

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

**COMMON COUNCIL
REGULAR SESSION MINUTES
OCTOBER 10, 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 Mark Schwedes, Councilwoman Bernadine Williams, 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 E. 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 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.

Kelsey Snively, 132 Riverbank, inquired about Ordinance 2023-13.

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

APPROVAL OF MINUTES

Regular Meeting: September 26, 2023

Executive Session: September 26, 2023

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

Aye: Williams, Bancroft

Nay:

Abstain: Dale, Schwedes

Absent: Lowden

BILL LIST

Bill List for October 10, 2023

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

Aye: Dale, Schwedes, Williams, Bancroft

Nay:

Abstain: Dale (P.O #23-00556)

Absent: Lowden

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 2023-13: An Ordinance Rescinding Ordinance 2007-5 Entitled “An Ordinance Prohibiting the Accumulation of Brush, Weeds, and Debris and Requiring the Maintenance of Trees on Private Property”

A motion was offered by Councilman Schwedes and seconded by Councilman Dale to introduce Ordinance 2023-13. Motion carried on a Roll Call Vote, as follows:

Aye: Dale, Schwedes, Williams, Bancroft

Nay:

Abstain:

Absent: Lowden

RESOLUTIONS

Resolution 2023-109: Resolution Authorizing Extension of Contract (Year 4 Option) to Seaside Waste Services in Connection with the Solid Waste Collection and Disposal Services for the Historic Riverfront Neighborhood Solid Waste Collection Program

A motion was offered by Councilman Schwedes and seconded by Councilwoman Williams to adopt Resolution 2023-109. Motion carried on a Roll Call Vote, as follows:

Aye: Dale, Schwedes, Williams, Bancroft

Nay:

Abstain:

Absent: Lowden

Resolution 2023-110: Resolution Authorizing Final Payment to Jacmel Construction, LLC for Small Cities Grant Program (65 Railroad Ave)

A motion was offered by Councilman Dale and seconded by Councilwoman Williams to adopt Resolution 2023-110. Motion carried on a Roll Call Vote, as follows:

Aye: Dale, Schwedes, Williams, Bancroft

Nay:

Abstain:

Absent: Lowden

Resolution 2023-111: Resolution Authorizing Emergency Appropriations Less Than 3 Percent Total Operating Appropriations (N.J.S.A 40a:4-48) for the Replacement of a Transmission in a Police Vehicle for the Beverly City Police Department

A motion was offered by Councilwoman Williams and seconded by Councilman Schwedes to adopt Resolution 2023-111. 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 inquired about leaf collection operations.

Councilwoman Williams noted the upcoming Trunk-or-Treat event and the next Community Events/Outreach Committee meeting.

City Administrator Wolbert noted that the 2021 and 2022 Road Improvement projects are being finalized. Additionally, Mr. Wolbert stressed the need for confidentiality as it relates to information discussed in closed sessions.

PUBLIC COMMENT

Council President Bancroft opened public comment.

Kelsey Snively, 132 Riverbank, noted that the little free library at Farnum Park has been vandalized, and expressed concern over lighting issues and dead tree branches at same. Additionally, Ms. Snively thanked the City staff involved in helping to prepare for the Haaf Family Arts Foundation's Blues Festival.

Joe Heether, 603 Wheatley Ave, asked about branch chipping during leaf collection season.

John Haaf, 124 Riverbank, asked about the public release of executive session minutes. Mr. Haaf also inquired about the status of municipal court case involving a certain property on the riverfront as it relates to the operation of an Air B&B, and inquired about a real estate listing by a developer for a residential housing project on Cooper Street.

There being no further comments, a motion was offered by Councilman Schwedes and seconded by Councilwoman Williams 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 6:04PM.

Caitlin D'Alfonso, RMC/CMR
Municipal Clerk

Approved: October 24, 2023