



Borough of BelleVue

Borough Council Meeting Minutes August 25, 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. Sloane, Ms. Cerminara, Mr. DiTullio, Mr. Stuncard, 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; Engineer Bryan Churilla, and Solicitor Matt Racunas.

Public Contribution on Agenda Items

- Kristin Bruno, 326 W. Riverview Drive: Stated that she has attended the last several meetings, and people are calling others “racist” for holding up “Police Matters” signs, which is bullying. Also stated that if the Borough is going to fly an LGBTQ flag, that flags representing people from Italy and Ireland should also be flown.
- Luke Bruno, 326 W. Riverview Drive: Stated that businesses are struggling, but have not been informed about what’s happening with COVID-19.
- Laura Pollanen, 132 Lincoln Avenue: Reported that she spoke at the June meeting about removing Joe Scioscia and then received an anonymous letter, which she read. Stated that the letter was meant to shame and embarrass her.
- Emily Kemerer, 218 N. Sprague Avenue: Stated that she supports Laura’s sentiments, and requested that Council not require those who comment publicly to give their address. Added that she is living in a Borough that is making strides.
- Alisa Mehlo, 114 Cedar Avenue: Agreed with the previous 2 speakers and noted that, in relation to comment about no help for businesses that there was a great deal of arguing about businesses, which is petty. Stated that she expects more professionalism.
- Caitlyn Venczel, 556 Dawson Avenue: Expressed that she is elated over the BLM resolution and would like to see more follow up with training on de-escalation and community relations. Stated that she is deeply disturbed by threatening letters and that Council has the power to make changes

(Ms. Hause and Mr. Pritchard joined the meeting.)

Consent Agenda

Items of business and matters listed under the Consent Agenda are considered to be routine and noncontroversial and will be enacted by one motion and one vote. There will be no separate discussion of these

items. If discussion is desired by Council Members, that item is to be identified and removed from the Consent Agenda, and will be considered separately at the appropriate place on the Agenda.

- a. Motion to Accept Minutes of the June 9, 2020 Pre-Council Meeting.
- b. Motion to Accept Minutes of the June 23, 2020 Council Meeting.
- c. Motion to Accept Minutes of the July 14, 2020 Pre-Council Meeting.
- d. Motion to Accept Minutes of the July 28, 2020 Council Meeting.
- e. Motion to Accept Minutes of the August 5, 2020 Finance Committee Meeting,
- f. Motion to Accept Minutes of the August 5, 2020 Parks and Recreation Committee Meeting.
- g. Motion to Accept Minutes of the August 5, 2020 Public Safety Committee Meeting.
- h. Motion to Accept Minutes of the August 5, 2020 Public Works Committee Meeting.

Moved: President Pennington

Second: Mr. Stuncard

Ms. Hause requested that the minutes of the June meetings be withdrawn from the Consent Agenda, as she would like to discuss at the Finance Committee meeting.

All voted in favor of the revised Consent Agenda. Motion carried, 8-0.

Agenda Items

Finance Committee:

- a. Motion to Approve Payment of the August 25, 2020 Bill List.

Moved: Ms. Hause

Second: Ms. Edmondson

All voted in favor of the motion. Motion carried, 8-0.

Parks and Recreation Committee:

There were not agenda items for action.

Public Safety Committee:

- a. Motion to Authorize the Advertisement, at a Cost Not to Exceed \$250, a Meeting of the Civil Service Commissioners.

Moved: Ms. Cerminara

Second: Ms. Sloane

All voted in favor of the motion. Motion carried, 8-0.

- b. Discussion: National Night Out

Ms. Edmondson noted that the people planning the event met about a month ago, and discussed how to hold the event in the current situation where outdoor activities are limited to 250 people. She stated that it would be difficult to monitor and limit the number of attendees and recommends that the event be cancelled for 2020.

Motion: Cancel Borough Activities Related to the 2020 National Night Out Event.

