

March 28, 2022

Council President Miss Gogan called the March 28, 2022 meeting to order at 7:30 PM. The roll was called with the following members present: Miss Dinnin, Mrs. Dennis; Miss Johnson, Mr. Ferguson; Miss Johnson, Mr. McClead; Miss Cleveland, Mr. Millhone; Mr. Church, Mr. Null; Mr. Farm, Mr. Ruth; Mr. Medendorp and Mr. Wallace present. Also, present was Student Mayor Vandergrift, Mayor Lorentz; Student Safety-Service Director Mr. Coyner, Mrs. Hoblitzell; Student City Auditor Mr. Dowell, Mrs. Nolan; Student City Law Director Miss Cooper, Mr. Webster; Student City Treasurer Mr. Turrill, Mrs. Cassady; Clerk of Council Miss Miller and Mrs. Meredith. Absent from the March 28<sup>th</sup>, 2022 meeting was Councilman Mr. Ferguson.

Student Council President Miss Gogan asked that everyone please rise for the Prayer and remain standing for the Pledge of Allegiance. Mr. Turrill gave the invocation and led us in the Pledge of Allegiance.

Miss Dinnin made a motion to accept the minutes of March 14, 2022 as presented and by-pass the reading. A vote was taken with members of council present voting aye.

**Reports of City Officials:**

Student Mayor Vandergrift presented Mayor Lorentz report.

On March 17<sup>th</sup> I attended the public meeting for the upcoming bond levy for schools. Our Superintendent did a very good job explaining the need for upgrades.

The Service-Director and I met with a company wanting to locate in Belpre on the 22<sup>nd</sup>. Hopefully this will come to fruition, and I can report to council. At this time, they want no publicity.

We conducted interviews for the water department opening and hopefully have a good candidate. The next step is the Civil Service testing.

March 24<sup>th</sup>, I sat in on the presentation with Core & Main on a more efficient means of reading meters.

Buckeye Hills Regional Council is starting the process of hiring a new Executive Director. On the 24<sup>th</sup> we met to set the needed requirements and experience required to start the search which will be seen nearly nationwide.

Also, on the 24<sup>th</sup> we held a formal bid opening for the forced main project.

The Service Director and I talked with the pool management folks and have decided to offer the punch cards again this year. The punch card is for 11 trips to the pool for \$50.00. This is easier than family passes that seem to get passed around from group to group.

A special thanks to the Belpre Rotary for lunch and having Commissioner Ritter as our speaker today.

Student Safety-Service Director Mr. Coyner presented Safety-Service Director Mrs. Hoblitzell report.

The Tree Commission has developed a new brochure to mail to Belpre residents. I put copies on the back table.

The leak in the pool has been located and repaired.

The abandoned wells at the water department have been plugged by National Water Services.

Core & Main gave a presentation on a digital meter reader. This reader will save the water department approximately one week a month of time. They will no longer spend 3 days reading meters and two days doing shut offs and turn on. The mayor, the auditor and the deputy auditor along with the utilities superintendent and the water foreman were in attendance.

A bid opening for the Force Main Project on Washington Boulevard was held yesterday. John Ruth will have more on this in his report.

A pre-construction meeting was held on Friday, March 25, 2022 with the contractor, York Paving that was awarded the 10" water line upgrade on Farson Street. This project will start the 2<sup>nd</sup> or 3<sup>rd</sup> week of April depending on the receipt of material for this project. The project traffic plan will be put on the website and Facebook as soon as it is received from the contractor. This project will be approximately 120 days.

CSX (BIP) will be upgrading the RR Xing signal on Farson St this week.

Student Auditor Mr. Dowell presented the report prepared by City Auditor Mrs. Nolan.

Grant from Software Solutions (SSI) out of Dayton, Ohio hand delivered their Bid package today. We received a Bid package via UPS from BS&A out of Michigan. I contacted Tyler Technologies and spoke to a representative with Software Connect. This agency is hired by software companies to market their software. The bid package was emailed to this representative which in turn advised he would connect us with software business's that could meet our requirements. We did not hear back from him or any other company. A fourth company Community brands out of Texas requested and was emailed a bid package however as of March 22 emailed, they "declined to submit a proposal" stating they would need to bring in a partner for the Utility Billing portion. A representative from ClearGov called in follow up to a webinar I attended. During that conversation, I advised we were interested in software gave my email address and advised I would send a bid package upon their request. I did not get a response. The proposal has been on Facebook for 3 weeks with no response.

