community improvement corporation discussion.

Mr. Schommer noted the changed items in the proposed By-Laws based on the previous discussion.

With no additional requested changes from Council, Mayor Schweller requested staff to forward the Articles of Incorporation to the State to begin formally establishing the CIC.

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NEW BUSINESS:

None

CITY MANAGER REPORT:

Mr. Schommer provided an update on the museum repairs and renovation.

He also noted the City will not be able to renew the agreement with the City of Xenia for prosecution services. He suggested working with the Law Director to identify an individual or firm to provide the services and bring a recommendation to Council.

Mr. Schommer reported the City successfully progressed through the initial selection for funding through the Ohio Public Works Commission for infrastructure improvements and repaving of downtown.

Mr. Greenwood asked if the water line markings throughout the Old Village would interfere with any of the downtown projects. Mr. Schommer noted there are planned gas line replacements and will coordinate as best as possible with repaving and other street projects.

Mrs. Middlestetter asked if storm water improvements will be included in the repaving. Mr. Schommer noted there will be some improvements to existing catch basins; however in areas where there is no curb and gutter, it will only be repaving. He added that funding for additional storm water infrastructure will continue to be sought after.

COMMITTEE REPORTS:

SAFETY:

Mr. Greenwood reported Officer Alexis Stout had a baby and offered his congratulations.

SERVICE:

Mr. Greenwood noted a major soccer tournament will bring a large amount of people and vehicles to downtown, and appreciates the prep work and efforts of the service department and public safety.

He also noted the major gas line replacement project is complete with final landscaping underway.

FINANCE/GOVERNMENT AFFAIRS:

Mrs. Cypher noted the next committee meeting has been moved to October 5, 2022

COMMUNITY AFFAIRS:

None

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CITY OFFICIAL COMMENTS:

Mr. Hoke noted he spoke to members of the park district about flooding concerns at Sacket Wright park, asking if there were plans to engineer or make improvements to the park. He added there is a future meeting being set up to continue discussions. to all on update with parks department.

Mrs. Middlestetter noted the museum board will be meeting at 7:00pm on 9/27/2022.

ADJOURNMENT:

Hearing no further business coming before the Council, Mayor Schweller declared the meeting adjourned at 8:15pm

Michael Schweller, Mayor

Robert Schommer, Clerk of Council