

## MINUTES

**CITY OF BEVERLY**

**DECEMBER 9, 2003**

**CALL TO ORDER.** The regular meeting of the Common Council of the City of Beverly was called to order at 8pm, by Council President Bancroft on Tuesday, December 9, 2003, under the provisions of the Open Public Meeting Act c. 231 P.C. "Sunshine Law". Notice of this meeting was published in the Burlington County Times and posted on the bulletin board in the Municipal Building. All members present saluted the flag of the United States of America.

### **ROLL CALL.**

**PRESENT:** Mr. Wolbert, Dr. Cook, Mrs. Richards, Ms. Phillips, Mrs. Setikas, Mr. Hahn, Council President Robert Bancroft, Director of Public Safety Michael Morton, Solicitor William Kearns and Municipal Clerk/Administrator Barbara Sheipe.

**ABSENT:** Mr. Gehm and Ms. Snyder.

**MINUTES.** Mrs. Richards made a motion to approve the minutes of November 25, 2003. Mrs. Setikas second the motion. All members present approve the motion.

**PUBLIC SAFETY-** No one from the public spoke.

### **COORESPONDENCE.**

Dr. Cook presented Gladys Gibbs with an award for her volunteering for the clean communities program. Dr. Cook and all of the children who participated in the program were at the River Line Light Rail Train earlier in the evening and the children were presented with awards and pins and hats from clean communities. Dr. Cook thanked everyone for helping making the program a success and that the children are looking forward to doing it again next year.

Council President Bancroft announced that the reorganization of the council would take place on January 6, 2004 at 7pm. Mrs. Richards made a motion to approve the meeting date, Mr. Wolbert second the motion. All members present approved the motion.

### **OLD BUSINESS.**

Letter from Carol Sheridan concerning her trailer parked on the street. Ms. Sheridan addressed council with concern that she was told to remove her trailer from the city street and that it was a violation to have it parked in front of her house. Ms. Sheridan discussed that she attempted to park it in her side yard and showed pictures of her yard, but the yard is not wide enough for a driveway and that there is a large tree in the way. Ms. Sheridan explained that she is selling her house, her mothers house and her boyfriend is making settlement on his house in January. They are attempting to consolidate the households

and buy a joint house. Mr. Kerns inquired if Ms. Sheridan was requesting permission to temporarily place her trailer on the street while she loads and unloads for the sale of her home. Mr. Kearns discussed that 90 days is reasonable length of time to relocate the trailer. Beverly Haaf, zoning official for the city showed photos of the trailer and that it is not permitted by ordinance to be on the street. If Ms. Sheridan is running a business than she also needs a mercantile license. Mrs. Richards discussed that the trailer is in violation of the ordinance, but also that Ms. Sheridan does not conduct a business in her home, she does not run yard sales regularly and reuses most items in her home. Mike Morton, Director of Public Safety discussed that he and the Mayor had met with Ms. Sheridan in September and that she was told that the trailer was a safety issues as well as being illegal and that she agreed to move the trailer. Ms. Sheridan inquired as to why after twenty years of having the trailer was the city now enforcing the ordinances. Council President Bancroft explained that many people have complained to council about getting the town cleaned up and enforcing the ordinances. Mrs. Richards inquired if there was any place available to Ms. Sheridan to park the trailer. Donna Jordan of 460 Broad Street discussed that she and Ms. Sheridan have been neighbors for many years and that the trailer is always tied tight and that she does not feel that it is a safety issue for the neighbors. Mrs. Jordan discussed that keeping the city clean is a good thing, but that Ms. Sheridan has a lot of things going on in her personal life and that the city should take that into consideration. Dr. Cook discussed that the trailer can come and go to be unloaded but that it cannot live at the residence; it needs to be a team effort to clean up the city. Mr. Kearns explained that the trailer should not be there overnight or for a length of time. Ms. Sheridan agreed that she would resolve the issue by the next council meeting. Mr. Kearns explained that she would be in compliance with the ordinance by December 30, 2003. Ms. Sheridan agreed.

#### **ORDINANCE ON SECOND READING.**

- A. **Ordinance No. 2003-16**, Amendment To Salary Ordinance No. 2003-4, Salary Ordinance For Regional Contribution Agreement Evesham Township. The ordinance was read by title. Council President Bancroft opened the ordinance for a public hearing. No one from the public wish to be heard. Public portion was closed.

