

## MINUTES

CITY OF BEVERLY

SEPTEMBER 27, 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, September 27, 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:** Ms. Kinniebrew, Mrs. Setikas, Mr. Newsome, Mrs. Richards, Mr. Krzykalski, Dr. Cook, Council President Bancroft, Mayor Lowden, Director of Public Safety Mike Morton and Barbara Sheipe, clerk/administrator.

**ABSENT:** Ms. Gillette, Mr. Wolbert and Solicitor William Kearns.

**MINUTES.** Dr. Cook requested a correction in the minutes on page 7 under matters by the public. In the quote from Ms. Battiste about insurance being too high, Dr. Cook requested that the minutes show that she told Ms. Battiste that Mrs. Richards who handle the insurance for the city would explain the procedure. Mrs. Richards made a motion to approve the minutes of September 13, 2005 with the correction, Mr. Newsome second the motion. All members present voted in favor.

### **COORESPONDENCE.**

### **OLD BUSINESS.**

### **ORDINANCES ON FIRST READING:**

**Ordinance No 2005-15, City of Beverly Stormwater Ordinance.** William Kirchner, Environmental Resolutions explained that this ordinance modifies existing stormwater ordinances for areas larger than 1 acre. Mrs. Richards inquired if it will help with the draining of the river water supply. Mr. Kirchner explained that it would increase the water aquifer. Mr. Krzykalski discussed that with the development being built it will help with the run-off of the water and where it goes. Mr. Kirchner explained that if a developer cannot meet the requirements of the ordinance they could use other areas to improve. When all of the ordinances are completed the city can apply for the remaining part of the grant. Resident inquired if the funds are earmarked for a particular item or they go into the general fund? Mr. Kirchner explained that they would have to be place in a set fund and use only for that purpose. Mr. Borden inquired what the ordinances for stormwater cost the city and also what cost the stormwater program would be? Mr. Kirchner explained that some of the cost would be recovered from the developers in their escrow

accounts, but at the current time there is no way to predict the impact on any municipality to the cost of the stormwater regulations. Mrs. Richards made a motion to approve the ordinance on first reading, Mrs. Setikas second the motion. At the call of the roll, the vote was:

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

**NAYES:** None.

#### **NEW BUSINESS.**

A. **Treasurer's Report-August 2005.** Mrs. Richards made a motion to approve the treasurer's report, Mr. Newsome second the report. At the call of the roll, the vote was:

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

**NAYES:** None.

B. **Payment of Bills.** Mr. Newsome inquired about the two bills for Verizon? Director Morton discussed that one is for the telephone and one is for the computer. Mr. Newsome made a motion to approve the payment of bills. Ms. Kinniebrew second the motion. At the call of the roll, the vote was:

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

**NAYES:** None.

#### **PUBLIC SAFETY.**

Mrs. Dreher discussed that kids are still hanging out on the street and that she has to move her car to get around them. Director Morton will attempt to educate the students through the various schools about walking in the street and that they can be given a ticket.

Mrs. Ridgway discussed that parking is still a problem in the area of Manor and Cherry. Residents park too close to the corner and you cannot see to get out. Director Morton explained that he has visited the site several times and that the cars are close to the corner, it is usually that vehicles are parked on both sides of the street. Mrs. Richards will take a look and see if an ordinance cannot be created to help the parking issue.

Mr. Haaf discussed that on September 17, 2005 the City had many visitors to the city for the town wide yard sale and also the church had a hoagie sale. He had an occasion to visit the bank and observe several incidents during the day. The first occurred on Bridge Street where several men had been drinking and officers were call by the bank manager and the officers only chased the men back inside. One of the men was so intoxicated that he had to be carried upstairs. The other incident was in front of the liquor store with a group of men drinking in public and just hanging out. There was also loud noise coming from Bridge Street all day. Mr. Haaf discussed that we invite people into the city and they go to the bank and all they see are the problems of the city. Council should seriously think about closing the liquored store to help clean up the city. Mr. Haaf discussed that several of the

officers have befriend the local bums and hangouts. Mr. Haaf discussed that he did not see a need for this and that the officer should not be out talking to them and encouraging to remain in the city. Director Morton explained that the officers are trained to treat everyone equally and that no matter where they live or who they are they are to be treated with respect.

Mr. Starke inquired about the apartments on Pine and Spruce Street and if the officers could not do something about closing the house. Mr. Starke discussed that if the Housing Authority can evict someone for disorderly why can't the city. Director Morton explained that a number of calls have to be logged into the house as complaints and than action taken to have the house declared a disorderly house. Since the city does not own the property it cannot evict.

Ms. Lowe inquired if the article in the Burlington County Times about someone being followed home was true? Director Morton explained that yes, a female was followed home and that the officers have notified the neighbor to keep an extra eye for this person. The sketch was released to the newspaper.

Mr. Wooters inquired as to the procedure for public drinking and if they are issued a ticket or just sent home. Director Morton explained that it falls under local ordinance and the officer has the right to send them home or to issue a ticket under the local ordinance and that it is usually a judgment call.

Mrs. Wetherill inquired about the recreational PAL league? Director Morton explained that the City of Beverly does not have one.

**SOLICITOR'S REPORT.** None.

**MAYOR'S REPORT.** Mayor Lowden discussed that he had received a call from a resident at 61 Church Street concerning dog feces on his front yard and also that Farnum Park needs to be cleaned up. Mr. Haaf explained that when the volunteers from the Methodist church cut the grass they clean up the trash as well. Mayor Lowden suggested that perhaps a sign about cleaning up after your dog could be placed in the area. A discussion was held on the wood chips and the crab grass at Farnum Park. The city will have the issue address this fall.

### **COUNCIL REPORTS.**

Mr. Newsome explained that the finance committee had met with the auditor and also that they were still working on the general ledger process as required by the audit.

Mrs. Richards thanked Director Morton for his comments on regarding everyone equal. Mrs. Richards announced that the annual training for elected officials will be held on October 25 in Hainesport, since this is the regular council meeting night, Mrs. Richards made a motion to move the meeting to November 1 at 7pm. Dr. Cook second the motion. All members presented in favor.

Dr. Cook discussed that there have been a lot of meetings with the Economic Development Committee. Also there have been meetings with the clergy of the city and that they have agree to meet with city officials every 6 weeks to keep open the doors of communication. There was a town hall meeting at the school about Hurricane Katrina for all of the children and the clergy participated.

**Council President Bancroft discussed that he had met with representatives of Light Rail and that they had adjusted the timing for the gates. Also they had agreed to new signage for the lots for that people would know where to park. The trees will be trim back to allow better light.**

**PUBLIC SESSION.**

**Mr. Borden inquired if there was a discussion with the Light Rail about a sign for the penalty for crossing the tracks while the red lights were still blinking. Director Morton explained that he would like to address the concerns of the signs with the solicitor Mr. Kearns, NJ Transit will not put up the signs. The crossing is not city property. Mr. Borden inquired as to why not place them on city property? Director Morton explained that he was also worried about the liability of the signs since NJ Transit did not want them put up. Mrs. Richards inquired about the wording of the signs. Director Morton also explained that only NJ Transit has the authority to write tickets on the tracks and train. Mr. Borden discussed that since the city is trying to do something about the feral cats, perhaps they should take a look at the Canadian geese that are making a mess of the riverfront.**

**EXECUTIVE SESSION. Mrs. Richards made a motion to go into executive session for the discussion of personnel and litigation. Mrs. Setikas second the motion. All members voted in favor.**

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

**Submitted by,**

**Barbara A. Sheipe RMC  
Municipal Clerk**