

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

**COMMON COUNCIL
REGULAR SESSION MINUTES
NOVEMBER 8, 2022 – 5:30PM**

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

Council President Bancroft called the meeting to order at 5:30PM.

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. Notice that this meeting will be held at 5:30PM was posted on the Official Bulletin Board in City Hall, published in The Burlington County Times on May 27, 2022, transmitted to the Camden Courier Post, and was sent to all persons requesting same.”

The above was followed by the Flag Salute, Moment of Silence for the passing of Steven J. Corcoran, and Roll Call.

PUBLIC COMMENT ON AGENDA ITEMS ONLY

Ron Paice, 527 Broad Street, inquired about the purchase of playground equipment in Bond Ordinance 2022-9. City Administrator Wolbert clarified same.

John Haaf, 124 Riverbank, asked about the price of the lease agreement with the U.S Coast Guard per Resolution 2022-109. Council President Bancroft noted that the cost of same is \$1.00 annually.

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

APPROVAL OF MINUTES

Regular Session: October 25, 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, Schwedes, Williams, Bancroft
Nay:
Abstain:
Absent: Lowden

OLD BUSINESS

Centers of Place Designation: City Administrator Wolbert stated that the City was awarded the Centers of Place designation through the New Jersey State Planning Commission.

NEW BUSINESS

Best Practices Inventory: City Administrator Wolbert noted that the City achieved a total of 31 points for this year's best practices inventory and, as a result, will not see a loss in State aid.

BILL LIST

- Bill List for November 8, 2022

Councilman Schwedes inquired about the payment to Edmunds. Mr. Wolbert provided clarification about the expenditure.

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

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

ORDINANCE – SECOND READING/ADOPTION

Ordinance 2022-9: Bond Ordinance Authorizing the Acquisition of Capital Equipment in and for the City of Beverly, County of Burlington, New Jersey; Appropriating the Sum Of \$128,500 Therefor; Authorizing the Issuance of General Obligation Bonds or Bond Anticipation Notes of the City of Beverly, County of Burlington, New Jersey, in the Aggregate Principal Amount of up to \$122,075; Making Certain Determinations Aad Covenants; and Authorizing Certain Related Actions in Connection with the Foregoing

Council President Bancroft opened the public hearing on Ordinance 2022-9.

Kelsey Snively, 132 Riverbank, inquired about the purchase of a sports utility vehicle. City Administrator Wolbert stated that the appropriation is to purchase a new vehicle for the police department.

Jeff Weisinger, 44 Pine Street, asked about the interest rate the City will pay for the expenditures in the aforesaid bond ordinance. Mr. Wolbert noted that the interest rate will not be determined until the financing process begins, and that this ordinance simply authorizes the City to borrow funds for the specified purposes.

There being no further comments, a motion was offered by Councilwoman Williams and seconded by Councilman Dale to close the public hearing on Ordinance 2022-9. Motion carried.

A motion was offered by Councilman Schwedes and seconded by Councilman Dale to adopt Ordinance 2022-9. Motion carried on a Roll Call Vote, as follows:

Aye: Dale, Schwedes, Williams, Bancroft

Nay:

Abstain:

Absent: Lowden

Ordinance 2022-10: Bond Ordinance Authorizing the Completion of Various Road Improvements for the City of Beverly, County of Burlington, New Jersey; Appropriating the Sum of \$324,000 Therefor; Authorizing the Issuance of General Obligation Bonds or Bond Anticipation Notes of the City of Beverly, County of Burlington, New Jersey, in the Aggregate Principal Amount of up to \$51,300; Making Certain Determinations and Covenants; and Authorizing Certain Related Actions in Connection with the Foregoing

Council President Bancroft opened the public hearing on Ordinance 2022-10.

Ron Paice, 527 Broad Street, asked about soft costs. Mr. Wolbert explained that soft costs pertain to professional service expenditures, such as engineering costs.