Mrs. Richards made a motion to adopt the ordinance on second and final reading. Mrs. Setikas second the motion. At the call of the roll, the vote was:

AYES: Mr. Wolbert, Dr. Cook, Mrs. Richards, Ms. Phillips, Mrs. Setikas, Mr. Hahn and Council President Bancroft.

NAYES: None. Ordinance No. 2003-16 was adopted on second and final reading and will take effect twenty days after publication.

#### **ORDINANCE ON FIRST READING.**

- A. **Ordinance No. 2003-17**, A Salary Ordinance For Regional Contribution Agreement Between The City Of

**Beverly And Mount Laurel Township.** The ordinance was read by title.

- B. **Ordinance No. 2003-18, A Salary Ordinance For Regional Contribution Agreement Between The City Of Beverly And Evesham Township (1).** The ordinance was read by title.
- C. **Ordinance No. 2003-19, A Salary Ordinance For Regional Contribution Agreement Between The City Of Beverly And Evesham Township (2).** The ordinance was read by title.
- D. **Ordinance No. 2003-20, A Salary Ordinance For Regional Contribution Agreement Between The City Of Beverly And New Hanover Township.** The ordinance was read by title.
- E. **Ordinance No. 2003-21, A Salary Ordinance For Regional Contribution Agreement Between The City Of Beverly And Evesham Township (1), Evesham Township (2), Mount Laurel Township and New Hanover Township.** The ordinance was read by title.

Mrs. Richards made a motion to adopt Ordinances No. 2003-17 through Ordinance No. 2003-21 on first reading. Mr. Wolbert second the motion. At the call of the roll, the vote was:

AYES: Mr. Wolbert, Dr. Cook, Mrs. Richards, Ms. Phillips, Mrs. Setikas, Mr. Hahn and Council President Bancroft.

NAYES: None. Ordinance No. 2003-17 through Ordinance No. 2003-21 will be heard on second reading on December 30, 2003 at 8pm.

### **NEW BUSINESS.**

- A. **Resolution No. 2003-112A, Resolution Refunding Property Tax Overpayments.** The resolution was read by title
- B. **Resolution No. 2003-113, Resolution Authorizing A Tax Lien For Property Maintenance (221 Laurel).** The resolution was read by title.
- C. **Resolution No. 2003-114, Resolution Authorizing An Agreement For Professional Services For RCA Consultant.** The resolution was read by title.
- D. **Resolution No. 2003-115, Resolution Authorizing A Tax Lien For Property Maintenance (630 Broad).** The resolution was read by title.

- E. **Resolution No. 2003-116, Resolution Directing The Distribution Of The City Of Beverly Net Returned Surplus Funds Held In Trust By The Burlington County Municipal Joint Insurance Fund.** The resolution was read by title.
- F. **Resolution No. 2003-117, Resolution Authorizing Refund For Interest For Tax Payment.** The resolution was read by title.
- G. **Resolution No.2003-118, Resolution Calling For Rescission Of Specially Adopted New Rules N.J.A.C. 5:75A, Fire Safety Service Resource Emergency Deployment.** The resolution was read by title.
- H. **Resolution No. 2003-119, Resolution Authorizing A Change Order For Railroad Avenue Project.** The resolution was read by title.

**Consent Agenda-Items A-H were considered in one motion.**

Mrs. Richards made a motion to approve the consent agenda. Mrs. Setikas second the motion. All members present voted in favor of the motion.

**SOLICITOR'S REPORT.** Nothing.

**MAYOR'S REPORT.** The Mayor was excused due to work commitments. Mrs. Sheipe read the Mayors report. Mrs. Richards made a motion to accept the report, Mrs. Setikas second the motion. All members present voted in favor of the motion.

**COUNCIL'S REPORT.**

Council President Bancroft reported for Mr. Gehm who was absent. Public Works and the Sewerage Authority were thanked for their hard efforts with the snow removal.

Dr. Cook discussed that the clean communities program worked excellent and that the parks and playgrounds look good. Dr. Cook showed a dress that was made for her for the living history program. Dr. Cook thanked Janet Lowe for her volunteering time. Dr. Cook also discussed that awards were presented to 44 and 48 Warren Street for their homes and also Franks Electric and Dominic's were presented business awards from Clean Communities program.

