

MINUTES

CITY OF BEVERLY

NOVEMBER 22, 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, November 22, 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, Ms. Kinniebrew, Mr. Newsome, Mrs. Richards, Dr. Cook, Council President Bancroft, Mayor Lowden, Director of Public Safety Mike Morton, Solicitor William Kearns and Barbara Sheipe, clerk/administrator.

ABSENT: Mrs. Setikas, Ms. Gillette (arrived at the end of meeting.), Mr. Krzykalski.

MINUTES. Mrs. Richards made a motion to approve the minutes of November 1, 2005, Mr. Wolbert second the motion. All members present voted in favor.

COORESPONDENCE.

- A. Letter of resignation. Mayor Lowden read the letter of resignation from Michele Adams. She is taking a full time position in the commercial insurance field. Mrs. Richards made a motion to accept the resignation and to send a letter of extreme gratuity to Mrs. Adams for her dedication to the city. Mr. Wolbert second the motion. All members present voted in favor.
- B. JIF – Mayor Lowden discussed the options that the City of Beverly had for the 2005 dividend from the Burlington County Municipal Joint Insurance Fund. The City will place the entire amount of \$12,999 towards a credit against the 2006 JIF assessment.
- C. Mayor Lowden also read a letter from the Burlington County Bridge Commission inviting the elected officials to a shared services meeting on December 8 in Mount Holly.
- D. Mayor Lowden read a letter from Affordable Housing (COAH) acknowledging that they have receipt of the City of Beverly petition for substantive certification of the housing element and fair share plan.
- E. Mayor Lowden discussed letters that he received from citizens requesting that letters be sent to representatives in Trenton and urging them to support updating NJ cable TV laws for Verizon. Mayor Lowden discussed that he spoke with representative from

Verizon and that they do not have any current plans to bring their DSL service to Beverly. They want support to provide cable to certain areas of the state. The Mayor explained that at this time he was not in favor of support since Verizon could not provide service to Beverly.

OLD BUSINESS.

ORDINANCES ON SECOND READING:

A. **Ordinance No. 2005-21**, An Ordinance To Amend Chapter XXI, Schedule of Fees. (cat license). The ordinance was read by title. Council President Bancroft open the ordinance to the general public. No one from the public wished to be heard. Mr. Wolbert made a motion to adopt Ordinance No. 2005-21 on second and final reading. Ms. Kinniebrew second the motion. At the call of the roll, the vote was:

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

NAYES: None. This ordinance was adopted on second and final reading and will take effect 20 days after publication.

ORDINANCES ON FIRST READING:

A. **Ordinance No. 2005-22**, Salary Ordinance For Regional Contributions Agreements. The ordinance was read by title. Council President recommend that this ordinance be referred first to the finance committee. Mrs. Richards made a motion to hold the ordinance until the finance committee could review it. Mr. Wolbert second the motion. At the call of the roll, the vote was:

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

NAYES: None.

NEW BUSINESS.

Council President requests that the finance committee review the resumes for the finance/tax collector position. Mrs. Richards inquired as to how many of the qualified would be presented to council for review? Dr. Cook recommend that full council review the top 3 applicants.

Item 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 minutes.

- A. **Resolution No. 2005-91**, Resolution Supporting The Recycling Enhancement Act.
- B. **Resolution No. 2005-92**, Resolution of the City of Beverly Authorizing Entry Into A Subordination

Agreement With Respect To 1015 Detweiler Avenue, Beverly.

- C. Resolution No. 2005-93, Resolution To Support Assembly Bill No. 963. (regulations for sex offenders).
- D. Resolution No. 2005-94, Resolution Authorizing Transfers Among 2005 Budget Appropriations.

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

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

NAYES: None.

ABSTAIN: Mrs. Richards and Ms. Kinniebrew abstain from Resolution No. 2005-93.

F. Payment of Bills. Mr. Wolbert requested that the amount online 5 be changed to \$157.35 for the police department. Mrs. Richards inquire dif the PSE &G bill was for two months? The bill is for two months. Mrs. Richards made a motion to approve the payment of bills. Mr. Newsome second the motion. At the call of the roll, the vote was:

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

NAYES: None.

PUBLIC SAFETY.

Ms. Battiste-Warren Street discussed that she is concerned about the number of crossing guards. Director Morton explained that the number is regulated by city council and that he is always looking for substitutes. Ms. Battiste discussed that she had attend a school board meeting and Dr. Gray talked about the city not giving him notice about the possible abduction. Director Morton explained that everyone was notified including the newspaper. It was treated as a possible abduction. Council President Bancroft discussed that the city has had no response to the crossing guard search and that we are always in need of substitutes.

