

**CITY OF BEVERLY  
BURLINGTON COUNTY  
STATE OF NEW JERSEY  
COMMON COUNCIL  
REGULAR SESSION MINUTES  
FEBRUARY 23, 2021 – 5:00PM**

The Regular Meeting of the Common Council of the City of Beverly, County of Burlington, and State of New Jersey was held via conference call on the aforementioned date with the following in attendance: Mayor Randy H. Miller, Council President Robert H. Bancroft, Councilman Riccardo Dale, Councilman Robert E. Lowden, Jr., Councilman Mark Schwedes, Councilwoman Bernadine Williams, City Administrator/Public Safety Director Richard Wolbert, City Solicitor Thomas Coleman, Esq., and Municipal Clerk Caitlin Midgette.

Council President Bancroft called the meeting to order at 5:02PM.

The following opening statement was read by City Clerk Midgette:

*“The Provisions of the Open Public Meetings Act have been met. Notice of this meeting and notice of the electronic format, Resolution 2021-1, was posted on the Official Bulletin Board in City Hall, published in The Burlington County Times on January 8, 2021, transmitted to the Camden Courier Post, filed with the Municipal Clerk, and was mailed to all persons requesting and paying for same.”*

The above was followed by the Flag Salute, Moment of Silence, and Roll Call.

**PUBLIC COMMENT ON AGENDA ITEMS ONLY**

There being no comments, a motion was offered by Councilman Lowden and seconded by Councilwoman Williams to close preliminary public comment. Motion carried.

**APPROVAL OF MINUTES**

- February 9, 2021

A motion was offered by Councilman Schwedes and seconded by Councilman Lowden to approve the above listed set of minutes. Motion carried on a Roll Call Vote, as follows:

Aye: Dale, Lowden, Schwedes, Williams, Bancroft

Nay:

Abstain:

Absent:

**OLD BUSINESS**

No old business was presented.

**NEW BUSINESS**

No new business was presented.

## **BILL LIST**

- Bill List for February 23, 2021

A motion was offered by Councilwoman Williams and seconded by Councilman Schwedes to approve the bill list. Motion carried on a Roll Call Vote, as follows:

Aye: Dale, Lowden, Schwedes, Williams, Bancroft

Nay:

Abstain:

Absent:

## **ORDINANCE – SECOND READING/PUBLIC HEARING**

**Ordinance 2021-1: An Ordinance of the Common Council of the City of Beverly, in the County of Burlington, State of New Jersey Amending and Supplementing Section 20-27 of Chapter XX Entitled “Zoning” of the Code of the City of Beverly to Create Additional Permitted Uses in the C2 Downtown Commercial District**

Council President Bancroft opened the public hearing on Ordinance 2021-1. There being no comments, a motion was offered by Councilman Schwedes and seconded by Councilwoman Williams to close the public hearing on Ordinance 2021-1. Motion carried.

A motion was offered by Councilman Schwedes and seconded by Councilman Lowden to adopt Ordinance 2021-1. Motion carried on a Roll Call Vote, as follows:

Aye: Dale, Lowden, Schwedes, Williams, Bancroft

Nay:

Abstain:

Absent:

**Ordinance 2021-2: Ordinance Amending Ordinance 2007-13 Establishing Stormwater Requirements**

Council President Bancroft opened the public hearing on Ordinance 2021-2. There being no comments, a motion was offered by Councilman Schwedes and seconded by Councilwoman Williams to close the public hearing on Ordinance 2021-2. Motion carried.

A motion was offered by Councilman Lowden and seconded by Councilwoman Williams to adopt Ordinance 2021-2. Motion carried on a Roll Call Vote, as follows:

Aye: Dale, Lowden, Schwedes, Williams, Bancroft

Nay:

Abstain:

Absent:

## **RESOLUTIONS**

### **Resolution 2021-30: Resolution Authorizing Refund of Property Taxes for 422 Cramer Avenue (Block 307, Lot 11)**

A motion was offered by Councilman Lowden and seconded by Councilman Schwedes to adopt Resolution 2021-30. Motion carried on a Roll Call Vote, as follows:

Aye: Dale, Lowden, Schwedes, Williams, Bancroft

Nay:

Abstain:

Absent:

### **Resolution 2021-31: Resolution Appointing Full-Time Police Recruit Mark A. Conard, Jr.**

Councilwoman Williams inquired as to the number of full-time police officers. City Administrator Wolbert stated that the department currently has nine officers, with two retirements in the near future.