Mr. Wolbert discussed that BRAG held their 3<sup>rd</sup> annual pre-Thanksgiving meeting and that the city movie was shown. The movie had been slowed down for better showing and that there are people in the city who might remember the movie and the residents in the movie. A discussion was held about the movie and that it should be shown again.

Mrs. Richards wished everyone a Merry Christmas and Happy Holiday.

Ms. Phillips discussed that PSE & G was conducting a coat drive for the needy. Ms. Phillips wished everyone Happy Holidays.

Mrs. Setikas informed council that in January, 250 Warren should be rented to AccuTemp employment service and maybe a consulting firm. Mr. Yates has also discussed placing a large tree on the empty lot at the corner.

Mr. Hahn reserved his closing remarks to the next meeting.

### **PUBLIC SESSION.**

Joseph Wooters-235 Van Kirk discussed that the neighborhood had plowed out the sidewalks and that the county plow trucks came speeding by and pushed all of the ice and snow back onto the sidewalks. Mr. Wooters understands that the county needs to plow the roadways, but they also need to slow down. With the new trucks the snow is thrown further and it is hard to clear the sidewalks again since the county leaves large chunks of ice and snow. Mr. Wooters inquired if a letter could be sent to the county and advising them of the problems with the plows. There was a funeral at 4pm and the sidewalks were cleaned at 3pm than the county came by speeding. The people leaving the funeral had to climb over the large piles.

John Borden-Riverbank inquired if the letter could have some teeth to show the county that it should pay attention. Council President Bancroft explained that the county does help the city with extra snow plowing and in the future with the cleaning of the storm drains. Mr. Borden inquired who was appointed in Resolution No. 2003-114? The resolution is for Carl Miller to do the inspections of homes for the RCA program. Mr. Borden would like to know when the meeting with the RCA program is going to be scheduled. Council held a discussion about possible dates and as to whom would attend. The meeting will be held on January 13 at 10am and will be attended by Doris Sasso, Mayor Lowden if available, Council President Bancroft, William Kearns, Barbara Sheipe and any public that is interested.

John Haaf-Riverbank congratulate the new council members and thanked the council for the appointment of William Kearns, he is a great asset to the city as well as a consultant to the league of municipalities and a teacher for officials in state. Mr. Haaf discussed that he had taken a seminar in Atlantic City with Mr. Kearns and encourage all members of council to attend one of the seminars for elected officials. Officials need to remain committed to keeping current on their positions. Dr. Cook explained that the solicitor often sends educational material to council members and also keeps council advised through e-mails on current issues. Dr. Cook discussed that she is an independent adult and is not to be talked to like a child. She does keep up with the current issues. Mr. Kearns thanked Mr. Haaf for his kind comments and explained that there is a half-day

program in January for elected officials in Cherry Hill on the 31<sup>st</sup>. Mr. Haaf explained that he was generalized when addressing council and that sometimes it is difficult to know that they are keeping current on issue when they do not speak out.

Beverly Haaf-Riverbank discussed that the Beverly Bee has received a good response about the article on the cat ordinance and that several different parts of the city are interested.

Janet Lowe-430 Laurel Street inquired as to why the cat ordinance was not on the agenda and that she was resigning as a volunteer. Ms. Lowe thanked Dr. Cook and Director Morton for their respect. Ms. Lowe discussed that everybody is somebody and that people should address them.

Director Mike Morton remind everyone that Thursday night at 7pm was the Neighborhood Watch meeting for anyone interested. There will be a drill with the fire department and emergency squad on December 18 from 6pm-8pm.

No one else from the public wishing to be heard, the public portion was closed.

**Executive Session.** Executive Session was held at for the discussion of contracts and litigation.

**PAYMENT OF BILLS** Mrs. Richards made a motion to approve the bills, Ms. Phillips seconded the motion. At the call of the roll, the vote was:

AYES: Mr. Wolbert, Dr. Cook, Mrs. Richards, Ms. Phillips, Mrs. Setikas, Mr. Hahn and Council President Bancroft.

NAYES: None.

Mrs. Richards made a motion to adjourn. Ms. Phillips seconded the motion. All members present were in favor.

Submitted by,

Barbara A. Sheipe RMC  
Municipal Clerk