

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

**COMMON COUNCIL
REGULAR SESSION MINUTES
MAY 10, 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, Mayor Randy H. Miller, City Administrator/Public Safety Director Richard Wolbert, City Solicitor Thomas J. Coleman III, Esq., and Municipal Clerk Caitlin D’Alfonso. Councilman Riccardo Dale 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, Moment of Silence for Ukraine, and Roll Call.

PUBLIC COMMENT ON AGENDA ITEMS ONLY

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

APPROVAL OF MINUTES

Regular Session: April 26, 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: Lowden, Schwedes, Williams, Bancroft

Nay:

Abstain:

Absent: Dale

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 10, 2022

Councilman Schwedes inquired about the payment to Light Works Electric, LLC. City Administrator Wolbert stated that the payment is for additional necessary lighting items in relation to the EMS Building, and that PSEG may provide the City with reimbursements for all LED light fixtures installed within the last six months. Additionally, Mr. Schwedes inquired about the payment to Garty Law Firm. Mr. Wolbert explained that same is related to labor counsel services.

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: Lowden, Schwedes, Williams, Bancroft

Nay:

Abstain:

Absent: Dale

RESOLUTIONS

Resolution 2022-50: Resolution Authorizing Tree Removal Services from Rich Tree Service Through New Jersey State Contract #18-DPP-00645

Councilman Schwedes inquired about the location of the tree removal. City Administrator Wolbert stated that nine hazardous trees will be removed from the riverfront property, and three additional trees in the area will be trimmed.

A motion was offered by Councilman Schwedes and seconded by Councilman Dale to adopt Resolution 2022-50. Motion carried on a Roll Call Vote, as follows:

Aye: Lowden, Schwedes, Williams, Bancroft

Nay:

Abstain:

Absent: Dale

CORRESPONDENCE

No correspondence was presented.

MAYOR/COUNCIL/STAFF COMMENTS

Mayor Miller noted that the country is expected to surpass 1 million deaths from COVID-19 this week.

Councilman Lowden stated that the Historical Society postponed the annual plant sale to this Saturday due to inclement weather this past weekend. Additionally, Mr. Lowden noted that additional information regarding community events should be included on the City's website.

Councilwoman Williams stated that the Community Events Committee will be having a meeting this Thursday at City Hall. Additionally, the Dumpster Day/Shredding/E-Waste Recycling Event has been postponed to this coming Saturday due to last weekend's inclement weather.

City Administrator Wolbert updated Council on the following matters: Endeavor Emergency Squad has officially started to operate out of the EMS Building; there are certain repairs that need to be made to the doors at the EMS building as same were not installed properly when the building was constructed; a stormwater inlet on Melbourne Ave collapsed and was repaired by the DPW; and NJ American Water will be relocating the water main on Melbourne Ave this coming Saturday in order to prepare for the placement of modular trailers at the Elementary School.

Councilman Lowden inquired about the status update on the City-wide gas main replacement project being performed by PSEG. Mr. Wolbert stated that all the mains have been installed, and that PSEG has moved into the next phase of installing service connections. Regarding same, Councilman Schwedes noted that not all mains in the City were replaced, and asked if it would affect the placement of gas meters outside the home. Mr. Wolbert explained that only cast iron and uncoated steel mains were replaced, and meters can be placed outside even in areas where new mains weren't installed.

PUBLIC COMMENT

Kelsey Snively, 132 Riverbank, stated that the Art Show sponsored by the Haaf Family Arts Foundation received a good turnout. Additionally, the Community Events Committee will start accepting Fishing Derby applications for June 4th.

Luis Crespo, 623 Broad Street, asked the Council to summarize how municipal government works for the benefit of children present at tonight's meeting. Council President Bancroft summarized the purpose of City Council and its duties and obligations to the residents.

John Haaf, 124 Riverbank, stated that it is important for young citizens to understand how local government operates. Additionally, Mr. Haaf noted that there appears to be an issue with the timely issuing of construction permits. City Administrator Wolbert stated that it is not typical for construction permits to not be issued within a timely fashion, and that he will look into the matter.

Beverly Haaf, 124 Riverbank, noted that there are new projects and events being planned at the Beverly Free Library.

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

ADJOURNMENT

A motion was offered by Councilman Schwedes and seconded by Councilman Lowden to adjourn the meeting. Motion carried. The meeting adjourned at 7:57PM.

Caitlin D'Alfonso, RMC/CMR
Municipal Clerk

Approved: May 24, 2022