

**City of Beverly
Burlington County
December 17, 2019 – 7:30PM
Regular Session**

MINUTES

The Regular Meeting of the Common Council of the City of Beverly, County of Burlington, and State of New Jersey was held on the aforementioned date with the following in attendance: Mayor Randy H. Miller, Council President Robert H. Bancroft, Councilwoman Grace M. Heron, Councilman Robert E. Lowden, Jr., Councilman Robert D. Thibault, Councilman Mark A. Schwedes, City Administrator/Public Safety Director Richard Wolbert, City Solicitor Steven Raymond, Jr., and Municipal Clerk Caitlin Midgett.

Council President Bancroft called the meeting to order at 7:30PM.

The following opening statement was read by Council President Bancroft:

"The Provisions of the Open Public Meetings Act have been met. Notice of this meeting, Resolution 2019-1, was posted on the Official Bulletin Board in City Hall, published in The Burlington County Times on January 9, 2019, emailed to the Camden Courier Post, filed with the Municipal Clerk on January 9, 2019 and was mailed to all persons requesting and paying for same."

The above was followed by the Flag Salute and Roll Call.

APPROVAL OF MINUTES – November 26, 2019

Councilman Lowden stated that he would like to make an addition to the comment section of the above minutes to include the statements regarding Councilman Thibault's son returning home from the New Jersey National Guard for the holiday season.

A motion was offered by Councilman Lowden and seconded by Councilwoman Heron to amend and approve the minutes as reflected above. Motion carried on a Roll Call Vote, as follows:

Aye: Heron, Lowden, Thibault, Bancroft

Nay:

Abstain: Schwedes

PUBLIC COMMENT ON AGENDA ITEMS ONLY

Ronald Paice, 527 Broad Street, inquired about check #995 on the Bill List. City Administrator Wolbert clarified that said check is to fund scheduling software utilized by the Police Department.

LETTERS OF COMMENDATION

Mayor Miller read aloud commendations to the following members of the Police Department: Sergeant Matthews, Sergeant Davis, Officer Kelly, Officer Wagner, and Officer Perkins.

Council President Bancroft commented on the efficiency of the Police Department. Councilman Thibault noted the professionalism and excellence of the department, and thanked the members for their service to the city. Councilman Lowden echoed Mr. Thibault's comments, and stated that complaints against the department have significantly decreased. Councilwoman Heron thanked members of the department for their service. Councilman Schwedes commended the department and expressed his appreciation for same.

COUNCIL APPOINTMENT

Robert Bancroft – Beverly Sewage Authority

A motion was offered by Councilman Thibault and seconded by Councilman Schwedes to approve the aforementioned appointment. Motion carried on a Roll Call Vote, as follows:

Aye: Heron, Schwedes, Thibault

Nay:

Abstain: Bancroft, Lowden

RESOLUTIONS

Resolution 2019-121: Resolution of the Common Council of the City of Beverly Discharge of Mortgages on the Property Known as Block 417, Lot 9, FKA Block 17, A/K/A 610 Lee Avenue

A motion was offered by Councilman Lowden and seconded by Councilwoman Heron to adopt Resolution 2019-121. Motion carried on a Roll Call Vote, as follows:

Aye: Heron, Lowden, Schwedes, Thibault, Bancroft

Nay:

Abstain:

Resolution 2019-122: Resolution to Accept the Resignation of Sheri L. Medina

A motion was offered by Councilman Thibault and seconded by Councilman Lowden to adopt Resolution 2019-122. Motion carried on a Roll Call Vote, as follow:

Aye: Heron, Lowden, Schwedes, Thibault, Bancroft

Nay:

Abstain:

Resolution 2019-123: Resolution to Appoint Caitlin Midgette as Municipal Clerk and Registrar

A motion was offered by Councilman Thibault and seconded by Councilman Lowden to adopt Resolution 2019-123. Motion carried on a Roll Call Vote, as follows:

Aye: Heron, Lowden, Schwedes, Thibault, Bancroft

Nay:

Abstain:

Resolution 2019-124: Resolution to Approve the Third Year Option for Solid Waste Collection with South Jersey Sanitation

A motion was offered by Councilman Thibault and seconded by Councilman Schwedes to adopt Resolution 2019-124. Motion carried on a Roll Call Vote, as follows:

Aye: Heron, Lowden, Schwedes, Thibault, Bancroft

Nay:

Abstain:

Resolution 2019-125: Resolution to Approve Ted Evans as Provisional Zoning Officer Effective Immediately

A motion was offered by Councilman Thibault and seconded by Councilwoman Heron to adopt Resolution 2019-125. Motion carried on a Roll Call Vote, as follows:

Aye: Heron, Lowden, Schwedes, Thibault, Bancroft

Nay:

Abstain:

Resolution 2019-126: Resolution to Appoint Richard Wolbert as Records Custodian Effective December 11, 2019 to December 30, 2019

A motion was offered by Councilman Thibault and seconded by Councilman Lowden to adopt Resolution 2019-126. Motion carried on a Roll Call Vote, as follows:

Aye: Heron, Lowden, Schwedes, Thibault, Bancroft

Nay:

Abstain:

Resolution 2019-127: Resolution to Escheat Premium Lien Monies from Tax Title Lien to the City's Current Fund

A motion was offered by Councilman Schwedes and seconded by Councilwoman Heron to adopt Resolution 2019-127. Motion carried on a Roll Call Vote, as follows:

