

## MINUTES

**CITY OF BEVERLY**

**MARCH 23, 2004**

**CALL TO ORDER.** The regular meeting of the Common Council of the City of Beverly was called to order at 7:30pm, by Council President Bancroft on Tuesday, March 23, 2004, 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, Mr. Williams, Ms. Gillette, Mr. Krzykalski, Mrs. Richards, Ms. Setikas, Council President Robert Bancroft, Mayor Robert Lowden, Solicitor William Kearns, Director of Public Safety Mike Morton and Municipal Clerk/Administrator Barbara Sheipe.

**ABSENT:** None.

**MINUTES.** Mrs. Richards made a motion to approve the minutes of March 9, 2004, Mrs. Setikas second the motion. All members approve the motion.

**PUBLIC SAFETY.** Mr. Szutarski-332 Putman Street discussed with the Director that he had called the police department for paint ball guns with kids in the area and also that his car had been scratched. Mr. Szutarski feels that there are more kids out at night wandering the streets. Director Morton replied that the officers are working on the paint ball guns and have removed several from the children that are causing damage.

### **COORESPONDENCE.**

Mayor Lowden read a letter from Mr. and Mrs. Owens of Nichols Avenue for the city's help with signage for no hunting on the adjoining property.

### **OLD BUSINESS.**

Council President Bancroft informed the public that the budget hearing would be continued until the city hears from the state on the aid that was requested.

**NEW BUSINESS.** ; Items A through E will be enacted as a single motion needing no discussion. Any item requiring discussion will be removed from the Consent Agenda.

- A. **Resolution No. 2004-29, Resolution Creating Temporary Emergency Appropriations.**
- B. **Resolution No. 2004-30, Resolution To Amend 2004 Budget.**
- C. **Resolution No. 2004-31, Resolution Authorizing Participation Of The City Of Beverly, Burlington County NJ In The State Development And Redevelopment Plan Cross-Acceptance Process.**
- D. **Resolution No. 2004-32, Resolution Authorizing Participation In The Burlington County Shared Services Forum.**
- E. **Treasurers Report.**
- F. **Payment of Bills.**

Mr. Wolbert requested that the payment of bills be removed from the consent agenda for discussion.

Mayor Lowden requested that Resolution No. 2004-31 appoint Harry Van Sciver and himself to the committee for the cross-acceptance plan. Also that Robert Bancroft and Dr. Gail Cook be appointed to the Shared Services Committee.

Mrs. Richards made a motion to approve the consent agenda, Mr. Wolbert second the motion. At the call of the roll, the vote was:

Ayes: Mr. Wolbert, Mr. Newsome, Dr. Cook, Mr. Williams, Ms. Gillette, Mr. Krzykalski, Mrs. Richards, Ms. Setikas and Council President Bancroft.

Nays: None.

**PAYMENT OF BILLS.** Mr. Wolbert requested that line 15-Purchase Power vendor be changed to \$775.97 and that the bill for the Beverly Fire Commissioners be pulled until the council obtains a clarification on the bill. Mr. Wolbert made a motion to approve the bills with the corrections. Mrs. Richards second the motion. At the call of the roll, the vote was:

Ayes: Mr. Wolbert, Mr. Newsome, Dr. Cook, Mr. Williams, Ms. Gillette, Mr. Krzykalski, Mrs. Richards, Ms. Setikas and Council President Bancroft.

Nays: None.

**WORK SESSION.** City council discussed the revisions to the new personnel manual and policy procedure. Mr. Williams recommend that the time line for discipline be placed into bold print. Council held a discussion on Columbus Day and the decision was made to remove the holiday from the list. Council President Bancroft requested that the paragraph stating that employees with twenty-five years of service would receive paid health care after retirement be removed. City Council also agreed to Bereavement Leave Policy to be three (3) paid days for each death and five (5) paid days if the death requires the employee to go out of state. The employee has the right to use sick time for additional bereavement leave if determined to be necessary. There will be additional wording on

Educational assistance policy to state that the City will only reimburse employees for courses that are determined to be work related and only to the achievement of a Bachelor Degree. Council will review the changes for approval at the next meeting.

**Ordinance for Police Salaries.** City Council will hold this ordinance until the solicitors has prepared the contract.

**Resolution No. 2004-33,** Resolution Binding The City of Beverly To Purchase Electric Generation Service Pursuant To A Multi-Government Energy Aggregation contract Through The Burlington County Cooperative Pricing System. This resolution will allow the city to participate with the county in going out for bids for electric. This would allow the city to receive more economical rates for the utility. The county will reject any bids that would cost more than the current rates. Mrs. Richards made a motion to approve the resolution, Mr. Williams second the motion. All members voted in favor of the resolution.

**SOLICITOR'S.** None.

#### **MAYOR'S REPORT.**

Mayor Lowden discussed a letter from the NJLM concerning the transportation funding decisions that will be made in Washington. The league is requesting that the municipalities send a resolution supporting the federal transportation reauthorization.

