

**CITY OF BEVERLY
BURLINGTON COUNTY
STATE OF NEW JERSEY

COMMON COUNCIL
REGULAR SESSION MINUTES
MAY 9, 2023 – 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 Robert E. Lowden, Jr., Councilman Mark Schwedes, Mayor Randy H. Miller, City Administrator/Public Safety Director Richard Wolbert, City Solicitor Stephen Raymond, Jr. Esq., and Municipal Clerk Caitlin D’Alfonso. Councilwoman Bernadine Williams and Councilman Riccardo Dale were 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 2023-1, was posted on the Official Bulletin Board in City Hall, published in The Burlington County Times on January 6, 2023, 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 and Roll Call.

PUBLIC COMMENT ON AGENDA ITEMS ONLY

Council President Bancroft opened public comment for agenda items only.

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

APPROVAL OF MINUTES

Regular Meeting: April 25, 2023

A motion was offered by Councilman Schwedes 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, Bancroft

Nay:

Abstain:

Absent: Dale, Williams

BILL LIST

Bill List for May 9, 2023

Councilman Schwedes inquired about the payments to Edmunds and Cherry Valley Tractor Sales. City Administrator Wolbert clarified same.

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: Lowden, Schwedes, Bancroft

Nay:

Abstain:

Absent: Dale, Williams

OLD BUSINESS

No old business was presented at this time.

NEW BUSINESS

No new business was presented at this time.

ORDINANCE – SECOND READING/PUBLIC HEARING

Ordinance 2023-3: Ordinance Amending Chapter 2 of the Code of the City of Beverly Entitled “Administration” Re-Affirming the Position of Code Enforcement Officer

Council President Bancroft opened the public hearing on Ordinance 2023-3.

Ronald Paice, 527 Broad Street, asked why it would be required for a municipal code enforcement officer to issue violations on health regulations if the Burlington County Board of Health assists municipalities with same. City Administrator Wolbert clarified that the ordinance will give the code enforcement officials the authority to address community health violations that the Burlington County Board of Health does not address.

There being no further comments, a motion was offered by Councilman Schwedes and seconded by Councilman Lowden to close the public hearing on Ordinance 2023-3.

A motion was offered by Councilman Schwedes and seconded by Councilman Lowden to adopt Ordinance 2023-3. Motion carried on a Roll Call Vote, as follows:

Aye: Lowden, Schwedes, Bancroft

Nay:

Abstain:

Absent: Dale, Williams

ORDINANCE – FIRST READING/INTRODUCTION

Ordinance 2023-4: An Ordinance Establishing Guidelines Concerning the General Public’s Access to All City Buildings and Facilities

Councilman Schwedes noted a formatting issue to be corrected.

A motion was offered by Councilman Schwedes and seconded by Councilman Lowden to introduce Ordinance 2023-4 as corrected. Motion carried on a Roll Call Vote, as follows:

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

Ordinance 2023-5: An Ordinance of the City of Beverly Amending Ordinance 2015-7 Regarding Property Maintenance

A motion was offered by Councilman Schwedes and seconded by Councilman Lowden to introduce Ordinance 2023-5. Motion carried on a Roll Call Vote, as follows:

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

CORRESPONDENCE

No correspondence was presented at this time.

MAYOR/COUNCIL/STAFF COMMENTS

Mayor Miller expressed concern over the nationwide increase in gun violence.

Councilman Lowden noted upcoming community events. Mr. Lowden also inquired about the status of the public auction of City owned properties.

City Administrator Wolbert stated that PSEG will be completing the repaving of municipal roadways this week. Additionally, Mr. Wolbert noted that a sinkhole occurred on Pine Street today, and that the issue has been addressed.

PUBLIC COMMENT

Council President Bancroft opened public comment.

Henry Planter, 511 Laurel Street, stated that he believes the paving on Laurel Street back in 2021 has caused his driveway apron to flood, inquired about the new street signs, inquired about curb painting for handicap parking, asked about the status of the playground swings on Broad Street, and stated that the basketball court has developed minor cracks in the asphalt.

Jeff Weisinger, 44 Pine Street, inquired about the procedure for trash and recycling collection during PSEG's street repaving process.

There being no further comments, a motion was offered by Councilman Schwedes and seconded by Councilman Lowden 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 6:00PM.

Caitlin D'Alfonso, RMC/CMR
Municipal Clerk

Approved: May 23, 2023