

June 26, 2023

Council President Mr. Martin called the June 26, 2023 Belpre City Council meeting to order at 7:30 PM. The roll was called with the following members present: Mrs. Dennis, Mr. Ferguson, Mr. McClead, Mr. Millhone, Mr. Null, Ms. Abdella and Mr. Wallace present. Also present were 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. Mayor Lorentz gave the invocation and led us in the Pledge of Allegiance.

President of Council Mr. Martin asked that everyone turn off cellphones or turn them to vibrate so they don't interfere with the recording.

If you address council this evening, please rise, state your name and address clearly so that the clerk can record it for the minutes.

If you address council this evening, please do it in a respectful manner and I will ask council do be respectful in return.

President of Council Mr. Martin asked for a motion to accept the minutes of June 12, 2023. Ms. Abdalla made a motion to accept the minutes as presented and by-pass the reading. A vote was taken with all members of council present voting aye.

President of Council Mr. Martin asked for a motion to accept the minutes of June 14, 2023. Mr. Ferguson made a motion to accept the minutes of June 14, 2023 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 on June 14th, we travelled to New Martinsville for the Mayors association meeting and dinner. Belpre was well represented and was able to explain some of our projects in the works.

June 20th, we met with ADR to discuss the timeline for the water tank construction. Hopefully this can be bid on in the fall and construction started. RCAP is working with the engineer to submit grant and loan paperwork to EPA.

On June 21st the Area United Way held their Day of Action throughout the area. Belpre was blessed with the volunteers from WVU Medicine working at Civitan painting,

weeding and sprucing up. My wife and I provided them with lunch and drinks. These folks really care about their community and volunteer to show it.

The Service Director and I attended the Policy Committee meeting for Southeastern Ohio Joint Solid waste district in Caldwell. I have the agenda and report if anyone is interested.

The UPS Store in the shopping center will open tomorrow. Bob Raugh says this will be more of a soft opening then a formal ribbon cutting later.

I will be out of the office most of the week of July 4th.

Mark your calendar for July 8th. This is the Alumni Ice Cream Social in Howe's Grove Park.

There is some bad information coming out of the city concerning the backflow preventers. Please know that ALL information and communication should come from Eddie Richardson. His number is on the website. 740-423-9941 is the office number.

Safety-Service Director Mrs. Hoblitzell reported that the job description for the Environmental Coordinator that Eddie spoke to council about a few months ago is available. I would like to have it assigned to committee.

Council President Mr. Martin assigned the Environmental Coordinator to Mr. Ferguson's Finance/Audit Committee.

I have the water and sewer rate analysis proposal from EDG for committee assignment also.

Council President Mr. Martin assigned the water and sewer rate analysis to Ms. Abdella's committee.

I have two quotes to fix the air conditioner in the administration office. Mrs. Hoblitzell stated on the quotes one says to repair and the other one says to replace.

Council President Mr. Martin assigned the air conditioner in the admin. office to Mr. Ferguson's Finance/Audit committee.

Mrs. Hoblitzell told Mr. Ferguson if he had any questions regarding the air condition, he could contact Mr. Hoss.

Ms. Abdella stated that we got a new HVAC eight years ago. Do we know what happened to the system? According to Mrs. Hoblitzell it has to do with the size of the unit. The system was too large, oversized and inefficient.

City Auditor Mrs. Nolan reported that a copy of the May Utility Report has been sent to all members of council on Friday June 23, 2023. Copies are on the back table and needs council approval.

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

City Law Director Mr. Webster had no report.

City Treasurer Mrs. Cassady reported that a copy of the May Treasurer's Report is before you this evening and needs council approval. Copies are on the back table.

Mrs. Dennis made a motion to accept the May's Treasurer's Report as presented. Ms. Abdella pointed out a period/comma issue on it.

Mrs. Dennis moved to resend her motion to correct the period/comma issue.

Mrs. Dennis made a motion to accept the May's Treasurer's Report as amended. A vote was taken with all members of council present voting aye.

Communication and Petitions:

President of Council Mr. Martin had already assigned legislation to committees.

Reports of Standing Committee

Mr. Ferguson reported that Finance/Audit Committee met twice since our last council meeting. One on June 14 and the other on June 26, 2023 regarding funding for the water and sewer project and also the Supplemental for IT work for the Police Department. The resolution does appear on this evening's meeting: **A RESOLUTION AUTHORIZING THE CITY OF BELPRE TO APPLY FOR, ACCEPT, AND ENTER INTO A WATER SUPPLY REVOLVING LOAN ACCOUNT (WSRLA) AGREEMENT ON BEHALF OF THE CITY OF BELPRE FOR DESIGN AND/OR CONSTRUCTION OF WATER FACILITIES: AND DESIGNATING A DEDICATED REPAYMENT SOURCE FOR THE LOAN.** In addition, I would like to add for third reading **A RESOLUTION SUPPLEMENTING YEAR 2023 APPROPRIATIONS** under unfinished business. A vote was taken with all members of council present voting aye.

Mrs. Dennis, Police and Fire Committee reported that in anticipation of the 2024 Budget I wanted to put it on your radar that the Police Department will be asking for a cruiser for 2024. I will be requesting to bring this back to council for further research. Mrs. Dennis called a committee meeting for July 10, 2023 at 6pm for the purpose of discussing panhandling and the nuisance ordinance.

