

MINUTES

CITY OF BEVERLY

FEBRUARY 8, 2005

CALL TO ORDER. The regular meeting of the Common Council of the City of Beverly was called to order at 7:00pm, by Council President Bancroft on Tuesday, February 8, 2005, 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, Mr. Newsome, Dr. Cook, Ms. Kinniebrew, Ms. Gillette, Mr. Krzykalski, Mrs. Richards, Council President Bancroft, Mayor Lowden, Solicitor William Kearns, Director of Public Safety Mike Morton and Municipal Clerk/Administrator Barbara Sheipe.

ABSENT: Mrs. Setikas.

MINUTES. Mr. Wolbert made a motion to approve the minutes of January 25, 2005 with a correction to page 7 to change the word transient to transit, Dr. Cook second the motion. All members present voted in favor.

BUDGET WORKSESSSION. Robert Stewart, city auditor reviewed the 2005 budget with council members. Mr. Wolbert discussed that the line item for storm water should be reduced. Mr. Stewart explained that this budget would be for a 6.2 cents increase that would amount to an average of \$53.55 for a home assessed at \$86,000. The city is under the cap amount. The budget is only for the local purpose tax it does not include the school tax, county tax or fire district tax. Council President Bancroft discussed that the last few years have been hard on the budget and the city has seen large increases. Mr. Stewart explained that with the State of New Jersey not giving any money for Homeland Security and no Discretionary Aid the City would lose about \$50,000 out of the budget. Mrs. Richards inquired as to what was included under the line item for miscellaneous? Mr. Stewart explained that this was money used for matching grants. Dr. Cook discussed that the budget was cut for the Memorial Day parade by \$1,000. Mrs. Richards explained that since the city is responsible for the parade along with Edgewater Park this year the budget should remain the same as previous years. Dr. Cook discussed that if the committee is successful in raising money than the city money would not need to be used. Each community would still need give their annual donation, but the committee hopes to raise additional money for the parade and Memorial Day event. Mr. Wolbert made a motion to move \$1,000 from the telephone line item to the public events, Dr. Cook second the motion. At the call of the roll, the vote was:

AYES: Mr. Wolbert, Mr. Newsome, Dr. Cook, Ms. Gillette, Mr. Krzykalski, Mrs. Richards, Council President Bancroft.

NAYES: None.

ABSTAIN: Ms. Kinniebrew.

Mr. Krzykalski inquired if the council should not raise the amount of money in the budget for gas and fuel oil due to the rising prices. Council President Bancroft explained that the city does not pay the going rate for gas; the city has a shared service plan with Delanco. Mr. Stewart inquired if the council was going to do any Capital projects that needed to be included in the budget? Dr. Cook discussed that she had attend a Bridge Commission meeting and they had discussed that an ordinance could be prepared to purchase properties in the city using their financing. Mr. Stewart explained that you have to identify what properties and how much money you want to borrow for the ordinance. Mr. Kearns explained that you need to list the individual project and have the down payment in the budget. Dr. Cook discussed that she was under the impression that an ordinance could be created in preparation of the actual bond ordinance to save time. Mr. Kearns will contact someone on the Bridge Commission to discuss their procedures with them. Mayor Lowden discussed that he would like to do a road project for several roads around Cramer. The roads are in bad shape and the city has been unable to obtain grant money for them. Mrs. Richards discussed that Lee and Putnam also need roadwork. Mr. Stewart explained that every \$8300. is 1 cent on the tax rate. Mrs. Sheipe inquired if there was an estimate available for the road project? The down payment would have to be include in the budget and the cost would have to be known. Mr. Krzykalski discussed that the cost should have been discussed with the engineer and a proposal submitted to the finance committee before the budget was prepared. Mayor Lowden explained that he has been working on getting these roads repaired for about five years. Council President Bancroft discussed that council should allow this budget to go with the 6.2 cents and to create a capital budget plan for the future with figures so that a financial budget can be prepared for it. Mrs. Richards made a motion to introduce the budget, Mr. Wolbert second the motion. At the call of the roll, the vote was:

AYES: Mr. Wolbert, Mr. Newsome, Dr. Cook, Ms. Kinniebrew, Ms. Gillette, Mr. Krzykalski, Mrs. Richards, Council President Bancroft.

