

## MINUTES

**CITY OF BEVERLY**

**MARCH 9, 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 9, 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, 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 February 24, 2004, Mr. Wolbert second the motion. All members present approve the motion with the correction.

**PUBLIC SAFETY.** Mr. Wolbert discussed that the report shows that there has been a reduction in the number of calls that the officers which should show that the crime rate is down. Director Morton attributed it to aggressive patrolling. Director Morton advised council that the police department had received a grant for body armour that will help with the purchase of two armours. No one from the public wished to be heard.

### **COORESPONDENCE.**

Mayor Lowden announced that the city had received \$4,000.00 from the state for clean communities. This money will be used to help keep the clean kids community program running that was started last year by Dr. Cook.

**Resolution No. 2004-3, Resolution From The City Planning Board Concerning Chapters 16-18 Of The Land Use Ordinances.** This is the resolution from the planning board remitting the land use ordinances back to council for their approval. There were a few changes that the board recommends; the number of copies should be changed to 20 copies and the word minister deleted from the section. Mrs. Richards inquired as to why the board needed 20 copies. If there are only 9 members plus 2 alternates why 20 copies. Mr. Kearns explained that the board members get copies, the engineer, the lawyers and

the city clerk keeps one on file. If there are additional copies they can be destroyed after the application is heard. City Council decided to have an applicant file 16 copies, but be prepared if needed to file 5 additional copies. Mrs. Richards discussed that the escrow account money has always been in the treasurer office. City Council will introduce the ordinance at the April 13, 2004 meeting. There will be a public hearing on the land use ordinances on April 27, 2004.

Mrs. Richards made a motion to accept the resolution, Mrs. Setikas 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.

### **OLD BUSINESS.**

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

**Ordinance No. 2004-3,** An Ordinance To Exceed Index Rate: Index Rate Less Than 5% Limitation For The Year 2004 (N.J.S.A. 40A.4-45.14). The ordinance was read by title.

Council President Bancroft opened the ordinance to the public.

Mr. Borden requested an explanation of what the ordinance allows the city to do. Mr. Kearns explained that the ordinance allows the city to increase the budget items to 5% cap over last year line item. Mr. Williams inquired if the wording was correct on the reading of the ordinance. The council held a discussion and decided to clarify the wording of the ordinance.

Mr. Williams made a motion to adopt Ordinance No. 2004-3 with the clarification of the wording on second and final reading, 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. The ordinance was passed on second and final reading and will be published according to law.

**Ordinance No. 2004-4,** An Ordinance Amending Chapter BH: 1 Of The Code Of The City Of Beverly To Establish Food Manager Training Requirements. The ordinance was read by title.

Council President Bancroft opened the ordinance to the public. No one wishing to be heard the public hearing was closed.

Mrs. Richards made a motion to adopt Ordinance No. 2004-4 on second and final reading, Mr. Newsome 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. The ordinance was passed on second and final reading and will be published according to law.

**NEW BUSINESS.** : Items A through D will be enacted as a single motion needing no discussion. Any item requiring discussion will be removed from the Consent Agenda. All Consent Agenda items will be reflected in full in the official minute

- A. **Resolution No. 2004-24, Resolution Imposing A Lien. (221 Laurel Street).** The resolution was read by title.
- B. **Resolution No. 2004-25, Resolution For Member Participation In A Cooperative System. (shared trash services).** The resolution was read by title.
- C. **Resolution No. 2004-26, Resolution For The Burlington County Municipal Joint Insurance Fund Safety Contract.** The resolution was read by title.
- D. **Resolution No. 2004-27, Resolution Authorizing The Tax Assessor To Represent The City of Beverly.** The resolution was read by title.

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.

Mr. Kearns requested that Resolution No. 2004-27, be amended to read that the tax assessor as well as the city solicitor are authorized to execute stipulations of settlement on behalf of the City of Beverly.

Mr. Williams made a motion to amend Resolution No. 2004-27, 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.

**SOLICITOR'S.** Mr. Kearns explained that he arrived late due to the death of a friend of his. Mr. Kearns requested an executive session to review contracts..