Ms. Abdella, Streets, Sidewalks and Storm Sewer Committee had no report. Ms. Abdella called a Streets, Sidewalks and Storm Sewer Committee meeting for July 10, 2023 at 7pm for the purpose of discussing the rate study for water and sewer. I will get this document scanned in and sent to all members of council prior to the meeting. Also, I do have a question regarding streets for Mrs. Hoblitzell. Have the signs gone

up yet about the truck routes? Mrs. Hoblitzell stated that they have not. She needs to get in contact with Alan Craig about this. Ms. Abdella stated that her mother lives on the corner of Lee Street and I have witnessed ABF Trucks going up Lee Street hill to go to the highway. This is not a truck route. Do we need to send someone to tell them this is not a truck route? Where do I find information about the roads? Are they built to handle 80,000-pound trucks? Mrs. Hoblitzell stated that Faron Street is, Washington Blvd is, Putnam Howe is, Clement is not, along with Lee Street. The ordinance in place doesn't include Putnam Howe. What do we have to do to upgrade these roads accessible especially for Kroger's?

Mr. Millhone Utilities Committee had no report.

Mr. McClead Parks and Recreation Committee had no report.

Mr. Wallace Planning and Zoning /Economic Development had no report. I have a question regarding mowing of the Bingo Hall. People from the Bingo Hall was mowing our fire department. Is this a problem with our current situation? Mr. Webster stated that he didn't see why but asked whose equipment they were using. Who authorized them to mow it? Did you ask the fire chief? According to Mr. Wallace he didn't know anything about it. Mrs. Hoblitzell stated that they have been mowing it all season. Mayor Lorentz stated that nothing has changed they are still members of the Belpre Volunteer Fire Department. Mr. Webster stated that we probably should check with our insurance company.

Mr. Null Rules Committee had no report.

PERSONS APPEARING BEFORE COUNCIL - AGENDA items only ((President of items.)) None

UNFINISHED BUSINESS: ((President of City Council will recognize that there is or is not any Unfinished Business this evening)).

Mr. Ferguson brought before council for third reading **A RESOLUTION ADOPTING THE TAX BUDGET FOR THE YEAR 2024**. A vote was taken with all members of council present voting aye.

Mr. Ferguson moved this be Resolution #33, 2022-2023 and duly passed. A vote was taken with all members of council present voting aye.

Mrs. Nolan requested a certified copy from the clerk.

Ms. Abdella brought before council for third reading **A RESOLUTION AUTHORIZING THE MAYOR TO ENTER INTO A MOU WITH THE WASHINGTON COUNTY**

COMMISSIONERS TO APPLY FOR A COMMUNITY FUNDING PROGRAM GRANT (CFP FUNDING). A vote was taken with all members of council present voting aye.

Ms. Abdella moved this be Resolution #34, 2022-2023 and duly past. A vote was taken with all members of council present voting aye.

Mr. Ferguson brought before council for third reading **A RESOLUTION SUPPLEMENTING YEAR 2023 APPROPRIATIONS.**

Mr. Ferguson made a motion to amend Exhibit A from \$20,000 to \$30,000. A vote was taken with all members of council present voting aye.

Mr. Ferguson brought before council for third reading **A RESOLUTION SUPPLEMENTING YEAR 2023 APPROPRIATIONS** as amended. A vote was taken with all members of council present voting aye.

Mr. Ferguson moved this be Resolution #35, 2022-2023 and duly passed. A vote was taken with all members of council present voting aye.

Mrs. Nolan requested a certified copy of the resolution.

NEW BUSINESS:

Ms. Abdella brought before council for first reading **A RESOLUTION AUTHORIZING THE CITY OF BELPRE TO APPLY FOR, ACCEPT, AND ENTER INTO A WATER SUPPLY REVOLVING LOAN ACCOUNT (WSRLA) AGREEMENT ON BEHALF OF THE CITY OF BELPRE FOR DESIGN AND/OR CONSTRUCTION OF WATER FACILITIES: AND DESIGNATING A DEDICATED REPAYMENT SOURCE FOR THE LOANS.** Discussion followed regarding the \$100,400 at 0% interest for 5 years. A vote was taken with all members of council present voting aye. This will lie over until the next meeting of council.

PERSON APPEARING BEFORE COUNCIL:

Mr. Ferguson stated that we needed to meet to discuss the quotes on the air conditioner on or before July 10, 2023. Mr. Ferguson called a committee meeting on July 10, 2023 at 6:30pm to discuss the quotes for air condition in the city building.

Ms. Abdella had a question for the mayor regarding the pond. Ms. Abdella stated that she has noticed them dumping some water in the pond for the fish. Have we done an analysis on it to make the water stay in? Mayor Lorentz stated that we are working on it right now. We have a grant writer who is looking for money for the project.

Ms. Abdella asked for an update on the budget as what has been spent, left over, how far we are into the year, etc. If we had a quarterly report that told what we have per line item would be great so we know what is left. I would like to have one for this year.

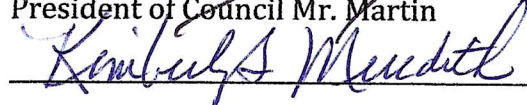
Per Brain, EMS is up at least 50% solid 24 hours for the last week or week and a half.

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 Kimberly Meredith