Kelsey Snively, 132 Riverbank, inquired about the roadways that will be redone as part of the 2022 Road Improvement project. Mr. Wolbert noted that the road program only includes Laurel Street, but that the main driver of cost is to correct the significant drainage issues on same.

There being no further comments, a motion was offered by Councilman Schwedes and seconded by Councilman Dale to close the public hearing on Ordinance 2022-10. Motion carried.

A motion was offered by Councilman Schwedes and seconded by Councilman Dale to adopt Ordinance 2022-10. Motion carried on a Roll Call Vote, as follows:

Aye: Dale, Schwedes, Williams, Bancroft

Nay:

Abstain:

Absent: Lowden

RESOLUTIONS

Resolution 2022-105: Resolution of the City of Beverly, in the County of Burlington, and State of New Jersey Authorizing a Developer's Agreement with 454-456 Cooper Street, LLC for 454-456 Cooper Street

A motion was offered by Councilman Schwedes and seconded by Councilwoman Williams to adopt Resolution 2022-105. Motion carried on a Roll Call Vote, as follows:

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

Resolution 2022-106: Resolution of the City of Beverly, in the County of Burlington, and State of New Jersey, Approving Affordable Housing Agreements with Kenneth O’Neill and Authorizing Execution of Documents Related to Same for 454-456 Cooper Street

Councilman Schwedes inquired about the status of the remaining RCA units. City Administrator Wolbert noted that the required number of units are almost complete.

Mayor Miller asked about the number of affordable units to be established through this agreement. Mr. Wolbert stated that this agreement authorizes three units, and that three additional units at this property were previously approved. In total, this property will have six affordable rental units.

A motion was offered by Councilman Schwedes and seconded by Councilwoman Williams to adopt Resolution 2022-106. Motion carried on a Roll Call Vote, as follows:

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

Resolution 2022-107: Resolution Authorizing Payment to 454-456 Cooper Street, LLC in Relation to Regional Contribution Agreement Credits Issued to Property Located at 454-456 Cooper Street (Block 1168, Lot 8)

A motion was offered by Councilwoman Williams and seconded by Councilman Schwedes to adopt Resolution 2022-107. Motion carried on a Roll Call Vote, as follows:

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

Resolution 2022-108: Resolution Authorizing Transfer of 222 Budget Appropriations

A motion was offered by Councilman Schwedes and seconded by Councilwoman Williams to adopt Resolution 2022-108. Motion carried on a Roll Call Vote, as follows:

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

Resolution 2022-109: Resolution Authorizing Lease Agreement with U.S Coast Guard for Riverfront Range Light

A motion was offered by Councilwoman Williams and seconded by Councilman Dale to adopt Resolution 2022-109. Motion carried on a Roll Call Vote, as follows:

Aye: Dale, Schwedes, Williams, Bancroft

Nay:

Abstain:

Absent: Lowden

CORRESPONDENCE

No correspondence was presented at this time.

MAYOR/COUNCIL/STAFF COMMENTS

Councilman Schwedes thanked City Administrator Wolbert for his efforts in ensuring that the City successfully passes the annual best practices inventory.

Councilwoman Williams stated that the date for the Tree Lighting is December 10th.

The Endeavor EMS report for September 2022 was reviewed without comment.

PUBLIC COMMENT

Council President Bancroft opened public comment.

Kelsey Snively, 132 Riverbank, noted that the Haaf Family Arts Foundation will be hosting a gingerbread house-building event on December 3rd. Additionally, the Beverly Free Library will be hosting Story-time with Santa on December 12th.

Ronald Paice, 527 Broad Street, invited those in attendance to St. Nicholas Day to be held at St. Stephen's Church on December 3rd. Additionally, Mr. Paice complimented the efforts of the City's staff.

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

ADJOURNMENT

A motion was offered by Councilwoman Williams and seconded by Councilman Dale to adjourn the meeting. Motion carried. The meeting adjourned at 5:58PM.

Caitlin D'Alfonso, RMC/CMR
Municipal Clerk

Approved: November 22, 2022