

**CITY OF BEVERLY
BURLINGTON COUNTY
STATE OF NEW JERSEY
COMMON COUNCIL
REGULAR SESSION MINUTES
MARCH 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 Mark Schwedes, 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.

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, a Moment of Silence for Ukraine, and Roll Call.

Council President Bancroft asked for a motion to amend the agenda to include the following resolution:

Resolution 2022-45: Resolution Authorizing the Use of Clean Communities Grant Funds for the Purchase of Reusable Bags

A motion was offered by Councilwoman Williams and seconded by Councilman Schwedes to amend the agenda. Motion carried.

PUBLIC COMMENT ON AGENDA ITEMS ONLY

John Haaf, 124 Riverbank, inquired about the purpose of Resolution 2022-45. City Administrator Wolbert explained that the resolution authorizes the purchase of reusable grocery bags for City residents through the Clean Communities Grant Funds in light of New Jersey’s single-use bag ban.

Additionally, Mr. Haaf questioned why the City needed to enter into a Shared Services Agreement with Chesterfield Township for Certified Recycling Professional Services. Mr. Wolbert stated that the City is required to submit an annual tonnage report in order to obtain recycling grant funds, and that the report must be signed by someone with a CRP designation. There will be no charge attached to this agreement.

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

OATH OF OFFICE

Officer Isael Torres Jimenez

Officer James A. Nevins

City Solicitor Coleman administered the oath of office to the above listed individuals.

PRESENTATION

Joe Henry – Hardenbergh Insurance

Mr. Henry, as part of the BURLCOJIF's Safety Incentive Program, provided a required safety presentation to the Council on how to prevent slips, trips, and falls in the work place.

APPROVAL OF MINUTES

Regular Session: March 8, 2022

A motion was offered by Councilman Schwedes and seconded by Councilman Dale 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.

BILL LIST

- Bill List for March 22, 2022

A motion was offered by Councilman Lowden 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:

CORRESPONDENCE

Mayor Miller read aloud correspondence received from Senator Troy Singleton's office notifying the City that it received \$163,000 in Small Cities Grant Funds.

RESOLUTIONS

Resolution 2022-40: Resolution Accepting Resignation of Ray Correa as Police Officer for the City of Beverly

A motion was offered by Councilman Schwedes and seconded by Councilman Dale to adopt Resolution 2022-40. Motion carried on a Roll Call Vote, as follow:

Aye: Dale, Lowden, Schwedes, Williams, Bancroft

Nay:

Abstain:

Absent:

Resolution 2022-41: Resolution Authorizing Transfer of 2021 Appropriation Reserves

Councilman Schwedes inquired if the City anticipates having to approve additional transfers for the cost of gasoline. City Administrator Wolbert stated that as the City plans to introduce this year's budget in the next few months, any potential additional transfers from the 2021 budget is still to be determined. However, the City will need to budget an increased amount for gasoline for 2022.

A motion was offered by Councilman Lowden and seconded by Councilwoman Williams to adopt Resolution 2022-41. Motion carried on a Roll Call Vote, as follows:

Aye: Dale, Lowden, Schwedes, Williams, Bancroft

Nay:

Abstain:

Absent:

Resolution 2022-42: Resolution Authorizing Shared Services Agreement with Chesterfield Township for Certified Recycling Professional Services

A motion was offered by Councilman Schwedes and seconded by Councilwoman Williams to adopt Resolution 2022-42. Motion carried on a Roll Call Vote, as follows:

Aye: Dale, Lowden, Schwedes, Williams, Bancroft

Nay:

Abstain:

Absent:

Resolution 2022-43: Resolution Authorizing Reimbursement to Riverton Borough Police Department for Point-Blank Vest

A motion was offered by Councilman Schwedes and seconded by Councilman Lowden to adopt Resolution 2022-43. Motion carried on a Roll Call Vote, as follows:

Aye: Dale, Lowden, Schwedes, Williams, Bancroft

Nay:

Abstain:

Absent:

Resolution 2022-45: Resolution Authorizing the Use of Clean Communities Grant Funds for the Purchase of Reusable Bags

A motion was offered by Councilwoman Williams and seconded by Councilman Lowden to adopt Resolution 2022-45. Motion carried on a Roll Call Vote, as follows:

Aye: Dale, Lowden, Schwedes, Williams, Bancroft

Nay:

Abstain:

Absent:

MAYOR/COUNCIL/STAFF COMMENTS

Mayor Miller cautioned the public about a rabid raccoon in the area.

Councilman Schwedes welcomed the new police officers.

Councilman Lowden stated that the Historical Society will be hosting an open house and plant sale on May 7th and resident Charlene Rodgers was given an award for her achievements with the organization. Additionally, Mr. Lowden provided Council with an update from the last Board of Fire Commissioner’s meeting.

Councilwoman Williams stated that there will now be separate meetings for the Community Events Committee and Community Outreach Committee.

City Administrator Wolbert noted that the Delaware Valley Regional Planning Commission will be hosting a virtual meeting regarding the potential ferry service along the Delaware River on April 30th.

PUBLIC COMMENT

John Haaf, 124 Riverbank, stated that the Haaf Family Arts Foundation will be holding a production of Shakespeare’s Hamlet at the Episcopal Church and that auditions will be held for same.

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

EXECUTIVE SESSION

Resolution 2022-44: Resolution Authorizing the Mayor, Common Council, and Support Staff to Meet in Executive Session to Discuss Matters Involving Contract Negotiations, Attorney-Client Privilege, and Security Tactics and Techniques

City Administrator Wolbert stated that no action will be taken at the conclusion of Executive Session.

A motion was offered by Councilman Schwedes and seconded by Councilman Dale to adopt Resolution 2022-44 and convene into Executive Session. Motion carried. The Mayor, Common

Council, and support staff entered same at 8:09PM and returned to the public portion of the meeting at 8:30PM.

ADJOURNMENT

A motion was offered by Councilman Schwedes and seconded by Councilwoman Williams to adjourn the meeting. Motion carried. The meeting adjourned at 8:31PM.

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

Approved: April 12, 2022