Moved: Ms. Edmondson

Second: Ms. Cerminara

Public Works Committee:

- a. Motion to Approve the Purchase of a Salt Spreader at a Cost of \$3,732.00 (01.430.251).

Moved: Ms. Edmondson

Second: Ms. Cerminara

All voted in favor of the motion. Motion carried, 8-0.

- b. Motion to Approve Payment of \$4,978.69 to Shields Asphalt Paving for Completion of 2019 Paving Project (01.438.100).

Public Comment:

Linda Woshner, 137 S. Euclid: Noted that she was on Council for 14 years; stated that sidewalks have to be open to all residents, including those with mobility issues.

Aye: Mr. Stuncard, Ms. Sloane, Ms. Cerminara, Ms. Hause, Ms. Edmondson, Mr. Pritchard,
President Pennington

Nay: Mr. DiTullio

Motion carried, 7-1 with no abstentions.

Motion: Temporarily, through November 10, 2020, relax the provisions of Code §235-20 to permit the sidewalk service of food and beverages to 7 am through midnight daily.

Aye: Mr. Stuncard, Ms. Sloane, Ms. Cerminara, Ms. Hause, Ms. Edmondson, Mr. Pritchard,
President Pennington

Nay: Mr. DiTullio

Motion carried, 7-1 with no abstentions.

c. Discussion: Resumption of In-Person Meetings.

After much discussion, Council agreed to keep this on the Agenda for Pre-Council.

d. Motion to Authorize the Advertisement, at a Cost Not to Exceed \$250, for Bids to Replace the Memorial Park Waterline.

Moved: President Pennington

Second: Ms. Edmondson

All voted in favor of the motion. Motion carried, 8-0.

New Business

- Mr. Pritchard expresses an interest in serving on the Blight Committee, and requested a list of properties DPW maintains and a list of vacant properties.
- Mr. Churilla reported that he is nearly ready to advertise the manhole installation project.

Motion to authorize the advertisement, at a cost not to exceed \$250, the manhole installation project.

Aye: Mr. Stuncard, Ms. Sloane, Ms. Cerminara, Ms. Hause, Ms. Edmondson, Mr. Pritchard,
President Pennington

Abstain: Mr. DiTullio

Motion carried, 7-0 with 1 abstention,

Public Contribution on Non-Agenda Items

- Tim Barton, 622 Tingley Avenue: Stated that he has experienced 3 floods in the last 3 years, and expressed his appreciation for DPW.
- Wendy Blazier, Bellevue Dog Woods: Noted that it's the end of summer, and there is still no water in the dog pond.
- Alisa Mehlo, 114 Cedar Avenue: Wanted to clarify her previous remarks regarding arguing among Council members,
- Sue Benaquista, 166 Davis Avenue: Stated that people are breaking into 40 Kendall Avenue, and a neighbor chased people away who were breaking into the back door. DPW will board up any open doors.
- Tamra Franklin, 202 Hometown Tacos: Stated that the business is doing everything it can to stay in business in light of the pandemic, and that the ability to have tables on the sidewalk helps 100%.

She does not want any problems, and is allowing 6 feet between tables, which they hope to move to the rear of the property.

- Laura Pollanen, 132 Lincoln Avenue: Stated that it's inappropriate for Mr. DiTullio to call out a resident, and thanked President Pennington for his leadership.
- Linda Woshner, 137 S. Euclid Avenue: Stated that she was vocal when she was on Council and will not stop; suggested that Council lead by example. Wants committee membership posted and stated that all public questions should be answered at the meeting.

Executive Session

- Council moved into Executive Session at 9:00 pm to discuss a personnel matter and a legal matter and reconvened the meeting at 9:41 pm. No action was taken after the Executive Session,

Adjournment

There being no further business, President Pennington adjourned the meeting at 9:42 pm.

ATTEST



Cindy L. Bahn, Director of Administrative Services/Secretary



Val Pennington, Council President