**Resolution No. 2004-34,** Resolution Of the City Of Beverly Supporting The Federal Transportation Reauthorization. The resolution was read by title. Mrs. Richards made a motion to approve the resolution, Ms. Gillette second the motion. All members voted in favor of the resolution.

Mayor Lowden discussed that the planning board had granted an extension to Habitat for Humanity for their office on Broad Street. The board also continue the application of Carole Moore for a coffee shop at 647 Cooper Street. Mayor also informed council that Habitat was looking into purchasing Mrs. Carries house and was inquiring if the city would allow the property interest on the taxes to be forgiven so that they may acquire the property, rehab the property and placed it on the market for homeownership.

#### **COUNCIL'S REPORT.**

Mr. Wolbert informed council that he had received the stormwater packet from the state and would be reviewing the information with the engineer. Mr. Wolbert suggested that the new members of council review the tapes that were provide from the Burlington County JIF dealing with public meetings.

Mr. Newsome discussed that he had met with Beverly Morgan, city treasurer and had some questions about the state transportation grant money line item. Mayor Lowden explained that it was basically money in from the state and back out to the contractors or engineers. Council recommends that if Mr. Newsome had any further questions, he could

contact Barbara Sheipe the clerk/administrator. Mr. Newsome talked about his ride on the Riverline and that it was an added improvement to the area.

Dr. Cook informed council that on philly1.com there is a video about the train and several pictures taken from the train. The Dunks Ferry Fund honored Mr. Messey for the painting of the watchcase factory on Monday March 12 in Riverside. The picture will hang in Riverside City Hall. A copy of the picture was present from the Dunks Ferry Fund for the City of Beverly and a resolution from the City of Riverside thanking the Dunks Ferry Fund for their contribution. Dr. Cook discussed that she will be working with Mrs. Setikas this year on the clean communities program that will be starting soon.

Mr. Williams discussed that he had taken the train ride and that it was an excellent experience.

Ms. Gillette advised council that the funeral services for Mrs. Clinton would be held on Saturday morning at the Baptist Church, the viewing would be from 9-11am. Ms. Gillette discussed that there is information on Breast Cancer Awareness at the city post office and that she has given out train schedules to the businesses in the area. Catholic Charities sent in a letter of thanks for the donation of the coats. Ms. Gillette will pick up the Easter candy donations by April 1<sup>st</sup>.

Mr. Krzykalski discussed that he had attend a redevelopment conference in Glassboro on March 19 at Rowan's. Jim Florio was the key speaker and also Susan Bass Levin. There were individuals and companies that will be coordinating to reach out to developers. Mr. Krzykalski informed council that he would like to be on the economic redevelopment committee. Mayor Lowden explained the council is the redevelopment authority in the city. Council President Bancroft thanked Mark for attending the seminar and gathering the information for the city. Mr. Krzykalski discussed that there is help available from private industry as well as from the state.

Mrs. Setikas discussed that the train ride was beautiful, but that there were bicycles lying all over the train station. The children did not attempt to remove them. Also that when she walked along Cooper Street there were several houses that had yards that need some major attention. Mrs. Setikas will be working with Dr. Cook on Clean Communities in addition to the Library program for children. The children will be taking pictures before the work is started and after the project is completed. The blueprints of the bank parking lot look good and will be starting soon.

Council President Bancroft inquired as to whom from council would be attending the Shared Services Forum on March 31 at 9am. Dr. Cook, Mrs. Richards and Council President Bancroft will attend the forum.

### **PUBLIC SESSION.**

John Borden-discussed that with the energy arrangement with county would this commit the City to accepting the bids. Mr. Kearns explained that the bids received would have to

be better than the current rates and that the city is not locked into a contract with the county. Mr. Borden inquired if the school would be involved in the agreement. Mayor Lowden will call the school to see if they have been contacted. Mr. Borden caution the council to think hard before giving free interest to Habitat for Humanity, there is no cost benefit to the city and that it is only a temporary solution for the problem.

Beverly Haaf-124 Riverbank address council as the city zoning officer. Carole Moore had stated at the planning board that her check was returned for a mercantile license and that she was not sure of the reason. Mrs. Haaf had a copy of the letter that was sent to Mrs. Moore if council wished to see why the check was returned. Council President Bancroft explained that the letter would be clarified in the minutes of the planning board.

John Haaf-124 Riverbank invited council and the audience to the Methodist Church on April 4 at 7:30pm for combined choirs on Palm Sunday. Mr. Haaf also discussed that he had informed council about the Easter tree in the school and that the names for the families had jumped from 41 to 53. The church was looking for additional help from anyone who wished to contribute so that all of the families could be helped.

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

**EXECUTIVE SESSION.** Mr. Wolbert made a motion for a closed session for the discussion of personnel and contracts, Mrs. Richards second the motion. All members were in favor. City Council returned to public session. No further action was taken.

Submitted by,

Barbara A. Sheipe RMC  
Municipal Clerk