

**CITY OF BEVERLY  
BURLINGTON COUNTY  
STATE OF NEW JERSEY  
COMMON COUNCIL  
REGULAR SESSION MINUTES  
MAY 25, 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 J. Coleman III., Esq., and Municipal Clerk Caitlin Midgette.

Council President Bancroft called the meeting to order at 5:00PM.

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**

No comments.

**PROCLAMATION**

Mayor Miller read aloud a proclamation to congratulate Sergeant Curtis Davis on his retirement from the Beverly City Police Department.

**APPROVAL OF MINUTES**

- May 11, 2021

A motion was offered by Councilman Schwedes and seconded by Councilwoman Williams 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 at this time.

### **NEW BUSINESS**

No new business was presented at this time.

### **BILL LIST**

- Bill List for May 25, 2021

A motion was offered by Councilman Schwedes and seconded by Councilman Lowden 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 2021-5: An Ordinance of the Common Council of the City of Beverly, in the County of Burlington, State of New Jersey Amending and Supplementing Section 20-6 and 20-28 of Chapter XX Entitled “Zoning” of the Code of the City of Beverly to Create Additional Permitted Uses in the C3 Waterfront Development District**

Council President Bancroft opened the public hearing on Ordinance 2021-5.

Mark Robertson, 613 Erhardt Ave, inquired as to the purpose of Ordinance 2021-5. City Administrator Wolbert explained that the State, in response to the legalization of marijuana, is requiring all municipalities to adopt an ordinance either permitting or prohibiting cannabis related businesses. Accordingly, Ordinance 2021-5 would permit all cannabis related businesses, except for retail, but only within the C-3 zoning district. This ordinance was also reviewed by the Land Use Board at its previous meeting and deemed to be consistent with the City’s Master Plan.

There being no further comments, a motion was offered by Councilman Schwedes and seconded by Councilwoman Williams to close the public hearing on Ordinance 2021-5. Motion carried.

A motion was offered by Councilman Lowden and seconded by Councilwoman Williams to adopt Ordinance 2021-5. Motion carried on a Roll Call Vote, as follows:

Aye: Dale, Lowden, Schwedes, Williams, Bancroft

Nay:

Abstain:

Absent:

### **ORDINANCE – FIRST READING/INTRODUCTION**

**Ordinance 2021-7: Ordinance of the Common Council of the City of Beverly Amending Ordinance 2002-6 Entitled “General Park Rules”**

City Administrator Wolbert stated that the purpose of the above ordinance is to update the current park prohibitions and expand the boundaries of the park system to include surrounding roads.

A motion was offered by Councilman Schwedes and seconded by Councilwoman Williams to introduce Ordinance 2021-7. Motion carried on a Roll Call Vote, as follows:

Aye: Dale, Lowden, Schwedes, Williams, Bancroft

Nay:

Abstain:

Absent:

### **RESOLUTIONS**

#### **Resolution 2021-54: Resolution Authorizing Refund to Michael Barclay as Related to Vehicle Towing and Storage Fees**

A motion was offered by Councilman Schwedes and seconded by Councilman Lowden to adopt Resolution 2021-54. 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**

Councilman Lowden noted the importance of the upcoming Memorial Day holiday.

Councilman Schwedes congratulated Sergeant Davis on his retirement, and reminded Council of the upcoming mural dedication at the library. Mr. Schwedes also noted that approximately 900 flags were placed at the Beverly Monument Cemetery in observance of Memorial Day.

Councilwoman Williams stated that the City's dumpster day, e-waste recycling day, and shredding event was successful, and thanked the employees involved in same. Additionally, the Community Outreach Committee will be holding its second meeting on June 4<sup>th</sup>.

City Administrator Wolbert informed Council on the following matters: due to the current labor shortage, there will be significant delays in trash and recycling collection, and said delays are anticipated to occur through the summer months; the indoor mask mandate and social distancing requirements have been lifted with certain exceptions; Acacia Financial, the City's appointed Financial Advisor, performed a private sale for long term financing for the City's Bond Anticipation Notes; the preconstruction meeting for the Laurel Street road resurfacing project has been scheduled; the new phone system has been installed; the annual audit is underway; and the reopening of the municipal building will be considered as COVID-19 case numbers are decreasing.

City Clerk Midgette stated that after gathering the consensus of Council, Council Meetings for the month of June will be held in-person at 5:00PM.

**PUBLIC COMMENT**

Mark Robertson, 613 Erhardt Ave, inquired if Council Meetings will be open to the public in June. City Clerk Midgette confirmed same. Additionally, Mr. Robertson thanked City Administrator Wolbert and Paula Steere, Code Enforcement Officer, for their quick response in addressing a particular issue. Mr. Robertson also inquired about the code enforcement process and procedures, and how to strengthen yard maintenance enforcement in the City. City Administrator Wolbert stated that the City is looking to hire an additional part-time code enforcement officer, and that both the Police Department and DPW report any observed violations. Additionally, the City has to give property owners a certain amount of time to abate any issues before a summons can be issued, and oftentimes, as with the case of vacant properties, the responsible party is not always known.

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

**ADJOURNMENT**

A motion was offered by Councilman Schwedes and seconded by Councilwoman Williams to adjourn the meeting. Motion carried. The meeting adjourned at 5:52PM.

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

Approved: June 8, 2021