WORKSESSION. Discussion on lease options for Alcotest 7110 MKIII-C. Director Morton explained that is for a breath alcohol testing system. It is mandated by the state for every municipality to have one available for use. Drager Safety Diagnostics is the only recognized company by the state for this equipment. Mr. Wolbert explained that the city attempted to locate grants for the purchase, but at this time there are none available. Ms. Kinniebrew discussed that if this company is the sole provider and the state recommends the company, the city is really stuck on looking for other quotes. Mr. Wolbert discussed that the previous machines are consider

outdated and do not stand up in a court of law. Mr. Newsome inquired about the total price. Director Morton explained that the cost is around \$12,000. Ms. Kinniebrew inquired as to how long until this equipment will be consider outdated? Director Morton explained that the last system was around for about 20 years. Mayor Lowden inquired if the grants such as the Click and Ticket money could be used? Director Morton explained that as to date, no grant money has been made available. Ms. Kinniebrew inquired if the city would own the equipment at the end of the lease. Mrs. Sheipe explained that it was actually a lease-purchase. The City would own the equipment when the full amount was paid off. Mrs. Richards inquired if the city could look at other financing options? Mr. Kearns discussed that the interest rate is about 3% and that the city would probably not find a better rate. Dr. Cook discussed that 3% is an excellent rate.

Mrs. Richards made a motion to approve the lease/purchase for the Alcotest. Mr. Wolbert second the motion. At the call of the roll, the vote was:

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

NAYES: None.

SOLICITOR'S REPORT. None.

MAYOR'S REPORT. Mayor Lowden reported that Barbara Sheipe clerk/administrator received her certification from the state for Municipal Registrar. Mayor Lowden requested that Mrs. Richards read the letter from Mary McCloskey Vice-President of F & M Liquors. The letter is attached and made a part of the minutes.

COUNCIL REPORTS.

Mr. Newsome reported that on November 14 there was a meeting at the county about the RFP for the planner for the RiverLine project. Barbara Sheipe, representatives from Edgewater Park, representatives from the county and the Delaware Valley Regional Planning Commission were present. The RFP will be reviewed by the committee and than a planner will be appoint to start the planning process of the Riverline area in Beverly and Edgewater Park. Mr. Newsome also reported that the finance committee has started work on the budget.

Mrs. Richards thanked everyone for voting for her and wished everyone a Happy Thanksgiving.

Dr. Cook thanked everyone for voting for her and that a clean up around the school was completed by the kindergarten through 1st grade. They had a pizza party afterwards. It is part of the Clean Communities program.

Council President Bancroft announced that a mobile health unit would be at the housing authority site. It will provide mental and dental clinics for the residents of the area. It is opened to everyone. The mobile health unit is sponsored by the County of Burlington and it will be in several locations throughout the county.

PUBLIC SESSION.

Mrs. Haaf-Riverbank, zoning officer discussed those agencies who place people in the city without CO's or fire inspections. The parole board of NJ wanted to place a person who was on parole in a rental unit in the city. Mrs. Haaf discussed that the landlord did not give permission for anyone else to reside at that resident. Mrs. Haaf

discussed that she felt that the city should have been notified that they were going to place this person in the city. Mr. Kearns explained that the parole board just verity's that it is an existing address, it is not their responsibility to check with the city for inspections and legal rentals. Council President Bancroft inquired if the city had any control over the person moving into the city. Mr. Kearns explained that the city has the rental ordinance that governs a change in tenants. Director Morton explained that the police department is notified when a parole moves into the city. Mr. Kearns explained that the city couldn't regulate where someone lives. Mrs. Haaf explained that she felt that the parole board should notify or at least check with the landlord before moving someone in. Mr. Kearns explained that the person on parole reports to a parole or probation officer and that person knows that everything has to be legal or else they are in violation of parole.

Mrs. Haaf-Riverbank suggested selling the old breath analyzer on E-Bay.

Ms. Battiste-Warren Street inquired if the rental ordinance states that the city has to be notify if a relative moves in. Mrs. Richards explained that if a home becomes a two family unit the owner has to notify the housing department.

Mr. Borden requested a clarification on the tax collector/finance position. Council President Bancroft explained that the council is combing three (3) positions into one (1). The treasurer, finance officer and tax collector will now be one (1) full time position instead of three (3) part time positions. The auditor has determined that the city will save money and bring in more revenue with a full time person. Mr. Borden inquired as to the impact on the city budget? Mr. Wolbert explained that as of now the three positions make approximately \$27,000. The auditor feels that the amount set aside for unreserved taxes will decrease, thereby lowering the tax rate. Mr. Newsome explained that the tax collection rate is now 91% and for every percent that the city increases the percentage, the city will save money. A full time person's salary will be offset by the additional tax collection rate. Mr. Wolbert discussed that it should not an impact on the budget. Dr. Cook discussed that the city had a meeting a few years ago with the state and discussed definite ways to decrease the tax rate.

Mr. Wooters inquired as to what the standard tax collection rate is? Mr. Kearns replied that most municipalities are at 95% collection.

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

Submitted by,

Barbara A. Sheipe RMC
Municipal Clerk