March 21, I attended an ARPA (American Rescue Plan Act) webinar regarding reporting of the water/sewer and broadband government monies.

March 24, I sat in on Core & Main meter reading presentation for an AMI upgrade for the city. They are affiliated with Sensus representative spoke highly of SSI's software and advised it is compatible with their system.

Continue gathering and sending 2021 reporting to Julian & Grube in preparation for Audit in May.

The February Utility Adjustment reports are available on the back table and need Councils approval to accept.

Miss Dinnin made a motion to accept the February Utility Adjustment report as presented. A vote was taken with all members of council present voting aye.

Student City Law Director Miss Cooper had no report to present for City Law Director Mr. Webster.

City Treasurer Mr. Turrill presented City Treasurer Mrs. Cassady report.

Mr. Turrill reported that before you this evening is a copy of the February 2022 Treasurer's Report that needs council approval. A copy of the report appears on the city's website and copies at the back table. Miss Church made a motion to accept the Treasurers report as presented. A vote was taken with all members of council present voting aye.

#### **Communication and Petitions -**

Student City Council President reminded all members of council to complete their Sunshine Law Training.

Council President Mr. Martin assigned to Parks and Recreation Committee, Chairman Mr. McClead the Ohio Valley Controlled Car Club, aka OVRCCC.

#### **Reports of Standing Committee -**

Finance/Audit Committee Miss Johnson had no report to present for Mr. Ferguson

Police and Fire Committee Miss Dinnin had no report to give however she asked the students who played the roles of Police Chief and Fire Chief to give a rundown of their day. Miss Dinnin called a Finance/Audit Committee meeting for April 4<sup>th</sup> at 5:00 PM for the purpose of discussing Software Bids.

Student Fire Chief Lanie Johnson reported that she had a great time working with the Fire Chief. She toured the building, got to see how the department operated, took a ride in the fire truck and asked a lot of questions and received a lot of answers.

Student Police Chief Ryleigh Moore reported that she also had a great experience working with the police chief. She also toured the building, got to see how the department operated, took a ride in the police car and also saw someone get pulled over and ticketed. Questions were asked and answered.

Streets, Sidewalks and Storm Sewer Mr. Farm presented Mr. Ruth's report.

York Paving was awarded the 10" water line upgrade on Farson Street. This project will start 2<sup>nd</sup> or 3<sup>rd</sup> week of April depending on the receipt of material for this project. The project traffic plan will be put on the website and Facebook as soon as it is received from the Contractor. The project is scheduled for approximately 120 days.

The Force Main project bid amount came back as follows:

American Boring - \$463,205.00 – awarded the project

Express Underground - \$536,592.00

Stonegate - \$595,432.90

This project is awaiting ADR to complete the Contract Agreement Document.

The Washington Blvd. Paving project is still tentatively slated for June/July time frame pending other projects that are needing completed prior to this project starting.

The Project Resolution/Ordinance #34, 2020-2021 consists of resurfacing Braun Road between S. R. 7 and Popular Street, Popular Street and Putnam Howe Drive, and Florence Street between Gibbins Lane and railroad bridge just south of Washington Boulevard including curb ramps and pavement markings, lying within the city of Belpre. This project needs council approval before we can get work schedule for this year of 2022.

Utilities Committee Miss Cleveland presented Mr. Millhone's report.

Miss Cleveland reported that email exchange between myself and our Safety-Service Director concerning proposed new above ground water tank.

Several people have asked me why they added \$6.00 monthly to water billing. It is broken down as follows:

\$2.00 goes into water fund earmarked for improvements

\$4.00 goes into water fund earmarked for the new water tank and towards any loan taken to build tank.

Grants will be applied for by our Grant Writer.

City is not eligible for the \$750,000 because our water bills are not high enough for the Community Development Block Grant aka CDBG.

Survey and core drillings of soil samples needed before any drawings for water tank are made.

Parks and Recreation Miss Johnson/Mr. McClead had no report. However, at this time Mrs. Cassidy gave a brief report on Beautify Belpre. If there is anyone that would like to help with the beautification of Belpre can complete a sponsor form that is located on the back table.

