

**CITY OF BEVERLY
BURLINGTON COUNTY
STATE OF NEW JERSEY
COMMON COUNCIL
REGULAR SESSION MINUTES
JULY 11, 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 Riccardo Dale, Councilman Robert E. Lowden, Jr., Councilman Mark Schwedes, Mayor Randy H. Miller, City Administrator/Public Safety Director Richard Wolbert, City Solicitor Thomas Coleman, III, Esq., and Municipal Clerk Caitlin D’Alfonso. Councilwoman Williams 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 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.

John Haaf, 124 Riverbank, inquired about the change order referenced in Resolution 2023-69. Council President Bancroft clarified that the change order is to reduce the initial contract price.

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

APPROVAL OF MINUTES

Regular Meeting: June 27, 2023

Executive Session: June 27, 2023

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

Aye: Lowden, Bancroft

Nay:

Abstain: Dale, Schwedes

Absent: Williams

BILL LIST

Bill List for July 11, 2023

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

Aye: Dale, Lowden, Schwedes, Bancroft

Nay:

Abstain:

Absent: Williams

OLD BUSINESS

No old business was presented at this time

NEW BUSINESS

No new business was presented at this time.

ORDINANCE – FIRST READING/INTRODUCTION

Ordinance 2023-8: An Ordinance Authorizing Electric Vehicle Supply/Service Equipment and Make-Ready Parking Space

Councilman Schwedes and Mayor Miller inquired about the above ordinance. City Administrator Wolbert clarified that the installation of electric vehicle charging stations for new development is now required by State Law and summarized the provisions in same.

A motion was offered by Councilman Schwedes and seconded by Councilman Lowden to introduce Ordinance 2023-8. Motion carried on a Roll Call Vote, as follows:

Aye: Dale, Lowden, Schwedes, Bancroft

Nay:

Abstain:

Absent: Williams

RESOLUTIONS

Resolution 2023-69: Resolution Authorizing Change Order #1 for the 2021 Road Improvement Program

A motion was offered by Councilman Schwedes and seconded by Councilman Dale to adopt Resolution 2023-69. Motion carried on a Roll Call Vote, as follows:

Aye: Dale, Lowden, Schwedes, Bancroft

Nay:

Abstain:

Absent: Williams

Resolution 2023-70: Resolution Authorizing Pay Estimate #1 for the 2021 Road Improvement Program

A motion was offered by Councilman Schwedes and seconded by Councilman Dale to adopt Resolution 2023-70. Motion carried on a Roll Call Vote, as follows:

Aye: Dale, Lowden, Schwedes, Bancroft

Nay:

Abstain:

Absent: Williams

CORRESPONDENCE

No correspondence was presented at this time.

MAYOR/COUNCIL/STAFF COMMENTS

Mayor Miller inquired about the status of a feral cat issue on Spruce Street.

Councilman Dale invited the public to the basketball tournament hosted by the Community Events Committee on July 22nd.

Councilman Schwedes reminded the public of the upcoming farmer's market, and inquired if a certain portion of Jennings Street will be addressed during the 2021 Road Program.

City Administrator Wolbert updated Council on the following matters: the City received a \$75,000 TCDI grant through the DVRCP for a Circulation Plan Element; Senator Singleton has acquired \$250,000 in State funding to purchase two additional police vehicles and a new police body camera system for the City; and PSEG has started restoration work on County-owned roadways.

The Municipal Court Report for June 2023 was reviewed without comment.

The Endeavor EMS Report for June 2023 was received, with Council President Bancroft noting that the response times for the City have significantly decreased.

PUBLIC COMMENT

Council President Bancroft opened public comment.

Kelsey Snively, 132 Riverbank, noted upcoming Haaf Family Arts Foundation Events. Additionally, Ms. Snively inquired about Ordinance 2023-8.

Beverly Haaf, 124 Riverbank, noted that the farmer's market has been successful in raising funds for the Beverly Free Library. Mrs. Haaf also stated that there is a certain lot along Warren Street that has grass overgrowth.

Joe Heether, 603 Wheatley Ave, inquired if the City's power grid can sustain the installation of electric vehicle charging stations.

Hal Robertson, 179 Warren Street, complained of properties with overgrown grass and expressed that the City should hire additional employees for code enforcement.

Cindy Robertson, 179 Warren Street, complained of property maintenance issues and the appearance of landscaping at Family Dollar on Warren Street.

Joe Heether, 603 Wheatley Ave, inquired about the property maintenance enforcement process and expressed that he does not feel it appropriate for the City to aggressively enforce these issues.

John Haaf, 124 Riverbank, complimented the Beverly City School District.

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

ADJOURNMENT

A motion was offered by Councilman Schwedes and seconded by Councilman Dale to adjourn the meeting. Motion carried. The meeting adjourned at 6:17PM.

Caitlin D'Alfonso, RMC/CMR
Municipal Clerk

Approved: July 25, 2023