A motion was offered by Councilman Schwedes and seconded by Councilman Lowden to adopt Resolution 2021-31. Motion carried on a Roll Call Vote, as follows:

Aye: Dale, Lowden, Schwedes, Williams, Bancroft

Nay:

Abstain:

Absent:

### **Resolution 2021-32: Resolution Cancelling Tax Sale Certificate on Property Known as 606 Spruce Street (Formerly Known as Block 1279, Lot 12)**

City Administrator Wolbert explained the purpose of the above resolution.

A motion was offered by Councilman Lowden and seconded by Councilwoman Williams to adopt Resolution 2021-32. Motion carried on a Roll Call Vote, as follows:

Aye: Dale, Lowden, Schwedes, Williams, Bancroft

Nay:

Abstain:

Absent:

### **Resolution 2021-33: Resolution Authorizing Interlocal Services Agreement with the Burlington County Soil Conservation District for Stormwater Management Facility Inspections**

City Administrator Wolbert stated that the purpose of the above resolution is to authorize the Soil Conservation District to perform annual stormwater basin inspections for the City and to formulate a comprehensive report of same that meets NJDEP inspection requirements.

A motion was offered by Councilman Schwedes and seconded by Councilman Lowden to adopt Resolution 2021-33. Motion carried on a Roll Call Vote, as follows:

Aye: Dale, Lowden, Schwedes, Williams, Bancroft

Nay:

Abstain:

Absent:

**Resolution 2021-34: Resolution Authorizing Discharge of Mortgage on Property Known as Block 311, Lot 1, F/K/A Block 11, A/K/A 508 Cramer Ave**

A motion was offered by Councilman Schwedes and seconded by Councilman Lowden to adopt Resolution 2021-34. Motion carried on a Roll Call Vote, as follows:

Aye: Dale, Lowden, Schwedes, Williams, Bancroft

Nay:

Abstain:

Absent:

**Resolution 2021-35: Resolution Authorizing Purchase and Install of Phone Equipment from Ridge Secure Technologies, LLC**

City Administrator Wolbert stated that with the new phone system, the City will have greater capabilities and save approximately \$400 a month.

A motion was offered by Councilman Schwedes and seconded by Councilwoman Williams to adopt Resolution 2021-35. Motion carried on a Roll Call Vote, as follows:

Aye: Dale, Lowden, Schwedes, Williams, Bancroft

Nay:

Abstain:

Absent:

**Resolution 2021-36: Resolution Authorizing Execution of Agreement with Ridge Secure Technologies, LLC for Telecommunication Services**

A motion was offered by Councilman Schwedes and seconded by Councilwoman Williams to adopt Resolution 2021-36. Motion carried on a Roll Call Vote, as follows:

Aye: Dale, Lowden, Schwedes, Williams, Bancroft

Nay:

Abstain:

Absent:

**CORRESPONDENCE**

No correspondence was presented.

### **MAYOR/COUNCIL/STAFF COMMENTS**

Mayor Miller acknowledged all those the country has lost to the COVID-19 pandemic, as over 500,000 individuals have passed due to same. Additionally, Mayor Miller stated that the new vegan café, La Lus, had a successful grand opening.

Councilman Dale stated that he and Councilwoman Williams are making strides in establishing the structure of the Community Outreach Committee.

Councilman Lowden summarized the previous meeting of the Fire Commissioners, and stated that the Economic Development Committee will be meeting in the future.

Councilman Schwedes thanked the DPW staff for their snow removal efforts during the last winter storm.

City Administrator Wolbert summarized the following matters: due to the pandemic, there is no estimated delivery time on the new DPW truck; the purchase of a pole barn for the DPW is under consideration in order to effectively house equipment, vehicles, and salt storage; the State legislature has recently passed bills relating to marijuana legalization, which will change operations in the Municipal Court and Police Department; and that a meeting was held virtually with the Office of Planning Advocacy to discuss the next steps in achieving the Centers of Place Designation.

City Solicitor Tom Coleman discussed the marijuana legislation, and stated that the Council will need to decide via ordinance whether or not to allow marijuana facilities within the City.

### **PUBLIC COMMENT**

No members of the public were in attendance at tonight's meeting.

### **ADJOURNMENT**

A motion was offered by Councilman Schwedes and seconded by Councilwoman Williams to adjourn the meeting. Motion carried. The meeting adjourned at 5:44PM.

**Respectfully Submitted By:**

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**Caitlin Midgette, RMC/CMR**  
**Municipal Clerk**

Approved: March 9, 2021