

February 10, 2025

Council President Mr. Martin called the February 10, 2025 Belpre City Council meeting to order at 7:35 pm. The roll was called with the following members present: Mr. Ambrozy, Mrs. Dennis Mr. Ferguson, Mrs. Campbell, Mr. Locke, Ms. Riffle and Mr. Seebaugh. Also present was Mayor Abdella, Safety-Service Director Mr. Kirby, City Auditor Mrs. Nolan, City Law Director Mr. Webster, and Clerk of Council Mrs. Meredith. Absent from the February 10, 2025 meeting was Mrs. Cassidy.

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

Council President Mr. Martin asked all present if you have cellphones or any electronic devices to please turn them off or to vibrate so it won't interfere with the recording.

If you plan to address council this evening, please rise, come to the podium, state your name clearly so the clerk can get your information, and address council.

Council President Mr. Martin asked for a motion for the January 15, 2025 Special meeting minutes. Mrs. Dennis made a motion to accept the minutes of January 15, 2025 as presented and by-pass the reading. A vote was taken with all members of council present voting aye.

Council President Mr. Martin asked for a motion for the January 27, 2025 meeting minutes. Mr. Ferguson made a motion to accept the minutes of January 27, 2025 as presented and by-pass the reading. A vote was taken with all members of council present voting aye.

Reports of City Officials:

Mayor Abdella presented her report before council. It is as follows:

Communications:

- I have started the "Meet the Funders Program with the ARC. I am working with them to present the WWTP project in the most effective way.
- We have been busy collecting data and information for the Park Plan. We look forward to the firm coming in the next month to present a model for us to review.
- On February 4th we held the Prebid meeting for the 2 projects. We have had a lot of interest in these projects.
- Our key operators attended SCBA training this past weekend and are now certified.

- **During our last meeting we discussed the hiring of a Utility Coordinator. We have hired Angela Cowan and she has been a wonderful addition to our team. She is working very closely with the Utility crews to get our meters up and going.**
- **We have redirected the Well 2-meter project dollars to the purchase of the radios. Well 2 will be on hold till we determine funding.**
- **Last week was our meeting with EDG for our monthly project update and discussion. As you are all well aware it will be approximately 350 thousand dollars for the SCADA upgrade. We had originally budgeted 175 from water and sewer. After discussions we believe our best option will be to seek a loan to cover this project, so we can spread it over time.**

City Projects:

- MXU – Radio replacement work order.
 - Work plan being developed
- Lead Service Line – Sheet back to the EPA. Will work on collecting the rest of the data over 2025-2026.
- Communication Tower - Parts being ordered – 90 days
 - Tower communication issues occurred over the weekend. Parts are ordered will arrive next week.
- WWTP project – beginning process for RFQ
- Well 2 Rehab
 - Survey Complete
 - Awaiting next steps.
- Water Tank and 10" Water Main Extension
 - Bidding and Construction
 - Bidding adds runs Jan 24 and Jan 31,
 - Pre-Bid February 4 at 1pm
 - Bid Opening February 20 at 1pm
 - Loan Award March 2025
 - Construction March 2025 to March 2026

SCADA Project Schedule – This project is being moved out a week. Advertise February 21st, 2025.

Legislation Pending

- Washington County Water and Soil Conservation District
- Oneil Center - Slight Increase

- Trash Contract – To Bid

Sale of excess equipment

Grants Pending

- EPA Drinking Water Grant - Filed: Generator and Signage for area of well field.
- VFA Grant Due Jan 15, 2024 - 10K matching grant

Grants to be submitted:

- Marietta Community Foundation
- Belpre Community Foundation
- United Way
- State Farm - 10K Police and Fire

Safety-Service Director Mr. Kirby reported the following updates within the city on February 10, 2025. They are as follows:

Street Department:

- Working on patching roads throughout the city
- Replacing street signs and making list with updates to continue to replace signs as needed
- Planting trees throughout the city. You should notice them as you drive around.
- Cleaning up trees and debris that have fallen from the rainstorm last week
- Gearing up for potential snowfall for this coming week.

Water Department:

- Repairing leaking setters throughout the city
- Deactivating/activating MXU's radios for the water meters due to programming issues
- Continuing service orders, checking for leaks throughout the city

Sewer Department:

- Replaced pump at the sewer plant
- Clean tanks
- Daily maintenance at the plant such as water samples, etc.

