

# RECORD OF PROCEEDINGS

Bellbrook City Council Meeting

December 11, 2023

## **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

### **ALSO PRESENT:**

Rob Schommer, City Manager

## **APPROVAL OF MINUTES:**

Mayor Schweller asked if anyone had comments or corrections to the minutes of the November 27, 2023, meeting. Hearing none, the minutes were declared to be approved.

## **MAYOR'S ANNOUNCEMENTS / SPECIAL PRESENTATIONS:**

Mayor Schweller thanked all who attended and participated in the 2023 Bellbrook Light Fight & Light Up Bellbrook Parade and hopes to make this an annual event.

Mayor Schweller recognized council member Elaine Middlestetter who served three consecutive terms totaling twelve years on The Bellbrook City Council. Mayor Schweller presented her a plaque and key to the city.

The Council members thanked Mrs. Middlestetter for serving on the Bellbrook City Council.

Mrs. Middlestetter thanked everyone for their support throughout her years serving the Bellbrook Community.

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Ms. Jodi Martin from the Chamber of Commerce spoke on Mrs. Middlestetter's service and how she will be missed by the Chamber and many in Bellbrook. She mentioned Mrs. Middlestetter is a servant leader, she is humble, honest, understanding, motivated, and always willing to take on the task.

## **CITIZEN COMMENTS:**

None

## **PUBLIC HEARING OF PROPOSED ORDINANCES:**

**Ordinance 2023-O-7:** General provisions of the Bellbrook Zoning Code; light and glare (Middlestetter)

Mayor Schweller asked Mr. Schommer to walk the Council through the changes.

Mr. Schommer provided details on the added section to the zoning code and thanked Mr. Havens, Mr. Harding, and Mr. Foster for working on the details to create a practical policy.

Mayor Schweller asked if there were any comments or discussion amongst the council.

Mr. Hoke asked if we have the equipment to measure, and any idea on cost. Mr. Schommer replied not at this time and the cost is not significant.

Mr. Harding and Mr. Havens stated they liked the new numbers.

Mayor Schweller asked if anyone in the audience wished to speak in favor of or oppose Ordinance 2023-O-7.

Mayor Schweller stated seeing none he declared the public meeting closed.

Mayor Schweller asked for a Motion to Amend Ordinance 2023-O-7.

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

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

Motion Carries

Mayor Schweller asked for a Motion to Adopt Ordinance 2023-O-7.

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

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

Motion Carries

## **INTRODUCTION OF ORDINANCES:**

None

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## **RESOLUTIONS:**

None

## **OLD BUSINESS:**

None

## **NEW BUSINESS:**

None

## **CITY MANAGER REPORT:**

Mr. Schommer mentioned that the Financial Transparency Center has been launched. The county auditor has provided supplemental updates on the estimates for Revenue and he encouraged everyone to check it out.

Mr. Schommer thanked the city staff for their excitement and dedication to the Light Up Bellbrook Parade.

Mayor Schweller mentioned the Financial Transparency Center and the shout out received from Mike Turner. Encouraged the community to check it out.

## **COMMITTEE REPORTS:**

**SAFETY:** Mr. T.J. Hoke provided a reminder from the Bellbrook Fire Department to water freshly cut Christmas trees daily.

The Fire Department applied to the State Fire Marshalls office for a training equipment Grant for a fire extinguisher training stimulator.

**SERVICE:** Mr. Greenwood thanked the service department for the outstanding work on the Council's float for the parade.

**FINANCE/GOVERNMENT AFFAIRS:** None

**COMMUNITY AFFAIRS:** Mrs. Middlestetter provided a recommendation to appoint Deborah Shram to the Historical Museum Board of Trustees.

Motion to appoint Deborah Shram to the Historical Museum Board of Trustees,

Motion made by Mrs. Middlestetter, Seconded by Mr.Hoke.

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

Motion Carries

Members of the community thanked Mrs. Middlestetter for her service.

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## **CITY OFFICIAL COMMENTS:**

Mrs. Cyphers: None

Mr. Harding: Thanked Mrs. Middlestetter for her years of service. He also thanked everyone who helped with the Light Up Bellbrook Parade. He asked about the addresses for the participants in the Light Fight to view the displays and was informed the list is on the website of the winners.

Mr. Havens: Thanked the service department for the great float provided for City Council with a fireplace. He also encouraged the Township to provide feedback on the downtown Bellbrook area as it is theirs too. Mr. Havens thanked the Chamber and staff for the great job on the parade.

Mr. Hoke: Congrats and thanks to Mrs. Middlestetter for her service. He also noted the Light Up Bellbrook Parade had a great turn out and hopes to have many more of them.

Mrs. Middlestetter: Thanks to the City Staff and Chamber for the light up Bellbrook Parade. She also gave thanks to all for the kind words from all who attended her last Council meeting. She also thanked Mayor Schweller and Mr. Schommer for the Christmas Party.

Mr. Greenwood: Thanked Mrs. Middlestetter for her service. He also thanked all who helped with the Light Up Bellbrook Parade. He offered thanks to the staff for bringing the spirit back to Bellbrook.

Mayor Schweller thanked Michaela for the Newsletters and Louis the camera man.

## **EXECUTIVE SESSION:**

## **ADJOURNMENT:**

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

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Michael Schweller, Mayor

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Robert Schommer, Clerk of Council