

RECORD OF PROCEEDINGS

Bellbrook City Council Meeting

May 22, 2023

CALL THE MEETING 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.

ROLL CALL:

PRESENT

Mrs. Katherine Cyphers

Mr. Forrest Greenwood

Mr. Brady Harding

Mr. Ernie Havens

Mrs. Elaine Middlestetter

ABSENT:

Mayor Mike Schweller

Mr. T.J. Hoke

Deputy Mayor Greenwood asked for a Motion to excuse Mayor Schweller and Mr. T.J. Hoke's Absence.

Motion made by Mrs. Middlestetter, Seconded by Mrs. Cyphers.

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

Motion Carries

ALSO PRESENT:

Rob Schommer, City Manager

APPROVAL OF MINUTES:

Deputy Mayor Greenwood asked if anyone had comments or corrections to the minutes of the May 8, 2023, meeting. Hearing none, the minutes were declared to be approved.

MAYOR'S ANNOUNCEMENTS / SPECIAL PRESENTATIONS:

None

CITIZEN COMMENTS

Mr. Reagan Ross of 30 West South Street spoke on dog issues at 57 West Maple Street.

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Mr. David Buccalo of 126 Lower Hillside Dr, Matthew Prosser of 152 Lower Hillside Dr, and Michelle Fox of 122 Lower Hillside Dr. all spoke on the flooding back in June of 2021 that occurred on their properties. The residents came to say thank you to the City of Bellbrook for the drainage project on Lower Hillside.

PUBLIC HEARING OF PROPOSED ORDINANCES:

None

INTRODUCTION OF ORDINANCES:

Ordinance 2023-O-2: Authorizing the City Manager to submit the tax budget for fiscal year 2024, to the Greene County Auditor, and declaring an emergency (Cyphers)

Mr. Schommer provided details on the tax budget for 2024 and asked that the ordinance be introduced by the next meeting.

Deputy Mayor Greenwood asked if there were any comments from council.
None.

Deputy Mayor Greenwood asked for a Motion to approve Introduction of Ordinance 2023-O-2.
Motion made by Mrs. Cyphers, Seconded by Mr. Harding.
Voting Yea: Mrs. Cyphers, Mr. Greenwood, Mr. Harding, Mr. Havens, Mrs. Middlestetter
Motion Carries

RESOLUTIONS:

Resolution 2023-R-12: Authorizing the City Manager to enter into related agreements with the Greene County Engineer's office for the 2022 collective paving and marking program and waiving the competitive bidding requirements (Harding)

Mr. Schommer spoke on the annual repaving and pavement marking agreement with the Greene County Engineer. He noted changes in the Agreement includes no longer allowing modifications to the amount of paving once the bid is set. He added the Engineer's Office is asking for signatures on the Agreement so the bidding can begin.

Mr. Havens asked for clarification to determine if the City must commit to spend a certain amount, but not know how much we will get for that because of the price. Mr. Schommer replied the City provides a budget amount, and depending on the bid price returned, that will determine how much paving can be done.

Mrs. Middlestetter asked what the reason is for not being able to make changes. Mr. Schommer replied because it is believed the bids would be more competitive with contractors knowing there will be no modifications after the initial bid request.

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Mr. Havens asked if it is binding, limiting the amount. Mr. Schommer stated in the sense yes. Once the bid is submitted, it will be based on the budget, and there will not be changes allowed with the contractor in the field.

Mrs. Cyphers asked if it is not binding and the bids come back, and they are 50% higher than the estimate, is the City committed to that? Mr. Schommer said no because the cost is based on a per ton amount, and we can choose not to accept the bid.

Mr. Brady asked if we didn't spend it, then it doesn't go back to the fund. Mr. Schommer replied yes it does, as there have not been any funds spent yet.

Deputy Mayor Greenwood asked if there were any comments from council.
None

Deputy Mayor Greenwood asked for a Motion to Adopt Resolution 2023-R-12.
Motion made by Mr. Harding, Seconded by Mr. Havens.
Voting Yea: Mrs. Cyphers, Mr. Greenwood, Mr. Harding, Mr. Havens, Mrs. Middlestetter
Motion Carries

Resolution 2023-R-13: Declaring certain city owned property no longer required for municipal purposes as surplus and authorizing the donation of said surplus property (Middlestetter)

Mr. Schommer explained the Resolution allows the surplus of property that was authorized by Resolution for purchase. The property is turnout gear used by the Fire Department that is no longer serviceable and is expired. The safety equipment has an expiration and is no longer of use to the Fire Department. It is the request of the Fire Chief to have the equipment donated to a fire academy for training use rather than disposal.

