

July 10, 2023

Council President Mr. Martin called the July 10, 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, and Treasurer Mrs. Cassidy. Absent from the meeting was 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 to be respectful in return.

President of Council Mr. Martin asked for a motion to by-pass the minutes. Mr. Ferguson stated that there were no minutes to approve at this evening's meeting. There would be two sets of minutes for the July 24, 2023 meeting. No vote was taken.

**Reports of City Officials:**

Mayor Lorentz reported that since our last meeting the Street Foreman and I travelled toward Columbus as we were told dealers had dump trucks in stock. They did but none meet our needs.

Two houses were demolished on Walnut Street last week leaving one more on the building demolition and revitalization grant.

The administration met with a couple trucking companies to help eliminate semis travelling on our residential streets. It seems their navigation doesn't take into consideration the width of the streets or corners. Some signage may be needed to help this process.

The Alumni ice cream social was a success last weekend. The weather was nice and hot, and the crowd was steady all day. Almost 400 hotdogs were sold.

Mullen Baptist Church has rented the pool for August 8<sup>th</sup> from 6-pm until 8-pm for a welcome back to school party. If you are a student at Belpre City Schools, you are welcome.

Mr. Martin has the contract for the Senior Center needing assigned and legislation drawn up.

Enjoyed a week off with family.

Mr. Ferguson asked about the status of property near his home. Mr. Webster to check about the property.

Safety-Service Director Mrs. Hoblitzell announced that Eddie Richardson, foreman for the WWTP was present this evening to discuss an EPA ordinance change that is necessary to meet EPA rules. Last year there were several violations and we are getting them taken care of. We still have one to do regarding a low-pressure cut-off switch that needs done by the end of next month. Mrs. Hoblitzell stated that this needed assigned to committee. Mr. Richardson asked that it be assigned. Mr. Martin assigned to Mr. Millhoan's Utility committee.

Mayor Lorentz stated that he forgot to mention that the O'Neill Center Contract needed assigned to committee.

Ms. Abdella asked for clarification of the low-pressure switch. Mr. Richardson stated that on the pressure side of the pump it would depressurize the suction side of the pump. This has to do with the water. Ms. Abdella asked if this effects commercial and residential customers? Mr. Richardson stated that yes it does. Mr. Martin stated that there is a time frame on when this needs to be done. According to Mr. Richardson it has to be done by the end of next month. This is for the EPA.

Golf cart license renewals are due this month. The city would like to remind operators of golf cart ordinances, rules and regulations. They are on Facebook and Kim Martin in the police department has copies of these rules and regulations.

Nick Mill with ADR will be here Monday the 24<sup>th</sup> to make the water tank presentation to Council.

Speed limit signs by Civitan Park will be changed to 10 mph per Belpre's ordinance.

Jeff Carr with EDG is here and would like to talk about the survey upgrades or replacement.

Jeff Carr spoke about sewer rates, upgrades or replacement. The law director has prepared a resolution that is very similar to the water resolution. So, there were two alternatives: one was to replace the sewer treatment plant, next was to upgrade the existing sewer treatment plant. The legislation is before you this evening if anyone has any questions.

Mr. Martin informed Mr. Carr that this came to us this afternoon and I'm going to reassign to Mr. Ferguson's committee.

Ms. Abdella stated that on the rate analysis that we discussed earlier what is the time line on that if you get the approval to do that? Mr. Carr stated that typically it takes about two or three months. It also depends on how quickly I can get the information. We have already started on the Capital Improvement Plan.

Ms. Hoblitzell asked if there is a deadline for the resolutions? Mr. Carr stated that he thought it was August 31<sup>st</sup>, 2023. Starting now will give us the nomination for construction next year. Mr. Carr stated that we have to submit it by the loan application by the first of the month.

Mr. Martin assigned to the Finance/Audit Committee the O'Neill Center Contract.

City Auditor Mrs. Nolan reported that a request for information regarding \$4 Water Storage Fee (1316) and \$2 Water Capital Improvement (1317) is before you this evening. Mrs. Nolan explained to council how the report was pulled. Copies are on the back table.

City Law Director Mr. Webster had no report.

City Treasurer Mrs. Cassady had no report.

#### **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 prior to this evening's meeting to discuss repair or replacement for the air condition system for the city building. It was suggested that Mrs. Hoblitzell check on the warranty of the old system. Mr. Ferguson called a Finance/Audit Committee meeting at 6:30pm on July 24<sup>th</sup> to discuss the sewer plant legislation, environmental coordinator position, city air condition and O'Neil Center Contract.