Planning and Zoning Committee Mr. Medendorp/Mr. Wallace had no report. Mr. Medendorp called a committee meeting for April 5<sup>th</sup>, 2022 at 6PM for the purpose of discussing zoning with members of SIXMO.

Economic Development Committee Mr. Medendorp/Mr. Wallace had no report.

Rules Committee Miss Church/Mr. Null had no report.

**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.))

Jesse Wonycott 805 Main Street asked about how the ARPA funds were going to be allocated. The amounts were \$331,470.00 plus an additional \$334,000.00 that the city should receive this year. Mrs. Hoblitzell informed Mrs. Wonycott that the ARPA funds were earmarked for the Force Main Project on Washington Boulevard. The County Commissioners are adding an additional \$200,000.00 to the project. Mrs. Wonycott stated that she didn't see anything about the fire chief's salary on the budget. The fire chief's salary does not appear on the budget.

Daniel Jones 1400 Blennerhassett Avenue, Belpre addressed the Ohio Valley Controlled cars and what was going to take place. He was informed that it had been assigned to committee and it was up to the committee chair to move forward.

**Unfinished Business: -**

Miss Dinnin/Mrs. Dennis brought before council for third reading **AN ORDINANCE ADOPTING CALANDER YEAR 2022 APPROPRIATIONS**. There was no discussion. Roll was called with all members of council present voting aye.

Miss Dinnin/Mrs. Dennis moved this be **Ordinance #1, 2022-2023** and duly passed. A vote was taken with all members of council present voting aye.

Student President of Council Miss Gogan and Council President Mr. Martin declared this be **Ordinance #1, 2022-2023, AN ORDINANCE ADOPTING CALENDER YEAR 2022 APPROPRIATIONS** duly passed.

Mr. Dowell requested a certified copy of the passed legislation from the Clerk

Mr. Farm/Mr. Ruth brought before council for third reading **A RESOLUTION AUTHORIZING THE MAYOR TO EXECUTE A CONTRACT WITH THE WASHINGTON SOIL AND WATER CONSERVATION DISTRICT**. A vote was taken with all members of council present voting aye

Mr. Farm/Mr. Ruth moved this be **Resolution #8, 2022-2023** and duly passed. A vote was taken with all members of council present voting aye.

Student President of Council Miss Gogan and Council President Mr. Martin declared this be **RESOLUTION #8, 2022-2023, A RESOLUTION AUTHORIZING THE MAYOR TO EXECUTE A CONTRACT WITH THE WASHINGTON SOIL AND WATER CONSERVATION DISTRICT** duly passed.

Mr. Farm/Mr. Ruth brought before council for second reading of **A RESOLUTION AUTHORIZING THE SAFETY-SERVICE DIRECTOR TO ENTER INTO A SALT CONTRACT WITH THE OHIO DEPARTMENT OF TRANSPORTATION (ODOT)**. 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:**

Lyn Nelson 503 Stone Road congratulated the students of Belpre High School on an outstanding Student Government Day.

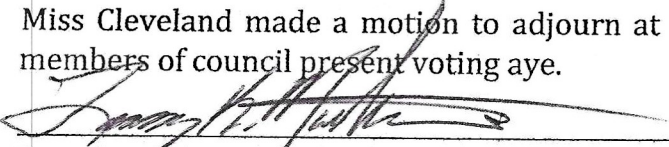
Steve Null publicly thanked Belpre EMS for caring for his wife and the quick response time.

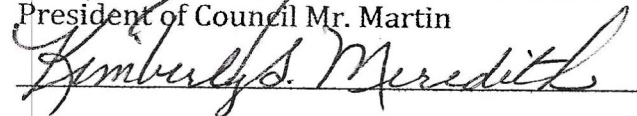
Miss Dinnin/Mrs. Dennis made a motion to excuse Mr. Ferguson from this evening's meeting. A vote was taken with all members of council present voting aye.

Mayor Lorentz thanked the students on an outstanding student government day.

**ADJOURN:**

Miss Cleveland made a motion to adjourn at 8:01 PM. A vote was taken with all members of council present voting aye.

  
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President of Council Mr. Martin

  
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Clerk of Belpre City Council Mrs. Meredith