

July 25, 2022

Council President Mr. Martin called the July 25, 2022 meeting to order at 7:32 PM. The roll was called with the following members present: Mrs. Dennis, Mr. Ferguson, Mr. McClead, Mr. Millhone, Mr. Null, Mr. Ruth and Mr. Wallace present. Also present was Mayor Lorentz, Safety-Service Director Mrs. Hoblitzell, City Auditor Mrs. Nolan, City Law Director Mr. Webster, Treasurer Mrs. Cassady and Clerk of Council Mrs. Meredith.

Council President Mr. Martin asked that everyone please rise for the Prayer and remain standing for the Pledge of Allegiance. Mr. Ruth gave the invocation and led us in the Pledge of Allegiance.

President of Council Mr. Martin reminded council and the administration that if you have a report, please see that the clerk gets a copy of your report.

Mr. Martin also reminded everyone in the audience that is speaking before council to stand, state your name and address for the council clerk to hear and what you are addressing. Also please turn off all cellphones.

Mrs. Dennis made a motion to accept the minutes of June 27, 2022 as presented and by-pass the reading. A vote was taken with all members of council present voting aye.

Mrs. Dennis made a motion to accept the minutes of July 11, 2022 as presented and by-pass the reading. A vote was taken with all members of council present voting aye.

Reports of City Officials:

Mayor Lorentz reported that myself and our city leadership met with the homecoming committee to discuss the needs for this weekend. With fireworks on Saturday parking will be at a premium. From the outside looking in I believe the committee is doing a great job. Thanks to all

The water line project on Farson is nearing completion. Hopefully the paving on the south end of Farson is complete and tie-ins to the hospital completed this weekend. Be aware that with the long lengths of pipe being pulled there will be traffic issues. American Boring is really trying to not affect the businesses but, some inconvenience will occur.

Bonnie McGowen and I went to the United Way headquarters to receive their check for the seniors. It is my understanding the \$6,500 will go toward the awning system for the new patio area.

The Ohio small Group Pool which we belong to for insurance coverage held their quarterly meeting last week and it looks like our rates will stay the same through April next year.

Parkersburg, Vienna, Williamstown, and Belpre chose October 31st for Trick or Treat. This is a Monday.

Council, with now three neighborhoods being over-run with cats I feel it is time to pass an ordinance protecting folks with common sense from those without. This is getting to be a health hazard to our city. We now have two reports of abandoned houses with over 15 stray cats roaming the neighborhoods.

Again, today I met with the county folks discussing the centralized 911 system. Ms. Dennis was in attendance so I will let her report.

Mr. Martin told the mayor that he thought there was already an ordinance in place that included felines.

Karen Waller with the Belpre Chamber of Commerce was present this evening to give out the new community guide. There is a picture on the front cover showing and telling who we are. This guide is used for recruitment, tourism, employment, etc. for both businesses and nonprofit. Mrs. Waller thanked everyone for supporting the chamber.

Safety-Service Director Mrs. Hoblitzell announced that there was a pre-construction meeting held on July 6 for the paving of parts of Braun, Poplar, Belrock and Florence Streets. The paving should begin the 1st week of August, they will be working 5 -10's.

EPA will be performing an audit for the city the week of August 16. The audit will consist of checking for proper paperwork and proper permitting and checking one of the city buildings for compliance with EPA rules.

The pool will be closed Saturday, August 6 due to the homecoming. The pool will be open Sunday August 7, then Belpre's police department will hold a pool party on Monday August 8, from 12pm-4pm. There will be 250 tickets and the tickets can be picked up at the City Building starting Monday August 1.

American Boring, the company that is installing the force main, reported they should be done with the project in 3 weeks.

Mr. Wallace asked if the tracks would be smoothed out with the paving. He was informed that this belongs to CSX however they are in hopes that Shelley and Sands will fix the issue.

City Auditor Mrs. Nolan reported the first of 18 payments of the OneOhio Opioid Settlement was received July 21 in the amount of \$859.31. Fund 483 was created per state guidelines. This fund was designed to allow communities to take a regional approach

to abating the opioid epidemic by offering prevention, treatment, and recovery support services. More information can be found at RecoveryOhio.ohio.gov.

Tomorrow Software Solutions and CSSI will be attempting to connect to our database for conversion research.

Copies of the June Utility Adjustment report are on the back table and needs Councils approval.

Mrs. Dennis made a motion to accept the June Utility Adjustment Report as presented. A vote was taken with all members of council present voting aye.

City Law Director Mr. Webster announced that all members of council should have received an email from him stating that at the next council meeting there needs to be a public hearing held for the purpose of the zoning change on Farson Street. Mr. Webster stated that it would be held at the first part of the meeting so that citizens can make comments or concerns.

City Treasurer Mrs. Cassady reported that the June Treasurer's Report is before you this evening and needs approval by council. The report has been posted on the city's website with copies on the back table. Mrs. Dennis made a motion to accept the June Treasurer's Report as presented. A vote was taken with all members of council present voting aye.

Communication and Petitions -

Council President Mr. Martin assigned the following to committee:

Opioid Settlement Fund to the Finance/Audit Committee, Mr. Ferguson, Chairman

AN ORDINANCE CHANGING THE ZONING CLASSIFICATION OF CERTAIN REAL ESTATE BY DECIMA DEVELOPMENT, LLC. to the Planning and Zoning Committee, Mr. Wallace, Chairman.

Mr. Martin asked Mr. Webster about the Liquor Control correspondence for Jet Lag, LLC. Mr. Webster stated that he would look at it and respond later in the meeting.

Reports of Standing Committee -

Finance/Audit Committee Mr. Ferguson reported that his committee met at 7pm to discuss a \$5,000 donation for Discovery World. Wendy Shriver was present for any questions that the council or public may have. No action was taken at this time. Also discussed was the special revenue fund to receive funds under the American Rescue Plan Act of 2021. This piece of legislation does appear on this evening's agenda for first reading.

Mr. Ferguson called a committee meeting for August 8th, 2022 at 7:15 pm for the purpose of discussing the Opioid Settlement Fund.

Mrs. Dennis asked Mr. Millhone if this would give him enough time for his meeting. President of Council Mr. Martin stated that Mr. Millhone's meeting could go longer and if so, we could start the regular meeting of council late.

Mrs. Dennis, Police and Fire Committee reported that earlier today we met with Washington County Sheriff Larry Mincks and his Deputy Sheriff to discuss the centralized 911 system. We had a question-and-answer session. We received a lot of good information.

Mr. Ruth, Streets, Sidewalks and Storm Sewer had no report.

Mr. Millhone, Utilities Committee reminded members of council of his Utilities Committee meeting on August 8th at 7pm for the purpose of discussing water and sewer tie ins.

Mr. McClead, Parks and Recreation Committee reported that he had received a phone call from Danny Jones wanting to know the status of the RC Racing legislation. Mr. Webster stated that he is working on it and should have it for the next meeting.

Mr. Wallace, Planning and Zoning Committee announced his committee met at 6:45 prior to this evening's meeting to discuss a request for a zoning change from R1 to C2 for a Pharmacy on Farson Street. There will be a Public Hearing held at the next meeting of council after the approval of the minutes. If there are no objection from the citizens of Belpre, we will have the first reading.

Mr. Wallace, Economic Development Committee had no report.

Mr. Null, Rules Committee had no report. Mr. Martin assigned to Mr. Null's Rules Committee an ordinance regarding the cat issue. He asked that he get with the mayor on the issue.

PERSONS APPEARING BEFORE COUNCIL – AGENDA items only ((President of Council will ask if there is anyone wishing to address City Council on any agenda items.)) None

UNFINISHED BUSINESS: ((President of City Council will recognize that there is or is not any Unfinished Business this evening)). None

NEW BUSINESS:

Mr. Ferguson brought before council for first reading **A RESOLUTION AUTHORIZING THE AUDITOR OF THE CITY OF BELPRE, OHIO TO ESTABLISH A SPECIAL REVENUE FUND TO RECEIVE FUNDS UNDER THE AMERICAN RESCUE PLAN ACT OF 2021 PURSUANT TO OHIO HOUSE BILL 168**. A vote was taken with all members of council present voting aye. This will lie over until the next meeting of council.

PERSONS APPEARING BEFORE COUNCIL:

Mr. Webster responded to the correspondence that we received from Liquor Control for Jet Lag LLC. Mr. Webster stated that historically no action is taken. If there is no response nothing needs to be done. Hearing no objection from council no action was needed.

Bobby Walker 1623 Washington Boulevard addressed the no access from Washington Boulevard into what used to be Spires Motors. She informed council that she wasn't receiving any response. She wants to use this piece of property for homecoming. I want the entrance back from Washington Boulevard into my property.

Mr. Martin stated that this falls under the day-to-day business with the Safety-Service Director. I have asked the Safety-Service Director and the Law Director to see where we are with this. There was further discussion with council. Mr. Null stated that there should be an entrance from Washington Boulevard. Mr. Wallace wanted to know what the holdup was. He was informed that there is a process.

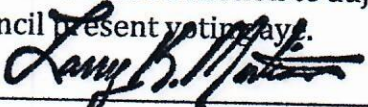
Karen Locke 726 Tuttle Street stated that they are building docks behind the old Heck's Building. Mrs. Locke is concerned about the water run-off. She was informed there would be offices in the front and logistics in the rear. She requested that the drains be cleaned out by the city.

Bill Locke 726 Tuttle Street asked if there were any plans on how to spend the OPIOID funds. Mrs. Nolan stated that she just received. Mrs. Hoblitzell stated that we don't have the instructions on it as of yet.

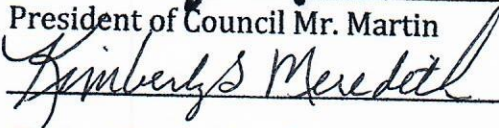
Mr. Martin stated that he wanted them to get Ms. Walker an answer.

ADJOURN:

Mrs. Dennis made a motion to adjourn at 8:05pm. A vote was taken with all members of council present voting aye.



President of Council Mr. Martin



Clerk of Belpre City Council Mrs. Meredith