

**CITY OF BEVERLY
BURLINGTON COUNTY
STATE OF NEW JERSEY
COMMON COUNCIL
REGULAR SESSION MINUTES
APRIL 12, 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 7:31PM.

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, Moment of Silence, and Roll Call.

PUBLIC COMMENT ON AGENDA ITEMS ONLY

There being no comments, a motion was offered by Councilman Schwedes and seconded by Councilman Dale to close this portion of the meeting. Motion carried.

PROCLAMATION

Proclamation in Honor of Domenic Astemborski

Mayor Miller presented a proclamation in honor of lifelong resident Domenic Astemborski and his contributions to Beverly’s community.

APPROVAL OF MINUTES

Regular Session: March 22, 2022

Executive Session: March 22, 2022

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 April 12, 2022

Councilman Schwedes inquired about the payment to a vendor listed as MC Systems. City Administrator Wolbert stated that the vendor provides the software system utilized by various departments.

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

Aye: Dale, Lowden, Schwedes, Williams, Bancroft

Nay:

Abstain:

Absent:

RESOLUTIONS

Resolution 2022-46: Resolution Authorizing Commercial Lease Agreement with Endeavor Emergency Squad, Inc. for Property Located at 703 Melbourne Ave

Councilman Lowden inquired if the use of the building for elections is included in the lease agreement. City Administrator Wolbert stated that same is not included in the lease, however, the organization has agreed to the building's use for voting and the location has been formally changed with the Burlington County Board of Elections.

A motion was offered by Councilman Lowden and seconded by Councilwoman Williams to adopt Resolution 2022-46. Motion carried on a Roll Call Vote, as follows:

Aye: Dale, Lowden, Williams, Bancroft

Nay:

Abstain: Schwedes

Absent:

CORRESPONDENCE

No correspondence was presented at this time.

MAYOR/COUNCIL/STAFF COMMENTS

Mayor Miller recognized all citizens that make positive contributions to Beverly's community.

Councilman Schwedes and Councilman Lowden spoke very highly of Mr. Astemborski's character.

City Administrator Wolbert updated Council on the following matters: Endeavor Emergency Squad will begin its operations out of 703 Melbourne Ave starting on May 1st, with plans to operate out of the station for 21 hours a day with two ambulances; improvements to the old Public Works truck have been completed; and the City may want to consider revising its Zoning Ordinance to include provisions for the oversight of accessory apartments (in-law suites) to prevent illegal rentals.

PUBLIC COMMENT

Kelsey Snively, 132 Riverbank, thanked the Mayor and Council for the proclamation in honor of Mr. Astemborski. Additionally, Ms. Snively stated that the Haaf Family Arts Foundation will be hosting an art show at the Beverly Housing Authority office on April 30th.

Beverly Haaf, 124 Riverbank, stated that the Beverly Free Library will be participating in another clean communities clean-up for mini-grant funds on April 22nd.

John Haaf, 124 Riverbank, shared fond memories of Mr. Astemborski. Additionally, Mr. Haaf inquired if the lease to Endeavor Emergency Squad for the building at 703 Melbourne Ave gives exclusive access to the organization. City Administrator Wolbert stated that if another organization wanted to utilize the building for a community event, permission will need to be sought from Endeavor.

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

EXECUTIVE SESSION

Resolution 2022-47: Resolution Authorizing the Mayor, Common Council, and Support Staff to Meet in Executive Session to Discuss Matters Involving Property Acquisitions and Attorney-Client Privilege

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 2022-47 and convene into Executive Session. Motion carried. The Mayor, Common Council, and support staff entered same at 7:59PM and returned to the public portion of the meeting at 8:25PM.

ADJOURNMENT

A motion was offered by Councilman Schwedes and seconded by Councilwoman Williams to adjourn the meeting. Motion carried. The meeting adjourned at 8:25PM.

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

Approved: April 26, 2022