



Borough of Belleue

Borough Council Meeting Minutes

September 22, 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. Stuncard, Ms. Cerminara, Ms. Sloane, Mr. DiTullio and President Pennington. Mrs. Pikul and Mr. Pritchard were absent. A quorum was established.

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

Public Contribution on Agenda Items

- Linda Woshner, 137 S. Euclid Avenue: Addressed the condition of the properties at 191, 193, and 195 Dakota Avenue, and concerns about changing the current tax and fee collector, which could end up costing the Borough more.
- Tom Hrynda, 523 Roosevelt Avenue: Noted that he is concerned with the cost of third-party tax collection.
- Timothy Barton, 522 Tingley Avenue: Stated that he was checking in, as he noted that he was on the agenda.

(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 August 11, 2020 Pre-Council Meeting.
- b. Motion to Accept Minutes of the August 25, 2020 Council Meeting.
- c. Motion to Accept Minutes of the September 1, 2020 Finance Committee Meeting.
- d. Motion to Accept Minutes of the September 1, 2020 Parks and Recreation Committee Meeting.
- e. Motion to Accept Minutes of the September 1, 2020 Public Safety Committee Meeting.
- f. Motion to Accept Minutes of the September 1, 2020 Public Works Committee Meeting.

President Pennington noted that the September Committee Meeting minutes were not yet available, and he removed those from the Consent Agenda and requested separate votes on the August Pre-Council and Council meeting minutes.

Mayor Marburger stated that the Chief would like to enforce parking restrictions so that the street sweeper can pick up leaves. Several Council members pointed out the challenge of parking on Bellevue streets; President Pennington noted that the leaves pose a risk to public safety and impede storm drains.

Motion to Enforce No Parking Restrictions on Borough Streets for Street Sweeping and Leaf Pickup, with Warnings Issued Beginning October 5, 2020 and Citations Issued Beginning October 12, 2020.

Moved: Ms. Hause

Second: Ms. Edmondson

Public Contribution:

- Connie Rankin, 118 Arch Avenue: Stated that bulk leaf pickup has not been advertised by the Borough.
- Tom Hrynda, 523 Roosevelt Avenue: Asked for consideration for residents.
- Sue Benaquista, 166 Davis Avenue: Noted that parking is difficult because of Columbia Gas repairs.
- Zac Cummings, 103 Woodlawn Avenue: Expressed surprise that the street sweeper would not fit down the street if cars were parked there.
- The Mayor noted that the Police Department is in charge of enforcing parking restrictions and can be cognizant of streets where there is construction.

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

- f. Discussion: National Night Out; Date Change for October Committee Meetings
Ms. Edmondson noted that a virtual event is now planned, with the Mayor, Firefighters, Police Officers and Library Director providing videos that will be streamed on the Police Department's Facebook page.

Motion to Move October Committee Meetings to Wednesday, October 7, 2020.

Moved: Ms. Cerminara

Second: Ms. Edmondson

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

Motion to Authorize Advertisement of the Change in October Committee Meetings, at a Cost Not to Exceed \$250.

Moved: Ms. Cerminara

Second: Ms. Sloane

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

Public Works Committee:

- a. Motion to Permit the Removal of the Two Arborvitae Trees in front of the Borough Building.

Moved: Ms. Edmondson

Second: Ms. Cerminara

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

Nay: Mr. DiTullio

Motion carried, 7-1.

- b. Motion to Approve the Purchase of a Bucket Truck at a Cost Not to Exceed \$25,000 (01.430.740).

Moved: Ms. Edmondson

Second: Ms. Hause

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

- c. Discussion: Trees on Lincoln Avenue in Front of Classic Chevrolet.

Ms. Bahn reported that 3 street trees have been lifting the sidewalk and are creating a tripping hazard.

Motion to Remove the Three Honey Locust Trees on Lincoln Avenue Between N. Balph and Hawley Avenues.

Moved: Ms. Edmondson

Second: Ms. Cerminara

Public Contribution: None

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

Nay: Mr. DiTullio

Motion carried, 7-1.

- d. Mr. Pritchard asked about the status of paving, and Mr. Churilla responded that he is setting up a pre-construction meeting that he would like to happen this week.

Ethics Committee (Ad Hoc):

Ms. Sloane reported that a draft has been developed and is being edited; Ms. Cerminara noted that it will go to the Solicitor for review by the end of the current week.

Unfinished Business

- a. Discussion: 622 Tingley Avenue

The homeowner, Timothy Barton, was in the audience and was able to answer Council questions about the situation.

Motion to Reimburse the Homeowners at 622 Tingley Avenue \$2012.05 for Repairs Related to a Basement Flood, Contingent Upon Borough Receipt of a General Release Executed by Mr. Barton.

Moved: Mr. Pritchard

Second: Ms. Edmondson

Public Contribution:

- Linda Woshner, 137 S. Euclid Avenue: Suggested that the Borough talk to a plumber.
- Timothy Barton, 622 Tingley Avenue: Requested consideration as he has experienced some hardships.

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

Moved: Jodi Cerminara

Second: Ms. Edmondson

Moved: President Pennington

Second: Ms. Edmondson

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

New Business

- a. Discussion: Halloween

The Mayor noted that Trick or Treat will happen, and she suggests the Borough give suggestions on how to do it safely. Reported that she is working with Northgate School District to have a socially distanced event at the football field. Ms. Hause responded that she wanted to state for the record that she believes Trick or Treat should be cancelled. Ms. Edmondson noted that families should decide for themselves, and that it would be difficult to cancel, as people will do it anyway. President

Pennington opined that Council should not sanction, but that he recognizes it will happen. He requested that the Mayor provide ideas for Council.

- b. Ms. Bahn reported that she was able to secure 2 fellows through the Coro Fellowship in Public Affairs, at no cost to the Borough. The fellows will be working on Borough projects for about 4 weeks before moving to their next placement.

Public Contribution on Non-Agenda Items


- Linda Woshner, 137 S. Euclid Avenue: Apologized for her previous math error and wondered what benefit would accrue to the Borough by spending more money to collect taxes and fees
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Executive Session

Adjournment

There being no further business, President Pennington adjourned the meeting at 9:46 pm.

ATTEST



Cindy L. Bahn, Director of Administrative Services/Secretary



Val Pennington, Council President

