

**CITY OF BEVERLY
BURLINGTON COUNTY
STATE OF NEW JERSEY**

**COMMON COUNCIL
REGULAR SESSION MINUTES
FEBRUARY 22, 2022 – 7:30PM**

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., Councilwoman Bernadine Williams, Councilman Riccardo Dale, Mayor Randy H. Miller, City Administrator/Public Safety Director Richard Wolbert, City Solicitor Thomas Coleman, Esq., and Municipal Clerk Caitlin D’Alfonso. Councilman Mark Schwedes was absent from tonight’s meeting.

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

The following opening statement was read by City Clerk D’Alfonso:

“The Provisions of the Open Public Meetings Act have been met. Notice of this meeting, Resolution 2022-1, was posted on the Official Bulletin Board in City Hall, published in The Burlington County Times on January 9, 2022, 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 and Roll Call.

PUBLIC COMMENT ON AGENDA ITEMS ONLY

John Haaf, 124 Riverbank, in reviewing the bill list for tonight, inquired if the name of the sanitation company has changed. City Administrator Wolbert confirmed same.

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

APPROVAL OF MINUTES

Regular Session: February 8, 2022

A motion was offered by Councilwoman Williams 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, Williams, Bancroft

Nay:

Abstain:

Absent: Schwedes

MAYORAL APPONTMENTS

Land Use Board: Paul Lucca, Alternate No. 1

Mayor Miller made the aforementioned appointment to the Joint Land Use Board for a two-year term.

OLD BUSINESS

No old business was presented at this time.

NEW BUSINESS

No new business was presented.

BILL LIST

- Bill List for February 22, 2022

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

Aye: Dale, Lowden, Williams, Bancroft

Nay:

Abstain:

Absent: Schwedes

ORDINANCE – FIRST READING/INTRODUCTION

Ordinance 2022-1: Ordinance of the City of Beverly Cancelling Certain Unfunded Appropriation Balances

City Administrator Wolbert explained that the purpose of the above ordinance is to rescind Ordinance 2021-9, which appropriated \$295,000 for the completion of road improvement projects, as a duplicate appropriation was later provided for in Bond Ordinance 2021-11.

A motion was offered by Councilman Lowden and seconded by Councilwoman Williams to introduce Ordinance 2022-1. Motion carried on a Roll Call Vote, as follows:

Aye: Dale, Lowden, Williams, Bancroft

Nay:

Abstain:

Absent: Schwedes

CORRESPONDENCE

Mayor Miller read aloud correspondence received from the Palmyra High School Post Prom Committee, requesting a donation to the school's post prom party. As the municipality is unable to make donations with taxpayer funds, John Haaf of the Haaf Family Arts Foundation offered to make a monetary donation in the City's name.

MAYOR/COUNCIL/STAFF COMMENTS

City Administrator Wolbert stated that the City will be holding its public visioning session on March 3rd as it relates to the NJOPA centers of place designation.

City Solicitor Coleman requested a brief Executive Session at tonight's meeting.

The Municipal Court Report for January 2022 was reviewed without comment.

PUBLIC COMMENT

John Haaf, 124 Riverbank, inquired about who prepared the documents on the City's website regarding the upcoming visioning session for the centers of place designation. City Administrator Wolbert noted that the documents were prepared by the Burlington County Bridge Commission. City Clerk D'Alfonso added that the Municipal Self-Assessment Report was prepared by Mr. Wolbert.

Kelsey Snively, 132 Riverbank, gave a presentation to the City Council as the Executive Director of the Haaf Family Arts Foundation, explaining that the foundation applied for a grant from the Burlington County Commissioners and was awarded \$10,000, the funds of which were allocated by the NJ State Council of the Arts. With this grant, the foundation would like to host a blues music festival at the Riverfront Park in September, which will include live bands, food trucks, a medic tent, and other vendors. If the Council was agreeable, Ms. Snively requested a meeting with the Community Events Committee to commence event preparation. Additionally, it was suggested that the "Miss Beverly" pageant be revived and included with this event.

City Administrator Wolbert noted that the Police and Fire Department will need to be involved in the planning process for safety measures.

Mayor Miller inquired about how the Haaf Family Arts Foundation plans to advertise the event. Ms. Snively explained that allocated funds from the grant for this purpose will be determined once the planning process begins.

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

EXECUTIVE SESSION

Resolution 2022-37: Resolution Authorizing the Mayor, Common Council, and Support Staff to Meet in Executive Session to Discuss Matters Involving Contract Negotiations

City Solicitor Coleman stated that the purpose of tonight's Executive Session will be to discuss matters of contract negotiations. No formal action will be taken upon the conclusion of same.

A motion was offered by Councilwoman Williams and seconded by Councilman Dale to enter Executive Session. Motion carried. The Mayor, Council, and support staff entered same at 7:54PM, and returned to the public portion of the meeting at 8:13PM.

ADJOURNMENT

A motion was offered by Councilman Dale and seconded by Councilwoman Williams to adjourn the meeting. Motion carried. The meeting adjourned at 8:13PM.

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

Approved: