

RECORD OF PROCEEDINGS

Bellbrook City Council Meeting

January 22, 2024

CALL TO ORDER:

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

PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE:

Deputy Mayor Greenwood led the Council in the Pledge of Allegiance.

PRESENT

Mr. Logan Ashley

Mr. Forrest Greenwood

Mr. Brady Harding

Mr. Ernie Havens

Mr. T.J. Hoke

ABSENT

Mrs. Katherine Cyphers

Mayor Mike Schweller

Motion to excuse the absence of Mayor Schweller.

Motion made by Mr. Harding, Seconded by Mr. Hoke.

Voting Yea: Mr. Ashley, Mr. Greenwood, Mr. Harding, Mr. Havens, Mr. Hoke

Motion to excuse the absence of Mrs. Cyphers.

Motion made by Mr. Havens, Seconded by Mr. Hoke.

Voting Yea: Mr. Ashley, Mr. Greenwood, Mr. Harding, Mr. Havens, Mr. Hoke

APPROVAL OF THE MINUTES

Deputy Mayor Greenwood asked if anyone had comments or corrections to the minutes of the January 8, 2024, meeting. Hearing none, the minutes were declared to be approved.

MAYOR'S ANNOUNCEMENTS AND SPECIAL GUEST

CITIZEN COMMENTS

David Buccalo made comments about public comments at Council meetings. He noted there have been recent settlements from other cities due to citizens being violated at public meetings. He offered a copy of a booklet and paper stating the constitutionality of the First Amendment. He also commented on tree trimming done by AES through Fitzwater Tress Services, noting the City should consider regulating the utility company and contractors activity.

CITIZENS REGISTERED TO SPEAK ON AGENDA ITEMS

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PUBLIC HEARING OF PROPOSED ORDINANCES

INTRODUCTIONS OF ORDINANCES

Ordinance 2024-O-1 AMENDING ORDINANCE 2023-O-6 BY MAKING SUPPLEMENTAL APPROPRIATIONS FOR EXPENSES OF THE CITY OF BELLBROOK FOR THE PERIOD BEGINNING JANUARY 1, 2024, AND ENDING DECEMBER 31, 2024, AND DECLARING AN EMERGENCY. (Ashley)

Mr. Ashley read the Ordinance.

Mr. Schommer explained the need for the supplemental appropriation was due to overtime for the service department charged to the water fund not being included in the original appropriation. The amount of funds for estimated overtime costs has not changed, it was simply not included in the allocation between funds as service overtime is split between the street fund and water fund.

Motion to Adopt Ordinance 2024-O-1 at Introduction.

Motion made by Mr. Ashley, Seconded by Mr. Hoke.

Voting Yea: Mr. Ashley, Mr. Greenwood, Mr. Harding, Mr. Havens, Mr. Hoke

ADOPTION OF RESOLUTIONS

Resolution 2024-R-02 AUTHORIZING AND RATIFYING TRANSFERS WITHIN VARIOUS FUNDS OF THE CITY OF BELLBROOK (Havens)

Mr. Havens read the Resolution.

Mr. Schommer noted the resolution authenticates the annual transfer of funds from the General Fund to the Police Fund to cover the cost of public safety operations. He noted the Police fund cannot support all of the cost of the operations and requires the subsidy. He noted the fund will be at or near zero balance at the end of this fiscal year. In addition, the transfer allows for movement of funds from the Capital portion of the General Fund back to Administrative as the fire command vehicle will be purchased through a lease, thus reducing the initial outlay. Both amounts are included in the original budget and does not change the amount of appropriations.

Motion to Adopt Resolution 2024-R-02.

Motion made by Mr. Harding, Seconded by Mr. Ashley.

Voting Yea: Mr. Ashley, Mr. Greenwood, Mr. Harding, Mr. Havens, Mr. Hoke

Resolution 2024-R-03 AUTHORIZING THE PURCHASE OF A UTILITY VEHICLE AND ACCESSORIES FROM BANE-WELKER EQUIPMENT (Hoke)

Mr. Hoke read the Resolution.