Ms. Abdella asked if we get a mid-year report as to how the Senior Center is doing? The mayor answered sure.

Mrs. Dennis, Police and Fire Committee reported that her committee met prior to this evening's meeting at 6pm for the purpose of discussing Panhandling in the City of Belpre and the Nuisance Ordinance. I will be getting together with the law director to revamp the Panhandling Ordinance and we will continue our discussion of the Nuisance Ordinance. Mrs. Dennis stated that Jeff Greenly is with us this evening to give an EMS report.

Jeff Greenly 930 Pine Street announced that the month of June was a good month for us. We answered 130 calls. We didn't have one day this month that some kind of

coverage was provided. We have 24/7 coverage for 5 days a week but working on 7 days a week. Our response time was about 7 minutes which was longer than the month before. We want to continue to improve our efforts and provide 24-hour service to our citizens of Belpre 7 days a week.

Ms. Abdella, Streets, Sidewalks and Storm Sewer Committee reported that her committee met prior to this evening's meeting at 7pm for the purpose of discussing rates for water and sewer. Mr. Carr gave a report on water and sewer rate analysis tool that their company has and their proposal to provide to our city.

Mr. Millhone Utilities Committee asked about the low-pressure switch for the water supply. Mr. Richardson stated that it was a must for the EPA. Mr. Ferguson asked about the cost. Mr. Richardson stated that the switch is mostly for commercial properties and not residential. Mr. Millhone called a Utilities Committee meeting for July 24<sup>th</sup>, 2023 at 6:15pm for the purpose of discussing administrative code provision.

Mr. McClead Parks and Recreation Committee had no report.

Mr. Wallace Planning and Zoning /Economic Development had no report.

Mr. Null reported that he was going to continue to table the cat issue at this time.

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

Mr. Null requested a dollar amount for the loan we are requesting. Ms. Abdella stated it was \$100,400.00

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

Mayor Lorentz asked about who is authorizing the City of Belpre in the legislation. According to Mr. Webster it is the mayor.

Ms. Abdella brought before council for second 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 Mrs. Dennis, Mr. Ferguson, Mr. Null and Ms. Abdella voting aye. Mr. McClead, Mr. Millhone and Mr. Wallace vote nay. The vote was 4-3 in favor. This piece of legislation will lie over until the next meeting of council.

**NEW BUSINESS:** none

**PERSON APPEARING BEFORE COUNCIL:**

Jesse Wonycott 805 Main Street, Belpre asked about live meetings for the committee meetings since we are live for the regular meeting of council. Mrs. Wonycott stated that not everyone can be here at 6pm or earlier.

Jeff Greenley, 930 Pine Street and Superintendent of Belpre City Schools presented an update to council on Belpre City Schools. Items mentioned was the resurfacing of the track, removal of the old bowling alley, levy not being put back on the ballot in November, etc I lost 10 teachers and 2 principals this year because of the conditions. These are a few of the highlights.

Ms. Abdella asked if 2024 is when the next operating levy is on the ballot.

Mr. Greenley stated that the operating levy will be on the ballot for 2024. It has to pass next year.

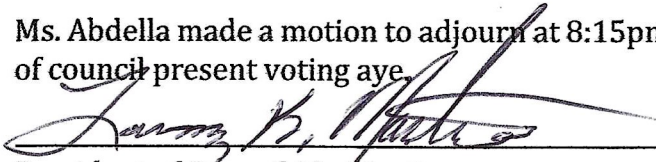
Steve Null stated that he got an invitation from Memorial Health Systems regarding a big reveal on July 14<sup>th</sup>, 2023 at 11am. I'm looking forward to attending. Hopefully the reveal is a new hospital.

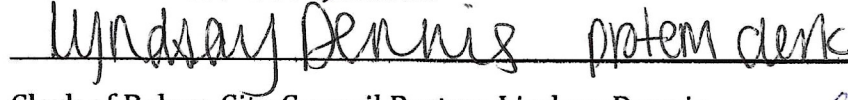
Ms. Abdella stated last night she was down at the park. There was a private party at the pool. There were a lot of kids there enjoying the pool and courts. The water was nice. Ms. Abdella thanked the mayor.

Penne Riffle 763 Ann Street. Belpre asked about the speed limit at the city park. Is this just for the Civitan Park area or the other parks? Mrs. Hoblitzell stated that she thought it was just Civitan Park but she would check for sure and let her know.

**ADJOURN:**

Ms. Abdella made a motion to adjourn at 8:15pm. 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 Protem Lindsay Dennis

Prepared by: 