NAYES: None. The budget hearing will be held on March 8 at 7pm.

PUBLIC SAFETY.

Beverly Haaf-Riverbank informed the Director that there is a box truck on West Second Street. The Director will have the officers investigate.

Mayor Lowden inquired when the new vehicles are expected? Director Morton explained that they should arrive by the end of the month.

John Haaf-Riverbank inquired as to who is responsible for enforcing snow removal? Director Morton explained that his department has been making phone calls to residents to get them to clean their sidewalks. Mr. Haaf explained that next to the FOP the sidewalk is still not cleared.

Mrs. Richards thanked the officers and the emergency squad for their help with a residents on Railroad Avenue during the snow storm.

Ms. Gillette thanked the officers for their support of the Bess family and their response.

COORESPONDENCE.

Correspondence from Beverly School- a letter of thank you to the police department was received from the Beverly School for the donation of Christmas gifts.

Correspondence from Alfred Desjardins, the Emergency Management Coordinator informing council that there will be an emergency management meeting on February 15 at 3:30pm at City Hall with Edgewater Park and the Local Emergency Planning Committee. Anyone from the City Council is welcome to attend. Mrs. Richards, Chairman of that committee has a previous meeting with the BurlCo JIF at 4pm will be unable to attend.

OLD BUSINESS.

ORDINANCE ON SECOND READING.

- A. ORDINANCE NO. 2005-3, Ordinance To Exceed The Municipal Budget Cost Of Living Allowance And To Establish A Cap Bank When The COLA Is Equal To OR Less Than 2.5 Percent. The ordinance was opened for a public hearing.

Ms. Van Hoy-Warren Street inquired if the same CAP law applied to the Beverly City School Board Budget. What happens if the school does not follow the CAP law? Mr. Kearns explained that the school must follow the CAP rules and regulations as well as the city. The state will not approve a budget that has not followed the CAP law. Mayor Lowden discussed that a lot of things in a school budget are outside of CAP. Mr. Kearns explained that with the new CAP laws many of the line items, placed outside of cap have been placed back inside of cap and it is causing school districts to relook at their budgets.

Mrs. Richards made a motion to adopt Ordinance No. 2005-3 on second reading, Mr. Wolbert second the motion. At the call of the roll, the vote was:

AYES: Mr. Wolbert, Mr. Newsome, Dr. Cook, Ms. Kinniebrew, Ms. Gillette, Mr. Krzykalski, Mrs. Richards, Council President Bancroft.

NAYES: None. The ordinance was passed on second and final reading and will be published according to law.

NEW BUSINESS.

- A. Resolution No. 2005-20, Resolution of the City of Beverly Authorizing Entry Into A Subordination Agreement With Respect To 466 Cooper Street, Beverly, NJ.
- B. Resolution No. 2005-21, Resolution of the City of Beverly Authorizing Entry Into A Subordination Agreement With Respect To 210 Magnolia Street, Beverly, NJ.

Mrs. Richards made a motion to approve Resolution No. 2005-20 and Resolution No. 2005-21, Mr. Newsome second the motion. At the call of the roll, the vote was:

AYES: Mr. Wolbert, Mr. Newsome, Dr. Cook, Ms. Kinniebrew, Ms. Gillette, Mr. Krzykalski, Mrs. Richards and Council President Bancroft.

NAYES: None.

C. Payment of Bills. Mr. Newsome requested some clarification of line item 32, reimbursement, Council President Bancroft explained that this money was in an escrow account and since the event never took place the money needed to be refunded. Mr. Newsome also inquired about line item 40 for M & R. Mrs. Sheipe explained that this was the monthly fee for the animal control officer. Mr. Newsome made a motion approve the bill list. Mr. Wolbert second the motion. At the call of the roll, the vote was:

AYES: Mr. Wolbert, Mr. Newsome, Dr. Cook, Ms. Kinniebrew, Ms. Gillette, Mr. Krzykalski, Mrs. Richards and Council President Bancroft.

NAYES: None.