Code Enforcement:

- Investigating call-in complaints

- Issuing Zoning permits
- Collecting signs not placed at appropriate locations
- Reviewing ordinances for possible changes and or modifications.

President of Council Mr. Martin assigned to the Planning and Zoning committee, Mrs. Campbell Chairperson the following: Proposed revision to Ordinance 1339.10 (fencing) and Notices and Order addition/revision to 1313.08.

President of Council Mr. Martin also asked the Safety-Service Director about whether or not the door hangers are working. Per Mr. Kirby they are working.

City Auditor Mrs. Nolan reported that on Thursday, January 30, 2025 the State Auditors were here for the 2023 exit conference. As stated previously the finding for 2023 were similar to 2022 due to the State's delay with our 2022 Audit. The 2023 Audit will be posted on the city website as soon as we receive it back from the State.

Last week and today was spent completing the 2025 Expense Budget.

All reports for closing 2024 were ran and 2024 was closed out.

City Law Director Mr. Webster had no report

City Treasurer Mrs. Cassidy was absent. Mrs. Nolan asked that council excuse our Treasurer Mrs. Cassidy from this evening's meeting as she is ill. There is no report at this time.

Communication and Petitions:

President of Council Mr. Martin stated that he had already assigned to the Planning and Zoning committee, Mrs. Campbell Chairperson the following: Proposed revision to Ordinance 1339.10 (fencing) and Notices and Order addition/revision to 1313.08.

Reports of Standing Committee

Mr. Ferguson Finance/Audit Committee reported that Finance/Audit Committee met on February 10, 2025 at 5:45pm to run through the last of the 2025 Budget. Mr. Ferguson asked the clerk to add the 2025 Budget for the February 24, 2025 meeting for first reading.

Mrs. Dennis, Police and Fire Committee reported that per Mayor Abdella and Mr. Webster the letter to the County Auditor has not been completed regarding the BVFD Property.

Mr. Locke, Streets, Sidewalks and Storm Sewer Committee reported that our Street Department has had a busy year so far, clearing the roads and patching them when possible. My thanks to all of them for their efforts.

On February 4th, 2025 I attended a meeting about the water meters.

I have also attended the 4 Finance Committee meetings on January 13, 2025, January 27, 2025, February 3, 2025 and February 10, 2025 as we are working on the 2025 Budget.

Difficult to shake the money tree to get funds to pave, but I keep trying.

I would like to have a short Streets, Sidewalks & Storm Sewer Committee meeting on February 24, 2025 at 7:15pm to discuss amending the golf cart ordinance.

Mr. Ambrozy Utilities Committee announced that he attended the Water Tank and Water Main meeting on February 4th, 2025.

Mr. Seebaugh Parks and Recreation Committee meeting was held prior to this evening's meeting at 6:45pm for the purpose of discussing Little League Baseball issues.

Mrs. Campbell Planning and Zoning and Economic Development Committee had no report. Mrs. Campbell called a committee meeting for February 24, 2025 at 6:30pm for the purpose of discussing the Proposed revision to Ordinance 1339.10 (fencing) and Notices and Order addition/revision to 1313.08.

Ms. Riffle Rules Committee announced that she had also attended the Finance Committee meetings on January 13, 2025, January 27, 2025, February 3, 2025 and February 10, 2025 in regards to the 2025 Budget.

Ms. Riffle also extended her appreciation to everyone that had reached out to her as she mourned the loss of her mother. Ms. Riffle thanked all of council for the flowers that were sent for her mother.

Council President Mr. Martin assigned to the Police and Fire Committee the on-line auction of the 2006 E450 Diesel Ford Ambulance.

PERSONS APPEARING BEFORE COUNCIL – AGENDA items only – none

Mrs. Dennis made a motion to wave committee and add to tonight's agenda for first reading **A RESOLUTION DECLARING 2006 E450 DIESEL FORD AMBULANCE TO BE EXCESS PROPERTY AND AUTHORIZING THE SAFETY-SERVICE DIRECTOR TO AUCTION THE 2006 E-450 DIESEL FORD AMBULANCE.** A vote was taken with all members of council present voting aye.

UNFINISHED BUSINESS: -

Mr. Ferguson brought before council for second reading **A RESOLUTION AUTHORIZING THE MAYOR TO EXECUTE AN AGREEMENT FOR MANAGEMENT OF THE BELPRE SENIOR CENTER.** A vote was taken with all members of council present voting aye. This will lie over until the next meeting of council.