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Bellbrook City Council Meeting

January 22, 2024

Mr. Schommer noted the resolution authorizes the purchase of a new Kubota utility vehicle that is used year-round by the service department. The current vehicle has been experiencing significant maintenance and repair issues causing a lot of down time. The vehicle is used for access to small areas as well as maintenance of landscape and hardscape in the summer and plowing of paths and alleys in the winter. He noted this purchase is part of the approved CIP and the funds are currently budgeted.

Motion to Adopt Resolution 2024-R-03.

Motion made by Mr. Hoke, Seconded by Mr. Havens.

Voting Yea: Mr. Ashley, Mr. Greenwood, Mr. Harding, Mr. Havens, Mr. Hoke

Resolution 2024-R-04 DECLARING CERTAIN CITY OWNED PROPERTY NO LONGER REQUIRED FOR MUNICIPAL PURPOSES AS SURPLUS AND AUTHORIZING DISPOSAL OF SAID PROPERTY (Harding)

Mr. Harding read the Resolution.

Mr. Schommer explained the need to surplus the existing Kubota utility vehicle in order to trade it in for the purchase of a new one. He added Mr. Pasley researched current sales and values of similar units on the government public auction and the vendor for purchase of a new one is offering a higher price for the trade in.

Motion to Adopt Resolution 2024-R-04.

Motion made by Mr. Harding, Seconded by Mr. Ashley.

Voting Yea: Mr. Ashley, Mr. Greenwood, Mr. Harding, Mr. Havens, Mr. Hoke

OLD BUSINESS

Continued discussion and update on 2024 Council Priorities and Goals

NEW BUSINESS

CITY MANAGER'S REPORT

Mr. Schommer provided details on the gas line replacement downtown and the upcoming Franklin and Main improvements project.

COMMITTEE REPORTS

SAFETY COMMITTEE

Mr. Hoke provided updates from the Police Department on a few points.

- Search for candidates to fill two full time police officer positions is ongoing.
- Flock camera contract has been signed and installation will be soon
- Active shooter training in July for officer to include fire department.
- LEADS audit will be conducted in the coming week

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SERVICE COMMITTEE

Mr. Greenwood suggested residents watch for severe weather (snow, ice, etc.) and to remember to move cars off streets for plowing and salting.

FINANCE/AUDIT COMMITTEE

No report

COMMUNITY AFFAIRS COMMITTEE

Mr. Havens provided updates on upcoming community events for residents.

-Lion's Club Pancake Breakfast on Feb 24

-Casino Night hosted by the Chamber of Commerce

-Middle School Play (Mad House) Feb 29, 2024- March 2, 2024

Mr. Havens also provided an update on a recent review to recommend appointment of Elaine Middlestetter to the Historical Museum Board of Trustees.

Motion to appoint Elaine Middlestetter to the Historical Museum Board of Trustees

Motion made by Mr. Havens, Seconded by Mr. Harding.

Voting Yea: Mr. Ashley, Mr. Greenwood, Mr. Harding, Mr. Havens, Mr. Hoke

CITY OFFICIAL COMMENTS

Mr. Logan Ashley- thanked Bellbrook PD for their hard work and dedication.

Mr. Ernie Havens- thanked the Planning Board for a great meeting.

Mr. T.J. Hoke- Mentioned the grant for the Spring Valley to Bellbrook bike path connector will be attempted again in the future.

Mr. Forrest Greenwood- Thanked Blueberry Café for their business in Bellbrook

EXECUTIVE SESSION

ADJOURNMENT

Hearing no further business coming before the Council, Deputy Mayor Greenwood declared the meeting adjourned at 7:56 pm

Forrest Greenwood, Deputy Mayor

Robert Schommer, Clerk of Council