

**CITY OF BEVERLY
BURLINGTON COUNTY
STATE OF NEW JERSEY

COMMON COUNCIL
REGULAR SESSION MINUTES
OCTOBER 12, 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 on the aforementioned date with the following in attendance: Council President Robert H. Bancroft, Councilman Robert E. Lowden, Jr., Councilman Mark Schwedes, Councilwoman Bernadine Williams, Councilman Riccardo Dale, Mayor Randy H. Miller, 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, 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. Notice that this meeting will be held in-person at 5:00PM was posted on the Official Bulletin Board in City Hall, published in The Burlington County Times on May 30, 2021, transmitted to the Camden Courier Post, and was sent to all persons requesting same.”

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

PUBLIC COMMENT ON AGENDA ITEMS ONLY

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

APPROVAL OF MINUTES

- Regular Session: September 28, 2021
- Executive Session: September 28, 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: Lowden, Schwedes, Williams, Bancroft

Nay:

Abstain: Dale

Absent:

OLD BUSINESS

No old business was presented at this time.

NEW BUSINESS

Endeavor EMS Request: City Administrator Wolbert stated that the City received a request from Endeavor EMS to provide financial aid to the organization from the City's American Rescue Plan Funds to help offset the significant costs incurred by the COVID-19 pandemic in the approximate amount of \$21,000. This is a permissible expense of the ARP funds. Financial assistance was also sought from neighboring municipalities that utilize Endeavor's services, with each requested amount being based off of the number of calls for service and hospital transports.

Councilman Schwedes inquired if funding for the stormwater and sewer mapping project will be impacted if the requested financial aid is given to Endeavor EMS Squad. City Administrator Wolbert stated that though it's too early to determine if the project will still be able to be fully funded with the ARP funds should the financial aid be given, any remaining costs can be budgeted in the Municipal Budget.

Councilman Lowden inquired if Endeavor EMS will be required to show proof that the funds provided from the City were used for its intended purposes. Mr. Wolbert confirmed same.

It was determined by the Common Council to provide Endeavor EMS financial assistance from the City's ARP funds to help offset the costs incurred as a result of the COVID-19 pandemic.

BILL LIST

- Bill List for October 12, 2021

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

Aye: Dale, Lowden, Schwedes, Williams, Bancroft

Nay:

Abstain:

Absent:

ORDINANCE – PUBLIC HEARING/SECOND READING

Ordinance 2021-12: An Ordinance of the Common Council Determining Wage and Salary Ranges for Employees of the City of Beverly

Council President Bancroft opened the public hearing on Ordinance 2021-12. There being no comments, a motion was offered by Councilwoman Williams and seconded by Councilman Schwedes to close the public hearing on Ordinance 2021-12. Motion carried.

A motion was offered by Councilman Lowden and seconded by Councilman Schwedes to adopt Ordinance 2021-12. Motion carried on a Roll Call Vote, as follows:

Aye: Dale, Lowden, Schwedes, Williams, Bancroft

Nay:

Abstain:

Absent:

RESOLUTIONS

Resolution 2021-100: Resolution Rescinding Resolution 2021-95 Authorizing Change Order No. 1 to General Code for Codification Services

A motion was offered by Councilman Schwedes and seconded by Councilman Dale to adopt Resolution 2021-100. Motion carried on a Roll Call Vote, as follows:

Aye: Dale, Lowden, Schwedes, Williams, Bancroft

Nay:

Abstain:

Absent:

Resolution 2021-101: Resolution Authorizing Award of Contract to General Code for Codification Services

A motion was offered by Councilman Lowden and seconded by Councilwoman Williams to adopt Resolution 2021-101. Motion carried on a Roll Call Vote, as follows:

Aye: Dale, Lowden, Schwedes, Williams, Bancroft

Nay:

Abstain:

Absent:

Resolution 2021-102: Resolution for Certification of Audit

A motion was offered by Councilman Lowden and seconded by Councilman Dale to adopt Resolution 2021-102. Motion carried on a Roll Call Vote, as follows:

Aye: Dale, Lowden, Schwedes, Williams, Bancroft

Nay:

Abstain:

Absent:

Resolution 2021-103: Resolution Accepting Resignation of Joseph Wagner as Police Officer

A motion was offered by Councilman Schwedes and seconded by Councilwoman Williams to adopt Resolution 2021-103. Motion carried on a Roll Call Vote, as follows:

Aye: Dale, Lowden, Schwedes, Williams, Bancroft

Nay:

Abstain:

Absent:

Resolution 2021-104: Resolution Authorizing Pay Estimate #5 for the 2019/2020 Road Improvement Project

A motion was offered by Councilman Schwedes and seconded by Councilwoman Williams to adopt Resolution 2021-104. Motion carried on a Roll Call Vote, as follows:

Aye: Dale, Lowden, Schwedes, Williams, Bancroft
Nay:
Abstain:
Absent:

Resolution 2021-105: Resolution Authorizing Change Order No. 1 for the 2019/2020 Road Improvement Project

A motion was offered by Councilwoman Williams and seconded by Councilman Schwedes to adopt Resolution 2021-105. Motion carried on a Roll Call Vote, as follows:

Aye: Dale, Lowden, Schwedes, Williams, Bancroft
Nay:
Abstain:
Absent:

CORRESPONDENCE

No correspondence was presented at this time.

MAYOR/COUNCIL/STAFF COMMENTS

Councilman Schwedes thanked the staff for a successful audit.

Councilman Lowden thanked the staff for a successful audit, stated that he would like to have an Emergency Services Committee meeting, and noted that the Sewerage Authority will provide portable bathrooms for this weekend's fishing derby.

Councilwoman Williams stated that the fishing derby will be held this weekend on October 23rd.

Mayor Miller arrived to the meeting at 5:26PM.

City Administrator Wolbert update Council on the following matters: the new phone system has reduced the monthly phone bill by 50%, the new computer systems will be installed this weekend, the new DPW truck has received its updates, and the Community Outreach Committee has acquired a Zoom account to encourage public participation.

PUBLIC COMMENT

Beverly Haaf, 124 Riverbank, thanked the Council for its approval of the payment to the Beverly Bee.

Kelsey Snively, 1315 Maple Ave, Roebing, New Jersey 08554, reminded the Council of the upcoming events sponsored by the Haaf Family Arts Foundation.

John Haaf, 124 Riverbank, inquired if the new heating and cooling system in City Hall is functioning property. Mr. Wolbert confirmed same. Mr. Haaf also inquired about the status of the 4th quarter tax bills. Mr. Wolbert stated that they are being processed and will be issued shortly.

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

EXECUTIVE SESSION

Resolution 2021-106: Resolution Authorizing the Mayor, Common Council, and Support Staff to Meet in Executive Session

City Administrator Wolbert stated that the purpose of tonight’s Executive Session will be to discuss matters of property acquisition and attorney-client privilege. No formal action will be taken after the close of Executive Session.

A motion was offered by Councilman Schwedes and seconded by Councilman Lowden to adopt Resolution 2021-106 and convene into Executive Session. Motion carried. The Mayor, Common Council, and support staff entered Executive Session at 5:34PM.

The Mayor, Common Council, and support staff returned to the dais at 6:07PM.

ADJOURNMENT

A motion was offered by Councilman Schwedes and seconded by Councilman Dale to adjourn the meeting. Motion carried. The meeting adjourned at 6:07PM.

**Caitlin D’Alfonso, RMC/CMR
Municipal Clerk**

Approved: October 26, 2021