Mr. Ambrozy brought before council for second reading **A RESOLUTION AUTHORIZING THE MAYOR OF BELPRE TO SIGN A CONTRACT FOR THE CITY OF BELPRE TO CONTRACT WITH WASHINGTON SOIL AND WATER CONSERVATION DISTRICT TO SUPPLY TECHNICAL STORM WATER MANAGEMENT ASSISTANCE FOR THE CITY OF BELPRE.** A vote was taken with all members of council present voting aye.

Mr. Ambrozy moved to suspend the rule of council on three different days to allow for the third reading of **A RESOLUTION AUTHORIZING THE MAYOR OF BELPRE TO SIGN A CONTRACT FOR THE CITY OF BELPRE TO CONTRACT WITH WASHINGTON SOIL AND WATER CONSERVATION DISTRICT TO SUPPLY TECHNICAL STORM WATER MANAGEMENT ASSISTANCE FOR THE CITY OF BELPRE.** A vote was taken with all members of council present voting aye.

Mr. Ambrozy brought before council for third reading **A RESOLUTION AUTHORIZING THE MAYOR OF BELPRE TO SIGN A CONTRACT FOR THE CITY OF BELPRE TO CONTRACT WITH WASHINGTON SOIL AND WATER CONSERVATION DISTRICT TO SUPPLY TECHNICAL STORM WATER MANAGEMENT ASSISTANCE FOR THE CITY OF BELPRE.** A vote was taken with all members of council present voting aye.

Mr. Ambrozy moved this be **Resolution #24, 2024-2025** and duly passed. A vote was taken with all members of council present voting aye.

New Business:

Mrs. Dennis brought before council for first reading **A RESOLUTION DECLARING 2006 E-450 DIESEL FORD AMBULANCE TO BE EXCESS PROPERTY AND AUTHORIZING THE SAFETY-SERVICE DIRECTOR TO AUCTION THE 2006 E-450 DIESEL FORD AMBULANCE.** A vote was taken with all members of council present voting aye.

Mrs. Dennis moved to suspend the rule of council on three different days to allow for the second and third readings of **A RESOLUTION DECLARING 2006 E-450 DIESEL FORD AMBULANCE TO BE EXCESS PROPERTY AND AUTHORIZING THE SAFETY-SERVICE DIRECTOR TO AUCTION THE 2006 E-450 DIESEL FORD AMBULANCE.** A vote was taken with all members of council present voting aye.

Mrs. Dennis brought before council for the second and third readings of **A RESOLUTION DECLARING 2006 E-450 DIESEL FORD AMBULANCE TO BE EXCESS PROPERTY AND AUTHORIZING THE SAFETY-SERVICE DIRECTOR TO AUCTION THE 2006 E-450 DIESEL FORD AMBULANCE.** A vote was taken with all members of council present voting aye.

Mrs. Dennis moved this be **Resolution #25, 2024-2025** and duly passed. A vote was taken with all members of council present voting aye.

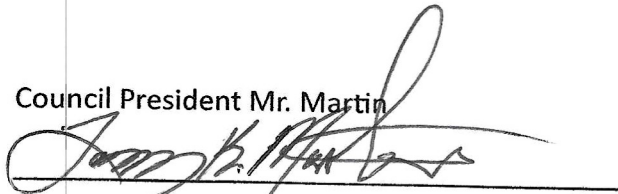
PERSON APPEARING BEFORE COUNCIL: none

Mr. Locke stated that the meeting he attended On February 4th, 2025 was in depth about the meters and antenna's that send signal to the tower. There has been over 60 that had to be replaced. It was discussed that the homeowners are to be responsible.

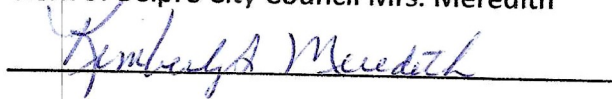
Adjourn:

Mr. Ferguson made a motion to adjourn at 8:09pm. A vote was taken with all members of council present voting aye.

Council President Mr. Martin

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "James B. Martin", written over a horizontal line.

Clerk of Belpre City Council Mrs. Meredith

A handwritten signature in blue ink, appearing to read "Kimberly B. Meredith", written over a horizontal line.