

RECORD OF PROCEEDINGS

Bellbrook City Council Meeting

April 11, 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

ALSO PRESENT:

Rob Schommer, City Manager

APPROVAL OF MINUTES:

Mayor Schweller asked if anyone had comments or corrections to the minutes of the March 28, 2022 meeting. Hearing none, the minutes were declared to be approved.

MAYOR'S ANNOUNCEMENTS / SPECIAL PRESENTATIONS:

Susan Jeffery, head librarian for the Winters-Bellbrook Community Library, discussed upcoming events and recent accomplishments of the library. In addition, special recognition of Joanne Mushala was provided through reading of a Proclamation by Mayor Schweller celebrating her 25 years service to the library.

PUBLIC HEARING OF ORDINANCES:

None

INTRODUCTION OF ORDINANCES:

Ordinance 2022-O-5 REPEALING AND AMENDING SECTION 220.01 OF THE BELLBROOK CODE OF ORDINANCES (Cyphers)

Mrs. Cyphers read the Ordinance.

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Mr. Schommer explained this Ordinance provides changes as discussed to the Rules of Council. The changes include removing the ability to modify the rules by Resolution due to the fact an Ordinance cannot be modified by Resolution. He added the other changes modify the Order of Business for agendas as Council discussed, moving citizen comments toward the top of the agenda for more participation, election of the Deputy Mayor to remove the term secret ballot, and alternate for defining votes using the electronic system. He added the alternate language would allow a standard voting procedure, compiling votes by the electronic system, and any member to call for the yeas and nays.

Mayor Schweller stated he had no problem with the new language regarding voting, Mr. Greenwood and Mrs. Middlestetter agreed. Mr. Hoke inquired if someone wanted to have the vote called, would they motion to call the vote. Mr. Schommer stated it wouldn't need to be a motion, it would not be debatable and be ruled directly by the Mayor. Mr. Havens noted he personally does not like it, but is OK if everyone else is, especially since we can vote the original way.

Motion to introduce Ordinance 2022-O-5.

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

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

Motion Passed.

RESOLUTIONS:

Resolution 2022-R-12 AUTHORIZING THE CITY MANAGER TO NEGOTIATE AND ENTER INTO A SERVICES AGREEMENT FOR NEEDED REPAIRS AND RENOVATION OF THE HISTORICAL MUSEUM BUILDING (Middlestetter)

Mrs. Middlestetter read the Resolution.

Mr. Schommer explained the resolution authorizes negotiating with a contractor to perform the work necessary to repair the structural repairs to the museum. He added it was recommended by the Historical Museum Board of Trustees to approve the expense, and it was planned to identify a contractor that could meet a timeline to get the building repaired and open during this construction season. He noted a priority and sequence of the repairs would be scheduled beginning with structural and ending with cosmetic repairs.

Mr. Harding asked if the cost threshold is over \$25,000 does it have to go to bid. Mr. Schommer stated by law and code it is \$50,000; however, internal practice is to bring expenditures over \$25,000 to Council. He noted we can bid a project at any cost, and typical does so to make sure costs are competitive.

Mr. Hoke asked if there was a special fund for this type of project. Mr. Schommer explained the expenses would be covered by the capital fund, noting the current appropriations for two projects that will not be expensed during 2022 frees up currently appropriated capital funds.

Mrs. Cyphers noted some potential grant opportunities, and Mr. Schommer noted he will seek them out.

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Mr. Greenwood noted the service department maintains the city buildings including the Museum and has done a great job for over 50 years keeping the grounds and building maintained impeccably.

Mr. Harding asked if there was any structural engineers involved. Mr. Schommer stated so far not, that a contractor would have to submit plans to be inspected by the County who would inspect for structure, and there is the likelihood an engineer would need to be involved.

Mr. Hoke asked if there have been significant repairs done in the past. Mrs. Middlestetter and Mayor Schweller noted there have been to the floors and other areas such as windows and roof. Mr. Hoke stated there should be a preventive maintenance plan for the building. Mayor Schweller noted that is how these issues have been discovered.

Motion to approve Resolution 2022-R-12

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

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

Motion Passed.

Resolution 2022-R-13 URGING THE GREENE COUNTY COMMISSIONERS TO APPROVE THE TORNADO SIREN PROJECT SUBMITTED BY THE EMERGENCY MANAGEMENT AGENCY FOR USE OF ARPA FUNDS (Greenwood)

Mr. Greenwood read the Resolution.

Mr. Schommer noted the City had a goal of identifying funds and a project for installation of tornado sirens and when preparing to include it as a 2022 project, was made aware the Green County EMA submitted a project for a county wide project using ARPA funds. Waiting for the results of their decision, he stated it would be prudent to show Bellbrook's support and urging for approval of the project.

Mr. Greenwood noted there is an interest in the region and the project is important.

Mr. Hoke asked if this would be integrated with Greene Central dispatch. Mr. Schommer stated the director of EMA submitted the project and it would be integrated. Mr. Hoke asked if Montgomery County has a regional project for tornado sirens, and Mr. Schommer stated as he recalls the sirens are localized by each individual jurisdiction who chooses to have them. Mr. Hoke stated a project like this would distinguish us then.

Motion to approve 2022-R-13

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

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

Motion Passed.

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CITY MANAGER REPORT:

Mr. Schommer reported updates on the technology projects:

- Payroll system has been converted; however training will occur before going live with a target date of July 1st to stay in line with the quarter
- The new website design has been finalized and live soon
- Permit and code enforcement public portal is complete and will be live on line within the next week
- Finalizing an outward engagement portal to provide a method to seek and receive input on any variety of topics then analyze the input to get the community's sentiment on the topics.
- New A/V upgrade will start the first week of May, with hopes that Spectrum will be on the same schedule
- Future interviews by Community Affairs Committee for VRB candidates will be held. Interviews were conducted for police officer candidates and background investigations will begin.

The City recently published the latest water rate study conducted by Piqua noting Bellbrook to be tied as fourth lowest water rate out of 67 locations in SW Ohio studied.

COMMITTEE REPORTS:

Mayor Schweller noted there was discussion about committee assignments starting with the appointed council member taking Mayor Schweller's placeholder spots. Mr. Hoke will replace him on Finance/Audit and Service Committees.

SAFETY:

Mr. Greenwood reported the committee is requesting a meeting with the School Safety committee to bring up ideas about crosswalks from a safety aspect.

SERVICE:

Mr. Greenwood reported the service department had the interior storm windows installed in the Museum Building.

FINANCE/GOVERNMENT AFFAIRS:

Mrs. Cyphers reported she would be meeting with the School Board Safety Committee April 29 to discuss crosswalks and other items. The Finance/Audit Committee will be meeting in April.

COMMUNITY AFFAIRS:

Mrs. Middlestetter reported nothing additional from the future interviews of VRB candidates.

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OLD BUSINESS:

None

NEW BUSINESS:

None

COMMENTS:

Mr. Hoke highlighted an article in the Dayton Daily News regarding an Afghanistan refugee coming to Dayton and organizations assisting refugees coming to Dayton.

Mrs. Middlestetter reminded everyone the Sugar Maple Festival is back.

Mr. Greenwood noted it was nice to have the festival back after two years.

Mayor Schweller reminded everyone tax day is April 18

PUBLIC COMMENT:

Mr. Jim Froehlick made comments about Pavillion lane and the need for repaving.

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