

RECORD OF PROCEEDINGS

Bellbrook City Council Meeting

February 14, 2022

CALL TO ORDER

Mayor Schweller called the February 14, 2022 Regular Meeting of City Council to order at 7:00PM.

ROLL CALL

PRESENT

Mrs. Katherine Cyphers

Mr. Forrest Greenwood

Mr. Brady Harding

Mr. Ernie Havens

Mrs. Elaine Middlestetter

Mayor Mike Schweller

PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE

Mayor Schweller led the Council in the Pledge of Allegiance.

APPROVAL OF THE MINUTES

Mayor Schweller asked if anyone had comments or corrections to the minutes of the January 24, 2022 work session and regular meetings, and the February 8, 2022 Special Meeting. Hearing none, the minutes were declared approved.

MAYOR'S ANNOUNCEMENTS AND SPECIAL GUEST

None

PUBLIC HEARING OF PROPOSED ORDINANCES

None

BOARD REPORTS

None

INTRODUCTIONS OF ORDINANCES

Ordinance No. 2022-O-2 AMENDING ARTICLE 15, FLOOD DAMAGE PREVENTION, OF THE BELLBROOK ZONING CODE

Mr. Harding read the title and a synopsis of the Ordinance for introduction.

Mr. Schommer explained the Ordinance is to comply with changes to the FEMA flood plain map and regulations and it is scheduled for a public hearing for detailed discussion. There were maps created and included that indicate the parcels in the City that are noted. The parcels noted are being removed or reduced from the flood plain and any resident is encouraged to contact ODNR for details. Letters were sent to all listed addresses by the City and ODNR.

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A motion to accept for introduction Ordinance 2022-O-2.

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

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

ADOPTION OF RESOLUTIONS

Resolution No. 2022-R-7 DECLARING CERTAIN CITY OWNED PROPERTY NO LONGER REQUIRED FOR MUNICIPAL PURPOSES AS SURPLUS AND AUTHORIZING DISPOSAL OF SAID PROPERTY

Resolution was read by Mrs. Cyphers.

Mr. Schommer explained the 2022 CIP authorized purchase of a new backhoe and purchases within 2021 of new police vehicles allows disposal and surplus to sale at auction replaced police vehicles and the to-be replaced backhoe. Mr. Havens asked if the City holds the property until the winning bidder from the auction comes to pick it up. Mr. Schommer indicated for vehicles yes, but was unaware if the City had a cooperative agreement with a GovDeals site for other property.

A motion to approve Resolution 2022-R-7

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

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

REFERENCE OF LEGISLATIVE PROPOSALS TO COMMITTEES

None

CITY MANAGER'S REPORT

Mr. Schommer provided some technology updates as follows:

- The accounting and payroll software update is underway with an expected go-live date of April 1st.
- The new streaming server is installed and live and provided an on-screen demonstration of the system on the City's website.
- The new public meeting agenda system and website interface is live and published. Viewers will be able to search and view the agenda and all attachments by date, meeting type, and text recognition. He provided an on-screen demonstration.
- Refresh of City Website. Mr. Schommer explained the information will be the same but with a more responsive and streamlined design and look. Final design and page creation is underway and should be published in the next month.
- Tuesday February 22 will be a Community Forum for discussion about use of ARPA funds. Information will be provided with the announcement explaining the priority categories for discussion.

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- Livable Age-Friendly community. The City has been recognized as the best place in Ohio to retire and #2 in the Midwest. We have partnered with the Miami Valley Network For Aging through the MVRPC to seek grant funding for a survey to determine where we rank in the AARP recognized dimensions for an age-friendly community.
- The Fire Department received a \$2,500 EMS block grant for use in purchase EMS supplies and equipment
- There have been several code amendment recommendations that are currently in the various Boards for review and will be coming to Council for consideration. There will be a series of additional code reviews ongoing from Mr. Foster.
- There have been several H/R related activities on going with Board vacancies. In addition, Chief Doherty's resignation allows recognition of his service to the community and proud he is moving on as Chief Deputy for Greene County Sheriff's Office. We will examine internal processes for replacement of the Chief, and will be also promoting a Sergeant and hiring a police officer position.

COMMITTEE REPORTS

A. Safety

Mr. Greenwood reported the Fire Department power cot is installed and in use. The FD medic purchase committee is finalizing their review and recommendation. Chief Doherty's resignation is effective March 4th and will serve as Chief Deputy for the Greene County Sheriff. Sgt. Jim Burns is also retiring in March after 27 years of service. The PD will conduct a promotion process to replace Sgt. Burns. The PD will also be hiring a new police officer.