**MAYOR'S REPORT.**

Mayor Lowden discussed that the city had sent in a request for discretionary aid to the state in the amount of \$300,000 to help off set the tax increase. The Riverline Rail will start on March 13, 2004. It will be stopping in Beverly that day at 12:12 to pick up some of the members of council.

**COUNCIL'S REPORT.**

Mr. Wolbert discussed that planning board would meet on March 17<sup>th</sup> at 7pm.

Mr. Newsome discussed that he is meeting with Beverly Morgan to discuss and go over the budget.

Dr. Cook requested a letter be sent to the Stover family for their recent death. Dr. Cook reviewed the educational seminar on Cancer Awareness that she and Mrs. Richards attend at the Lourdes hospital in Willingboro. Dr. Cook read to the children in Beverly City and Burlington Township for the annual read to your child month. The schools sponsor people reading to the classrooms to promote reading to your child. Clean Communities program will need volunteers to help with the programs. On Monday, March 15 there will be a program in the evening for the Riverline and the Watchcase Tower. Volunteers are needed.

Mr. Williams discussed that he had contacted his instructor from school that he had about twenty years ago. His past instructor would like to come and walk around the city.

Ms. Gillette discussed that cancer awareness information can be given out to the churches to help reach out to the community. Ms. Gillette will be collecting Easter candy and basket for Catholic Charities to hand out to the children.

Mr. Krzykalski explained that he is getting settled in and that he would like to be involved in some of the committees.

Mrs. Richards discussed she and Kate Elliott had attended a roundtable with the JIF.

Mrs. Setikas reported that she had attended a library meeting and that she is enjoying working with the children. The library will have summer programs for the children. Denis Rodgers is the new president of the board of trustees. Mrs. Setikas thanked John Haaf for his years as president.

Council President Bancroft discussed that he had attend the school board meeting and that the school will receive \$104,000 from the state to help overset the increase. There was a discussion on Abbott-like districts receiving more funding. The school has a budget of 6 million dollars for 500 kids. The budget is up \$225,000 from last year. Mr. Wolbert

explained that about 30% of the students required special schooling and that 10% of the students are special schooling out of the district. Mrs. Richards discussed that the school has out price itself for the city. Mayor Lowden explained that there is movement to change sending districts for special students and that the county needs to absorb the fee impact.

### **PUBLIC SESSION.**

Mr. John Borden inquired if the auditor was at the school. Mayor Lowden explained that the county would do a full audit of the school. The school budget covers from July 2004 to July 2005 so the tax rate is split between the two years.

John Haaf-124 Riverbank discussed that the proposed school budget and the city budget need to investigate the use of shared services. Dr. Cook explained that the city is constantly working on shared services with the surrounding communities. Mr. Kearns explained that the majority of the tax increases throughout the state are due to the rising cost of insurance. The JIF's are attempting to get better management on workers compensation claims. Mr. Borden inquired if insurance fraud was covered by JIF. Mr. Kearns explained that all claims are well invested.

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

**EXECUTIVE SESSION.** Dr. Cook made a motion for a closed session for the discussion of personnel and contracts, Mrs. Setikas second the motion. All members were in favor. City Council returned to public session.

### **WORK SESSION.**

City Council held a discussion on health care issues. City Council reviewed the various plans that were available and decided to award a contract with Aetna Health care for the city employees.

**Resolution No. 2004-28,** Resolution Of The City Of The Beverly Awarding Health Care Insurance For The City Employees. The resolution was read by title.

Mr. Williams made a motion to adopt Resolution No. 2004-28, awarding the city health care to Aetna. 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, Ms. Setikas and Council President Bancroft.

Nays: None.

### **PAYMENT OF BILLS**

Mr. Wolbert requested that the bill from Baugh Bros be pulled as it was already paid. Also that the bill for Delanco Township and Lunnamann Electric be added to the bill list.

Mr. Wolbert made a motion to approve the bills with the additions. Ms. Setikas seconded the motion. At the call of the roll, the vote was:

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

NAYES: None.

Submitted by,  
Barbara A. Sheipe RMC  
Municipal Clerk