

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

**COMMON COUNCIL
REGULAR SESSION MINUTES
DECEMBER 13, 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 Riccardo Dale, Councilman Mark Schwedes, Mayor Randy H. Miller, City Administrator/Public Safety Director Richard Wolbert, Solicitor Stephen Raymond, Jr. Esq., and Municipal Clerk Caitlin D’Alfonso. Councilman Robert Lowden, Jr. and Councilwoman Bernadine Williams were absent from tonight’s meeting.

Council President Bancroft called the meeting to order at 5:42PM.

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 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 public comments on agenda items only. Motion carried.

APPROVAL OF MINUTES

Regular Session: November 22, 2022

Executive Session: November 22, 2022

A motion was offered by Councilman Schwedes and seconded by Council President Bancroft to approve the above listed set of minutes. Motion carried on a Roll Call Vote, as follows:

Aye: Schwedes, Bancroft

Nay:

Abstain: Dale

Absent: Lowden, Williams

BILL LIST

- Bill List for December 13, 2022

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, Bancroft

Nay:

Abstain:

Absent: Lowden, Williams

OLD BUSINESS

Trash Collection Ordinance Revisions: City Administrator Wolbert suggested that this discussion be postponed to a later meeting when the full membership of the Council is present.

NEW BUSINESS

Employee Healthcare Waiver Increase: City Administrator Wolbert explained that the State has significantly increased its healthcare insurance costs for next year. In order to incentivize the employees to seek coverage elsewhere to help offset the aforesaid increase in the City's budget, Mr. Wolbert recommended that the healthcare waiver amount be increased to \$3,000.00. Council agreed with same.

ORDINANCE – FIRST READING/INTRODUCTION

Ordinance 2022-11: An Ordinance Amending Ordinance 2020-1 Establishing Fees for Off-Duty and Outside Employment for Police Officers and Use of Police Vehicles

City Administrator Wolbert explained the purpose of the above ordinance, and noted that the Police Department has requested an hourly fee of \$100 per hour for outside employment. After slight discussion, Council agreed to the proposed hourly rate.

A motion was offered by Councilman Schwedes and seconded by Councilman Dale to introduce Ordinance 2022-11. Motion carried on a Roll Call Vote, as follows:

Aye: Dale, Schwedes, Bancroft

Nay:

Abstain:

Absent: Lowden, Williams

RESOLUTIONS

Resolution 2022-112: Resolution Reappointing Municipal Clerk and Establishment of Tenure

A motion was offered by Councilman Schwedes and seconded by Councilman Dale to adopt Resolution 2022-112. Motion carried on a Roll Call Vote, as follows:

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

Resolution 2022-113: Resolution Authorizing Refund of Overpaid Taxes on 326 Wheatley Ave

A motion was offered by Councilman Dale and seconded by Councilman Schwedes to adopt Resolution 2022-113. Motion carried on a Roll Call Vote, as follows:

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

Resolution 2022-114: Resolution Authorizing Refund of Overpaid Taxes on 604 Wheatley Ave

A motion was offered by Councilman Dale and seconded by Councilman Schwedes to adopt Resolution 2022-114. Motion carried on a Roll Call Vote, as follows:

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

Resolution 2022-115: Resolution Authorizing Refund for Overpaid Taxes on 64 Riverbank

A motion was offered by Councilman Schwedes and seconded by Councilman Dale to adopt Resolution 2022-115. Motion carried on a Roll Call Vote, as follows:

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

Resolution 2022-116: Resolution Authorizing Execution of Agreement with Jobs4Blue

A motion was offered by Councilman Schwedes and seconded by Councilman Dale to adopt Resolution 2022-116. Motion carried on a Roll Call Vote, as follows:

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

Resolution 2022-117: Resolution Authorizing Transfer of 2022 Budget Appropriations

A motion was offered by Councilman Schwedes and seconded by Councilman Dale to adopt Resolution 2022-117. Motion carried on a Roll Call Vote, as follows:

Aye: Dale, Schwedes, Bancroft

Nay:

Abstain:

Absent: Lowden, Williams

Resolution 2022-118: Resolution Refunding Overpaid Lien Subsequent Sewer Charges on 409 Warren Street

A motion was offered by Councilman Schwedes and seconded by Councilman Dale to adopt Resolution 2022-118. Motion carried on a Roll Call Vote, as follows:

Aye: Dale, Schwedes, Bancroft

Nay:

Abstain:

Absent: Lowden, Williams

Resolution 2022-119: Resolution Refunding Overpaid Lien Subsequent Charges on 222 Laurel Street

A motion was offered by Councilman Schwedes and seconded by Councilman Dale to adopt Resolution 2022-119. Motion carried on a Roll Call Vote, as follows:

Aye: Dale, Schwedes, Bancroft

Nay:

Abstain:

Absent: Lowden, Williams

CORRESPONDENCE

No correspondence was presented at this time.

MAYOR/COUNCIL/STAFF COMMENTS

Mayor Miller wished all healthy and safe holidays.

Councilman Schwedes congratulated City Clerk D’Alfonso on her reappointment.

Councilman Dale thanked those who supported and attended the Tree Lighting this past weekend.

City Administrator Wolbert noted that RFPs for 2023 professional services are due on 12/14, and that DPW is preparing for upcoming winter weather storms.

City Clerk D’Alfonso thanked Council for her reappointment.

The Municipal Court report for November 2022 was reviewed without comment.

PUBLIC COMMENT

Council President Bancroft opened public comment.

Kelsey Snively, 132 Riverbank, on behalf of the Haaf Family Arts Foundation, stated that the organization, through its 20 sponsored events and programs over the year, engaged approximately 742 individuals.

Jeff Weisinger, 44 Pine Street, asked for an update regarding 20 Pine Street. City Administrator Wolbert noted that the property will be placed for auction early in the new year.

John Haaf, 124 Riverbank, congratulated the Municipal Clerk on her reappointment.

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

EXECUTIVE SESSION

Resolution 2022-120: Resolution Authorizing the Mayor, Common Council, and Support Staff to Meet in Executive Session for Matters Involving 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 Dale and seconded by Councilman Schwedes to adopt Resolution 2022-120 and convene into Executive Session. Motion carried. The Mayor, Council, and support staff entered same at 6:12PM, and returned to the public portion of the meeting at 6:49PM.

ADJOURNMENT

A motion was offered by Councilman Schwedes and seconded by Councilman Dale to adjourn the meeting. Motion carried. The meeting adjourned at 6:49PM.

Caitlin D'Alfonso, RMC/CMR
Municipal Clerk

Approved: December 27, 2022