SOLICITOR'S REPORT.

MAYOR'S REPORT.

Mayor Lowden reported that the planning board will be hearing the application of Hall's Bus Service at the February 16th meeting. The board will also be reorganizing for the year.

COUNCIL REPORTS

Mr. Newsome thanked everyone for their work on the budget.

Dr. Cook reported that she and Mrs. Richards attended a Burlington County Bridge Commission meeting. There is a Memorial Day parade meeting at 1pm on 2/9 at the Edgewater Park Municipal Building. Dr. Cook announced that the NJ Water Co. and Frank DelToro will be hosting a 4th of July barbecue at the Riverfront in Beverly with fireworks to follow afterwards. Mr. DelToro will attend a city council meeting to explain the details at a later meeting.

Ms. Kinniebrew discussed that herself, Ms. Gillette and Mr. Newsome had attend a seminar on elected and newly elected officials on February 5. Mr. Kearns was one of the speakers. Ms. Kinniebrew reported that the seminar was very helpful and informative and of great interest to her as a new elected official.

Ms. Gillette reported that she also enjoyed the seminar and that Mr. Kearns was very informative. They had discussed that there was penalties and fines for elected and appointed officials accepting contributions or gifts. Mr. Kearns reviewed the fines and the guidelines for gifts to employees and elected officials. Ms. Gillette will attend the meeting that Assemblyman Conway and Connors are hosting on February 9 at the Willingboro Public Library at the New Town Center regarding the National Union of American Families.

Mr. Krzykalski discussed that each council member was given a survey about animals in the City of Beverly. These surveys will be mailed out to all of the

residents in the city. The grant money from Mr. Stoll will pay for the mailings. Mr. Stoll will appear at the March 8th meeting to do a presentation on the feral cats and his program.

Mrs. Richards reported that she and several employees attend the annual BurlCo JIF breakfast. The city was given a certificate.

Council President Bancroft invited anyone from council to attend a meeting that he had schedule with Vic Vittorino to discuss grants. It will be at 1pm on Wednesday, February 9th.

PUBLIC SESSION.

John Haaf-Riverbank inquired as to what happen to the municipal lot ordinance regarding the parking? Council President Bancroft explained that the resident in the area did not want it. Mrs. Richards respond that the committee felt that it would cause more traffic problems on Cooper and Warren Street. Mr. Haaf inquired about the RFP progress? Dr. Cook discussed that since the water company owns the land they don not need one for their property and that the city is still working on the process. Mr. Haaf inquired as to what the water company was announcing and doing a ribbon cutting on the 4th of July for? Dr. Cook explained that it was not an actual ribbon cutting just like a store opening, but that the Mr. Del Toro will address the city council at later date. Mr. Haaf thanked the council members for attending the seminars.

Karen VanHoy-Warren Street inquired as to whom the attorney for the school board was? Mayor Lowden replied that it was Stephen Mushinski of Parker and McCay of Mount Laurel.

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

EXECUTIVE SESSION-Council went into executive session for the discussion of contracts. Council returned to public session.

City Council returned to public session. A discussion was held on Habitat for Humanity request to forgive back taxes that are due the City in the amount of \$6621. Habitat has acquired the property at 219 Broad Street and will be demolishing the property. A discussion was held that the property should remain with Habitat and if sold separately that the money is repaid to the city. Also the city would like to know the time line of the demolition project.

Ms. Kinniebrew made a motion to accept Habitat's requests to forgive the taxes owed the City in the amount of \$6621. Mr. Wolbert second the motion. At the call of the roll, the vote was:

AYES: Mr. Wolbert, Mr. Newsome, Dr. Cook, Ms. Kinniebrew, Ms. Gillette, Mr. Krzykalski, Mrs. Richards, Council President Bancroft.

NAYES: None.

The Administrator will send a letter to Habitat requesting a timeline of demolition and that the council will forgive the back tax amount if Habitat remains in control of the property.

ADJOURNMENT. Mr. Wolbert made a motion to adjourn, Mr. Newsome second the motion. All members voted in favor.

Submitted by,

**Barbara A. Sheipe RMC
Municipal Clerk**