

RECORD OF PROCEEDINGS

Bellbrook City Council

September 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 August 28, 2023, meeting. Hearing none, the minutes were declared to be approved.

MAYOR'S ANNOUNCEMENTS / SPECIAL PRESENTATIONS:

Mayor Schweller presented a Mayoral Proclamation for September 11 to be Patriot Day and a Day of Remembrance.

Announcement of the Beautification Award for Bellbrook Residents:

-Tom & Dona Erickson
-Stephanie Frank & Dennis James
-Rich Schoultz
-Missy & James Jordan
-Jennifer & Michael James

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-Scott & Suzette Hopkins
-Janice Meredith
-Rick Roberts
-John & Barbara Riley
-Josh Haag & Jennifer Moore
-Bellbrook Historical Museum

Mr. Schommer thanked Alix Holmes for all the great work being done at the Bellbrook Museum.

CITIZEN COMMENTS:

Mr. Buccalo spoke on issues with erosion at Little Sugarcreek Road in Bellbrook, suggesting the planting of certain trees to help prevent long term erosion. He also mentioned concerns about changes at the Bellbrook-Sugarcreek Community Center and suggested the City be aware of what is happening.

PUBLIC HEARING OF PROPOSED ORDINANCES:

None

INTRODUCTION OF ORDINANCES:

Ordinance 2023-R-4: Amending Ordinance 2022-O-10 by making supplemental appropriations for expenses of the City of Bellbrook for the period beginning January 1, 2023, and ending December 31, 2023, and declaring an emergency (Cyphers)

Mrs. Cyphers read the Ordinance.

Mr. Schommer explained the two estimates for the cost of unanticipated repairs to the fuel system exceeds the budgeted funds for ongoing maintenance. He noted the City covers 30% and the schools cover 70% of the costs.

Mayor Schweller asked if there were any discussion or comments from the Council.

Mr. Havens asked if there is any way to relocate to the school's property. Mr. Schommer replied it is possible but likely a very large expense considering the tanks are underground and relocation and re-installation is significant.

Mr. Greenwood mentioned in the past it was looked at to get fuel from a retail gas stations and asked if that was still possible. Mr. Schommer replied the issue is the accessibility of diesel fuel and the cost to purchase in bulk. In addition, 70% of the cost and operation of the system is for school buses.

Mr. Hoke asked if the Township received any fuel from this site. Mr. Schommer replied, no.

Mayor Schweller asked if there was any more discussion from the Council.

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Mayor Schweller asked for a Motion regarding Ordinance 2023-R-4.

Motion to adopt Ordinance 2023-O-4 at introduction

Motion Made by Mrs. Cyphers, Seconded by Mr. Greenwood.

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

Motion Carries

RESOLUTIONS:

Resolution 2023-R-25: Creating the shop local Bellbrook Incentive Program and authorizing the City Manager to apply a credit to City of Bellbrook residential water customers for participation (Schweller)

Mayor Schweller read the Resolution.

Mr. Schommer stated the program is to encourage Bellbrook residents to go downtown as much as possible to shop to help the businesses during construction.

Mr. Havens asked if Sugarcreek Township residents purchase city water, is this through the city that they pay us. Mr. Schommer replied, yes, it is for any Bellbrook water customer.

Mrs. Middlestetter asked if a resident lives in an apartment or condo, and the water bill is paid by a landlord. How will this work. Mr. Schommer replied it is applied to residents with a water account in their name.

Mayor Schweller asked if there was any other questions or comments.

Mr. Greenwood stated as far as billings are set up with one meter for four families, the landlord pays.

Mayor Schweller stated it will roll out on September 16, 2023 through September 30.

Mayor Schweller moved for the adoption of Resolution 2023-R-25.

Motion Made by Mayor Schweller, Seconded by Mrs. Cyphers.

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

Motion Carries

OLD BUSINESS:

Mr. Harding mentioned the Charter Advisory Committee and the nomination of a replacement candidate for the Committee.

Mr. Harding moved to appoint Nick Kuntz to fill the vacancy on the Charter Advisory Committee.

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

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

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Motion Carries

NEW BUSINESS:

None

CITY MANAGER REPORT:

Mr. Schommer discussed the arrangements to have the storm water system videoed from Bellbrook Park across Walnut Street. He noted after that occurs the next steps of evaluating the problem and solution will be possible.

Mr. Schommer provided updates on the Franklin Street bridge work noting he was told the project is on schedule.

Mayor Schweller asked if there were any questions for the City Manager.

Mrs. Middlestetter asked about the crosswalk project, specifically what is the time frame on this project. Mr. Schommer replied when we get the bids opening occurs on September 29, and evaluation and recommendation for award will be brought back to Council.

COMMITTEE REPORTS:

SAFETY:

*Mr. Hoke spoke on the Fire Department and the Emergency Management Agency Grant received for a Respiratory Fit Test Machine to make sure our firefighters are properly fitted for Respiratory Protection. The Grant covered 100% of that purchase.

*The Bellbrook Police Department has helped over the last three weeks with the lights and traffic back up downtown.

*Police, Fire, and the Administrative Departments helped with clean up this last weekend.

SERVICE:

Mr. Greenwood spoke on the Service Department and the project of painting traffic lines will be starting..

FINANCE/GOVERNMENT AFFAIRS:

None

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COMMUNITY AFFAIRS:

Mrs. Middlestetter mentioned the opening of the Museum Board.

CITY OFFICIAL COMMENTS:

Mrs. Cyphers congratulated the Bellbrook residents on the Beautification Awards. She also suggested bringing back the Tree Preservation Committee if trees are becoming an issue.

Mr. Harding congratulated the Bellbrook residents on the Beautification Awards and the entire committee.

Mr. Havens thanked the Bellbrook residents for keeping their grounds in great order. Agreed with Mr. Buccalo on the tree concerns on Little Sugarcreek.

Mr. Hoke congratulated the Bellbrook residents on the Beautification Awards. He also reminded everyone about the Spellbrook event in the park.

Mrs. Middlestetter congratulated the Bellbrook residents on the Beautification Awards.

Mr. Greenwood congratulated the Bellbrook residents on the Beautification Awards. Also, mentioned Jenn LeClaire and Mr. Schommer whom started Bellbrook's Citizens Academy.

Mayor Schweller mentioned the Citizens Academy and how this allows citizens to see behind the scenes. Also, congratulated the Bellbrook residents on the Beautification Awards received. He encouraged residents to check out our local businesses and the Shop Local Bellbrook Incentive Program.

EXECUTIVE SESSION:

ADJOURNMENT:

Hearing no further business coming before the Council, Mayor Schweller declared the meeting adjourned at 8:37 pm

Michael Schweller, Mayor

Robert Schommer, Clerk of Council