Aye: Heron, Lowden, Schwedes, Thibault, Bancroft

Nay:

Abstain:

Resolution 2019-128: Resolution Approving the Transfer of 2019 Budget Appropriations

A motion was offered by Councilman Thibault and seconded by Councilman Schwedes to adopt Resolution 2019-128. Motion carried on a Roll Call Vote, as follows:

Aye: Heron, Lowden, Schwedes, Thibault, Bancroft

Nay:

Abstain:

Resolution 2019-129: Resolution Approving Change Order #2 to American Asphalt for the 2019 Road Improvement Project for Magnolia Street

A motion was offered by Councilman Thibault and seconded by Councilman Lowden to adopt Resolution 2019-129. Motion carried on a Roll Call Vote, as follows:

Aye: Heron, Lowden, Schwedes, Thibault, Bancroft

Nay:

Abstain:

Resolution 2019-130: Resolution Approving Pay Estimate #2 to American Asphalt for the 2018 Road Improvement Project for Magnolia Street

A motion was offered by Councilman Thibault and seconded by Councilman Lowden to adopt Resolution 2019-130. Motion carried on a Roll Call Vote, as follows:

Aye: Heron, Lowden, Schwedes, Thibault, Bancroft
Nay:
Abstain:

OLD BUSINESS

No old business was presented.

NEW BUSINESS

Council President Bancroft inquired if the Common Council would be amenable to changing the time of the upcoming Reorganization Meeting. After slight discussion, it was determined that the Reorganization Meeting of January 7, 2020 will commence at 7:00PM.

BILL LIST

City Administrator Wolbert clarified that an addendum is attached to the Bill List because an incorrect vendor was inadvertently listed for a certain payment.

A motion was offered by Councilman Thibault and seconded by Councilwoman Heron to approve the Bill List. Motion carried on a Roll Call Vote, as follows:

Aye: Heron, Lowden, Schwedes, Thibault, Bancroft
Nay:
Abstain:

CORRESPONDENCE

- Letter from the Beverly Free Library

Mayor Miller stated that correspondence was received from the Beverly Free Library requesting the consideration of additional funds. Council President Bancroft stated that the Common Council will take said request under advisement.

City Administrator Wolbert stated that in addition to the above correspondence, the city applied for two NJDOT grant projects. The first project relates to the resurfacing of Laurel Avenue, which will include an intersection realignment and the partial removal of the underground pump room. The funding for said project was approved. The second project was to improve the roads around St. Stephen's Church, but funding for the same was denied. Mr. Wolbert stated that the project will be resubmitted for in the future, and that temporary fixes will be utilized in the meantime.

MAYOR/COUNCIL/STAFF COMMENTS

Mayor Miller wished the public a Merry Christmas and thanked the Police Department for its efforts. Mr. Miller thanked Councilman Thibault for his service to the community, and congratulated Councilman Schwedes on his re-election.

Councilwoman Heron wished the public Happy Holidays, and thanked Councilman Thibault for his services throughout the years.

Councilman Schwedes stated that he was looking forward to the coming year. Mr. Schwedes thanked Councilman Thibault for his service, and noted that Mr. Thibault has been an integral part of the community.

Councilman Lowden wished the public Happy Holidays. Mr. Lowden noted the Historical Society's successful house tour, and invited the public to the society's grand reopening. There will be no meeting of the Land Use Board this month. Mr. Lowden stated that a wreath ceremony took place at the National Cemetery, and that the city was well represented by the Beverly Fire Department. Regarding the past Fire Commissioners meeting, Mr. Lowden noted that Steve Myers was given a commendation for his work with the Stop the Bleeding Program. Furthermore, Mr. Lowden thanked Councilman Thibault for his service to the community, and noted that Mr. Thibault always put Beverly first.

Councilman Thibault reflected on his time as an elected official for the past 13 years. Mr. Thibault thanked the public and fellow Council Members, both past and present. Mr. Thibault noted that the city has continued to move forward, and that both the Administration and the Police Department have never been better. Regarding the EMS services, the Endeavour Emergency Squad provides an excellent service. Furthermore, Mr. Thibault stated that the Fire Departments are efficiently working together, and that community events have been successful. Mr. Thibault expressed his gratitude for having been given the opportunity to serve the city.

City Administrator Wolbert welcomed Municipal Clerk Midgette, commended the Police Department and staff, and thanked Councilman Thibault for his accomplishments as an elected official. Furthermore, Mr. Wolbert noted that new street signs have been ordered.

Municipal Clerk Midgette thanked the Common Council for her appointment and the opportunity to serve the city.

MUNICIPAL COURT REPORT – November 2019

The above report was reviewed by the Common Council.

PUBLIC COMMENT

Robert Paice, 527 Broad Street, welcomed the new Municipal Clerk and thanked Councilman Thibault for his years of service.

Beverly Haaf, 124 Riverbank, welcomed the new Municipal Clerk, thanked the Common Council, and wished everyone happy holidays.

There being no further comments, a motion was offered by Councilman Thibault and seconded by Councilwoman Heron to close public comment. Motion carried.

ADJOURNMENT

A motion was offered by Councilman Thibault and seconded by Councilwoman Heron to adjourn the meeting. Motion carried. The meeting adjourned at 8:35PM.

Respectfully Submitted By:


Caitlin Midgette, RMC, CMR
Municipal Clerk

Approved: January 21, 2020