Deputy Mayor Greenwood asked if there were any questions from the council.
None

Deputy Mayor Greenwood asked for a Motion to Adopt Resolution 2023-R-13.
Motion made by Mrs. Middlestetter, Seconded by Mrs. Cyphers.
Voting Yea: Mrs. Cyphers, Mr. Greenwood, Mr. Harding, Mr. Havens, Mrs. Middlestetter
Motion Carries

OLD BUSINESS:

None

NEW BUSINESS:

None

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CITY MANAGER REPORT:

Mr. Schommer introduced an active member of the community, Jenn Leclaire. Jenn will provide a proposal and discuss how she would assist in conducting a Citizen's Academy for the City of Bellbrook.

Mrs. Cyphers asked if this was limited to adults, asking if it should include some high school members. Mr. Schommer noted in the development of the selection committee, that idea will be considered.

Mr. Havens stated this is a great way for the community to understand how the City operates better.

Mr. Greenwood asked if there would be any reports completed. Jenn Leclaire stated the plan is to do a pre and post-test to have a measurable of how effective the session was. She suggested having the final meeting at a council meeting to receive a certificate of completion and maybe have a reception.

Mr. Schommer also provided updates on various topics to include:

- The kickoff meeting on the downtown improvement project was held and the survey work will begin.
- The auditors were on site and quickly completed their work. Next step is certification from the State Auditor's Office.
- Staff met with consultants for the placing of the EV charging stations at the library. The project is grant funded and all costs except ongoing electric supply is covered.
- There have only been 4 applications received for the Charter Review Commission after two months of advertising. Mr. Schommer will examine other options to conduct the Charter Review.
- Staff met with members of the Sugar Maple Festival Board and noted how well the meeting went celebrating how big the festival is getting just in the past two years. Options were discussed to allow for expanded use of resources to provide room for expansion of the festival. Mr Schommer also stated someone left the meeting and spread non-factual misinformation indicating he and the City did not want the festival to continue, and to have the City take it over. Mr. Schommer stated on the record that was the farthest thing from the discussion, that he was proud to be part of the festival and community and he wants to see hoe the City can provide additional support to allow for the expansion and growth of the Festival. He added on the record that any individual continuing those comments now know they are untrue and need to be properly informed.

Mr. Greenwood asked if the charging stations will be paid stations. Mr. Schommer stated we can make that decision after a charging network provider is selected in the grant process through MVRPC.

COMMITTEE REPORTS:

SAFETY:

Mr. Greenwood mentioned motorcycle safety and blowing grass on the street. He asked residents to be mindful to not blow grass into the street as it is dangerous for motorcyclists as well as damaging to storm drains.

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SERVICE:

Mr. Greenwood noted his pleasure with the Lower Hillside drainage improvement project, and is glad the City was able to provide a remedy to the long standing problem.

FINANCE/GOVERNMENT AFFAIRS:

None

COMMUNITY AFFAIRS:

None

CITY OFFICIAL COMMENTS:

Mr. Brady asked who does the investigation on animal issues. Mr. Schommer replied, typically it would be through Animal Control; however, our officers are able to enforce animal control laws.

Mr. Havens thanked Mr. Ross for the details on the dog issues.

Mr. Greenwood announced on Memorial Day the Boy Scouts Troop 75 will be hosting a Memorial Day Ceremony at the Pioneer Cemetery.

EXECUTIVE SESSION:

Motion to enter Executive Session for the purpose of preparing for, conducting, or reviewing negotiations or bargaining sessions with public employees concerning their compensation or other terms and conditions of their employment

Deputy Mayor Greenwood asked for a Motion to enter Executive Session.

Voting Yea: Mrs. Cyphers, Mr. Greenwood, Mr. Harding, Mr. Havens, Mrs. Middlestetter
Motion Carries

Deputy Mayor Greenwood asked for a Motion to exit Executive Session.

Voting Yea: Mrs. Cyphers, Mr. Greenwood, Mr. Harding, Mr. Havens, Mrs. Middlestetter
Motion Carries

ADJOURNMENT:

Hearing no further business coming before the Council, Mayor Schweller declared the meeting adjourned at 9:10 pm

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Michael Schweller, Mayor

Robert Schommer, Clerk of Council