The Blueberry Café had a minor fire, and Bellbrook FD responded quickly and was able to put out the fire without damage. Chief Bizzarro worked with building inspectors, health department and the Café to help get it open and operational within 24 hours. This incident shows the hard work and dedication of our fire personnel.

B. Service

Mr. Greenwood reported the street department snow removal statistics since December included a total of 11.75 inches snow, 2893 miles plowing, 167 scoops of salt totaling 218 tons, 717 gallons of fuel used, and 102 personnel hours of time spent. During the February 3 snow event, the service department also managed and repaired a water main break without interruption of water or a boil order.

Mayor Schweller also congratulated the service department for their work on February 3rd.

Mr. Schommer noted the level of mobilization and capacity for service is extraordinary tested by the events of February 3, a water main break and a significant snow fall at the same time. That is something that should be celebrated, and the City is prepared to take on issues that occur.

C. Finance/Audit

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Mrs. Cyphers reported the City has been notified by the State Auditor to prepare the Annual Financial Report which will be created by Julian and Grube. Staff is preparing reports and data sets for the report, and when complete the City will publish it for public review.

D. Community Affairs

Mrs. Middlestetter reported there are several positions eligible for reappointment in various boards.

Mrs. Middlestetter made a motion to reappoint the following:

Planning Board – Reappoint Denny Bennett

BZA/PRC – Reappoint Meredith Brenigar, Philip Ogrod and Sharon Schroder

VRB – Reappoint Jacqueline Greenwood and Jeff Owens

Historical Museum Board – Reappoint Dwight Bartlett and Shane Russell

Mr. Harding Seconded the motion.

Mr. Havens commented for the future since this process snuck up on us, maybe six months in advance to communicate to the public that if anyone has interest to submit application for boards. He feels at this point it is important to maintain the Boards, and asks as new terms expire we handle it further out. He suggested to have it posted in the newsletter.

Mrs. Cyphers agreed her comment was going to be put board postings in the December newsletter noting the term limitations so residents would be able to see and apply. She added that the Park District has a spot open and noted the City participates in the interview and we should post it on the City website.

Mayor Schweller noted we had a motion and a second on the motion.

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

BIDS

None

OLD BUSINESS

Appointment of City Council Position. Mayor Schweller noted he had to leave the Special Meeting directly after and did not have time to review or discuss the appointment. He added there is an executive session this evening and the appointment will be made at the February 28th meeting.

Nomination and Selection of Deputy Mayor. Mayor Schweller read a section of the Ordinances regarding Deputy Mayor and selection. He opened the floor for nominations.

Mr. Harding nominated Ernie Havens, Mrs. Cyphers seconded the nomination.

Mrs. Middlestetter nominated Forrest Greenwood, Mayor Schweller seconded the nomination.

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Noting two nominated candidates and hearing no additional nominees, the floor for nominations was closed.

A motion to appoint Forrest Greenwood as Deputy Mayor

Motion made by Mrs. Middlestetter, Seconded by Mayor Schweller.

Voting Yea: Mr. Greenwood, Mrs. Middlestetter

Voting Nay: Mrs. Cyphers, Mr. Harding, Mr. Havens, Mayor Schweller

Motion Failed

A motion to appoint Ernie Havens as Deputy Mayor

Motion made by Mr. Harding, Seconded by Mrs. Cyphers.

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

Voting Nay: Mr. Greenwood, Mrs. Middlestetter, Mayor Schweller

A review of the rules noted language for a secret ballot vote which cannot apply; however no language for a tie. Resorting to Roberts Rules, a Motion resulted in a tie; therefore failed.

Council Rules Amendments for discussion. Mayor Schweller asked Council to review suggested changes provided in the packet and prepare to discuss it at the next meeting.

NEW BUSINESS

None

PUBLIC COMMENT

None

EXECUTIVE SESSION

Executive Session to consider the appointment, employment or compensation of a public employee. There will be no decisions or formal actions will take place during Executive Session.

A motion to enter executive session to consider the appointment, employment or compensation of a public employee or official.

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

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

Council entered executive session at 8:03 PM

A motion to exit executive session.

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

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

Council exited executive session and returned to regular open session at 9:37 PM

ADJOURNMENT

Hearing no further business brought to City Council, Mayor Schweller declared the meeting adjourned at 9:39 PM

Michael Schweller, Mayor

Robert Schommer, Clerk of Council