

**CITY OF BEVERLY
BURLINGTON COUNTY
STATE OF NEW JERSEY
COMMON COUNCIL
REGULAR SESSION MINUTES
JULY 23, 2024 – 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 Bancroft, Councilmember Robert E. Lowden, Jr., Councilmember Bernadine Williams, Councilmember Kelsey Snively, Mayor Randy H. Miller, City Administrator/Public Safety Director Richard Wolbert, City Solicitor Thomas Coleman III, Esq., and City Clerk Caitlin D’Alfonso. Councilmember Riccardo Dale 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 2024-1, was posted on the Official Bulletin Board in City Hall, published in The Burlington County Times on January 7, 2024, 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.

Joseph Heether, 603 Wheatley Ave, inquired about the purpose of Ordinance 2024-12 and how it will affect the City’s current code enforcement procedures.

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

APPROVAL OF MINUTES

Regular Meeting: July 9, 2024

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

Aye: Lowden, Snively, Williams, Bancroft

Nay:

Abstain:

Absent: Dale

BILL LIST

Bill List: July 23, 2024

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

Aye: Lowden, Snively, Williams, Bancroft

Nay:

Abstain:

Absent: Dale

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 2024-12: Ordinance Establishing Provisions to Further Define the Enforcement Authority of the City’s Code Enforcement Officers for Cease and Desist Orders

Council President Bancroft opened the public hearing on Ordinance 2024-12. There being no comments, a motion was offered by Councilmember Williams and seconded by Councilmember Snively to close the public hearing on Ordinance 2024-12. Motion carried.

A motion was offered by Councilmember Snively and seconded by Councilmember Williams to adopt Ordinance 2024-12. Motion carried on a Roll Call Vote, as follows:

Aye: Lowden, Snively, Williams, Bancroft

Nay:

Abstain:

Absent: Dale

Ordinance 2024-13: Ordinance Amending Chapter 75 of the Code of the City of Beverly Entitled “Police Department” to Re-establish Staffing Levels in the Beverly City Police Department

Council President Bancroft opened the public hearing on Ordinance 2024-13.

Hal Robertson, 179 Warren Street, inquired if any appointed Lieutenants and Sergeants will continue to patrol or if they will solely be administrative positions.

Councilmember Snively asked for clarification on the structure of the Police Department that will be established via Ordinance 2024-13.

There being no further comments, a motion was offered by Councilmember Williams and seconded by Councilmember Snively to close the public hearing on Ordinance 2024-13. Motion carried.

A motion was offered by Councilmember Lowden and seconded by Councilmember Williams to adopt Ordinance 2024-13. Motion carried on a Roll Call Vote, as follows:

Aye: Lowden, Snively, Williams, Bancroft

Nay:

Abstain:

Absent: Dale

CONSENT AGENDA RESOLUTIONS

Resolution 2024-97: Resolution Authorizing Reimbursement of Overpayment for Discovery Request

Resolution 2024-98: Resolution Opposing Proposed Legislation Bypassing Local Zoning for Home-Based Businesses

A motion was offered by Councilmember Snively and seconded by Councilmember Williams to adopt the Consent Agenda (Resolution 2024-97 through Resolution 2024-98). Motion carried on a Roll Call Vote, as follows:

Aye: Lowden, Snively, Williams, Bancroft

Nay:

Abstain:

Absent: Dale

CORRESPONDENCE

No correspondence was presented at this time.

MAYOR/COUNCIL/STAFF COMMENTS

Councilmember Snively noted that a resident of Burlington County will be participating in the upcoming Olympics.

Councilmember Williams stated that the Basketball Tournament will be held this coming Saturday, and that preparations for Community Day are still underway.

City Administrator Wolbert stated that the roof replacement project at the Municipal Building is almost completed. Additionally, the City is still experiencing flooding in certain areas after the stormwater pipe cleanouts, which may result in the City needing to increase stormwater capacity at these locations.

PUBLIC COMMENT

Council President Bancroft opened public comment.

Alice Jester, 632 Spruce Street, asked Council to revisit the idea of a backyard chicken ordinance.

Cindy Robertson, 179 Warren Street, noted that as children are riding bikes without helmets, it may be beneficial to consider a helmet giveaway. Additionally, Ms. Robertson noted upcoming Haaf Family Arts Foundation events.

Slight discussion ensued on the possibility of a helmet giveaway and education services for children regarding the safety benefits of wearing helmets.

Joseph Heether, 603 Wheatley Ave, inquired about previous discussions regarding the keeping of backyard chickens. Additionally, Mr. Heether asked if the City has seen an increase in car thefts.

Hal Robertson, 179 Warren Street, inquired as to when curb painting will begin.

There being no further comments, a motion was offered by Councilmember Williams and seconded by Councilmember Snively to close public comment. Motion carried.

ADJOURNMENT

A motion was offered by Councilmember Snively and seconded by Councilmember Williams to adjourn the meeting. Motion carried. The meeting adjourned at 6:07PM.

Caitlin D'Alfonso, RMC/CMR
Municipal Clerk

Approved: August 13, 2024