



## **Borough of Bellevue**

### **Borough Council Meeting Minutes**

July 28, 2020, 7:00 pm  
Via Zoom Teleconference

#### **Call to Order**

President Pennington called the meeting to order at 7:00 pm.

The call to order was followed by the Pledge of Allegiance and a moment of silence.

#### **Roll Call**

The roll was called to establish a quorum. Present were Ms. Edmondson, Ms. Hause, Mr. Pritchard, Mr. Stuncard (via phone), Ms. Cerminara, Ms. Sloane, Mr. DiTullio, and President Pennington. Mrs. Pikul was absent. A quorum was established.

Also, in attendance were Mayor Emily Marburger, Treasurer Joe Scioscia; Director of Administrative Services Cindy Bahn; Financial Services Administrator Andrea Contes; and Solicitor Matt Racunas.

#### **Public Contribution on Agenda Items**

- Joe Scioscia, 256 Lincoln Avenue: Stated that he finds it troubling that Council continues to vote via email, and that such votes violate 1<sup>st</sup> Amendment rights.
- Joe Scioscia III, 256 Lincoln Avenue: Stated that he didn't realize that being Council President gives the right to call someone racist.
- Emily Kemerer, 218 N. Sprague: Noted her support for the Black Lives Matter Resolution, and requested more dialogue between elected officials and people of color in the Borough.
- Caitlyn Venczel, 556 Dawson Avenue: Stated that she is from Ward 3 and supports the BLM Resolution.
- Rob Venczel, 556 Dawson Avenue: Encouraged Ward 3 Council members to approve the BLM Resolution.
- Paulie Anne Williams, 460 Dawson Avenue: Thanked Ms. Cerminara for her efforts and encouraged Council approval of the resolution.
- Kristin Bruno, 326 W. Riverview Avenue: Expressed her disappointment that this is the first time she is hearing about the BLM Resolution.
- Linda Woshner, 137 S. Euclid Avenue: Suggested that Council be careful about permitting parking in front yards, and suggested that Council look at alternatives. Asked how Council can vote on a Code of Ethics without an Ethics Committee, and stated that when she was on Council, there was never discrimination.
- Liz Sterrett, 76 S. Fremont Avenue: Stated her support for the BLM Resolution.
- Tom Stokes, 507 Highland Place: Stated his support for the BLM Resolution.
- Alisa Maylo, 114 Cedar Avenue: Thanked Ms. Cerminara for drafting the Resolution.
- Stephen Maylo, 114 Cedar Avenue: Stated that he stands behind BLM, which should not be controversial subject; expressed his appreciation for the first responders at the recent fire on Grant Avenue.
- Laura Pollanen, 132 Lincoln Avenue: Stated her support for the BLM Resolution and asked Ward 1 Council members to vote in support of it.









thinks this way. The Solicitor raised a point of order, noting that not all Council members were present; he stated that everyone's opinion should be heard before formal action. Ms. Cerminara added that whether an individual is elected or appointed, they are representing the Borough have to be measured and thoughtful in what they say. President Pennington stated the per Mr. Scioscia's request, Council has discussed this in a public meeting, and any further discussion will be delayed until all Council members are present.

#### **Unfinished Business**

- Mr. Pritchard asked about the status of a replacement for the Code Enforcement Officer, and the Solicitor responded that this is a discussion for Executive Session.

#### **New Business**

- There were no items of new business for discussion or action.

#### **Public Contribution on Non-Agenda Items**

- Linda Woshner, 137 S. Euclid Avenue: Stated that all public employees have a right to a hearing.
- Caitlyn Venczel, 556 Dawson Avenue: Thanked Council for their action on BLM.
- Paulie Anne Williams, 460 Dawson Avenue: Thanked Council, and stated that 1<sup>st</sup> Amendment permits Americans to say what we want, but that doesn't mean there won't be consequences.
- Sabreena Miller, 89 Summer Avenue: Also thanked Council and asked everyone to work on peace, harmony, unity, and healing.
- Tony DiTullio, Council Member: Asked when scrutiny is going to point toward Bonafide Bellevue.
- Moniqueka Barron, 653 Tingley Avenue: Thanked Council, and stated that we must acknowledge that there is an issue.
- Anthony Barron, 653 Tingley Avenue: Stated that people have 2 ears and 1 mouth for a reason, and noted that he has been pulled over by police 7 times this year so far. He requested a moment of silence for 23 seconds.
- Amelia Koehler, 124 W. Riverview: Stated that she is new to Bellevue and is thankful for everyone who joined the meeting. Spoke about an issue she is having with a garbage bill; she heard that Bellevue is reconsidering its relationship with Jordan Tax Service.
- Kathy Coder, 25 N. Bryant Avenue: Stated that she is trying to be respectful after Mr. DiTullio's comments about Bonafide Bellevue; believes that it's hypocrisy to make a big deal out of the Treasurer's comments but not the comments of an elected official.
- Laura Pollanen, 132 Lincoln Avenue: Thanked Council, then noted that people in different positions have the right to speak during Public Contribution, but there are consequences.

#### **Executive Session**

- Council moved into Executive Session at 9:46 pm to discuss several personnel matters legal matter, and reconvened the meeting at 10:38.

Motion to advertise for a Building Code Official at a cost not to exceed \$250.

Moved: Ms. Hause

Second: Mr. Pritchard

All voted in favor of the motion. Motion carried, 6-0.

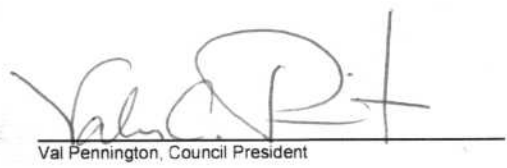
#### **Adjournment**

There being no further business, President Pennington adjourned the meeting at 10:40 pm.

ATTEST



Cindy L. Bahn, Director of Administrative Services/Secretary



Val Pennington, Council President

Minutes approved by Bellevue Borough Council on August 25, 2020.