

**BELLBROOK CITY COUNCIL**  
**MEETING MINUTES**  
**JANUARY 26, 2009**

**PRESENT:** Mr. Bob Baird  
Mr. Denny Bennett  
Mrs. Pat Campbell  
Mr. Ralph Fussner  
Mr. Joe Ritzel  
Deputy Mayor Mike Schweller  
Mayor Mary Graves

**NOTE:** This is a summary of the City Council meeting held on Monday, January 26, 2009.

Mayor Mary Graves called the meeting to order at 7:30 p.m. and asked everyone to stand and say the Pledge of Allegiance. The Clerk called the roll. All members of Council were present this evening.

There being no corrections or additions to the prior minutes of **January 12, 2009**, **Mr. Bennett moved they be approved as written.** Mrs. Campbell seconded the motion. The Clerk called the roll: Mr. Bennett, yes; Mrs. Campbell, yes; Mr. Baird, abstain; Mr. Fussner, yes; Mr. Ritzel, yes; Mr. Schweller, yes; Mayor Graves, yes. The motion carried 6-0 with one abstention.

**SPECIAL GUESTS/SPECIAL ANNOUNCEMENTS:**

Mayor Graves issued the **Oath of Office** to reappointed Board of Zoning Appeals and Property Review Commission member Nick Edwards for a five-year term that will expire on 1/31/14.

**MAYOR'S ANNOUNCEMENTS:**

Mayor Graves presented her **State of the City Report for 2009**, a copy of which is attached and made a part of this record.

**Councilman Baird agreed to the appointment as Bellbrook's Representative to the Greene County Regional Planning Commission.** Mayor Graves will serve as the alternate.

**PUBLIC HEARINGS: NONE**

**INTRODUCTION OF ORDINANCES: NONE**

**ADOPTION OF RESOLUTIONS:**

Mr. Schweller read **RESOLUTION 2009-B BY THE COUNCIL OF THE CITY OF BELLBROOK, OHIO, AUTHORIZING THE ESTABLISHMENT OF A DEFERRED COMPENSATION PLAN ADMINISTERED BY THE ICMA RETIREMENT COPROPRATION AND AUTHORIZING THE CITY MANAGER TO EXECUTE ALL THE NECESSARY DOCUMENTS RELATED TO THE ESTABLISHMENT OF THIS PLAN** in its entirety.

Mr. Schlagheck explained that all employees currently have the opportunity to participate in a deferred compensation fund offered through the Ohio Deferred Compensation Plan and this is simply another program that would allow employees to take a portion of their income and tax defer it, investing it for their retirement. He said there would be no cost to the City for this.

Mr. Schweller asked if, as trustee of the program, the city would have to get any additional insurance coverage or bonds. He said he was concerned because we seemed to have a fair amount of control over this. Mr. Schlagheck said we really don't have control; rather the ICMA Retirement Corporation controls everything so we would be trustee in name only. He said we would not have access to the funds.

Mayor Graves asked if this was in addition to what we currently offer through the State. Mr. Schlagheck said it would simply be a second option. He said they were similar but each had different investment opportunities and were managed differently.

Mr. Fussner commented that he had the opportunity to invest in this plan and it was an excellent plan.

Mr. Schweller asked if the employees asked for this or if we were just volunteering it for them. Mr. Schlagheck said we were offering it to them. He said we needed to encourage people to invest in this type of plan even if it was only a minimal amount. He said once this was approved, he would put an article in our new employee newsletter and put more focus on the plan for employees.

Mayor Graves asked if they could transfer from the plan already in place to the new one and Mr. Schlagheck said they could.

There being no further discussion, **Mr. Schweller moved for the adoption of Resolution 2009-B.** Mr. Ritzel seconded the motion. The Clerk called the roll: Mr. Schweller, yes; Mr. Ritzel, yes; Mr. Baird, yes; Mr. Bennett, yes; Mrs. Campbell, yes; Mr. Fussner, yes; Mayor Graves, yes. The motion carried 7-0.

Mr. Ritzel read **RESOLUTION 2009-C BY THE COUNCIL OF THE CITY OF BELLBROOK, OHIO, REQUESTING THE COUNTY AUDITOR TO CERTIFY THE TOTAL CURRENT TAX VALUATION OF THE CITY OF BELLBROOK AND THE DOLLAR AMOUNT OF REVENUE THAT WOULD BE GENERATED BY A SPECIFIC NUMBER OF MILLS** in its entirety.

Mr. Ritzel said this was an option Council decided on to raise funds needed to keep the fire service at the level it needs to be and that we've enjoyed in this community.

Mr. Schlagheck explained that this was the first step in a process to get a levy on the May ballot. He said this Resolution will be passed to the Greene County Auditor and once we get the asked for information back from them there will be another Resolution on the February 9th agenda for consideration to place the levy on the ballot.

He said, as the Mayor mentioned in her State of the City, this would be the first time we have requested additional fire funds since at least 1998 and even then it was just a replacement tax levy. He said these 2 mills would be the first additional funding requested since at least 1987 when the fire department split from the Township.

He further explained that this 2 mill levy would cost the owner of a \$150,000 home about \$92 per year and the owner of a \$200,000 home about \$122 per year.

Mr. Bennett commented that this was cheap if life and health depended on it.

Mayor Graves stated that this was a needed increase and she hoped the residents would consider it.

**Mr. Ritzel moved for the adoption of Resolution 2009-C.** Mrs. Campbell seconded the motion. There being no further discussion, the Clerk called the roll: Mr. Ritzel, yes; Mrs. Campbell, yes; Mr. Baird, yes; Mr. Bennett, yes; Mr. Fussner, yes; Mr. Schweller, yes; Mayor Graves, yes. The motion carried 7-0.

**CITY MANAGER REPORT:**

**Mr. Schlagheck highlighted** the things that happened in the City of Bellbrook in 2008, a copy of which is attached hereto and made a part of this record, stating that he would only touch lightly on both the Police and Fire Departments since both Chiefs would be coming before Council in the next month or so to present their 2008 annual reports.

Mr. Schlagheck said that last Friday, Senator Widener hosted an Economic Development and Transportation update for all Greene County Officials. He said State Representative Bob Hackett was also there. He said presentations were given by Senator Widener and the ODOT District 8 Director and the Regional Director of the Ohio Department of Development. He said it was very worthwhile and he got to meet individuals who have a direct impact on what happens in Bellbrook. He said he thought the senator was planning to hold these updates on a quarterly basis and said he would continue to attend them.

Mr. Schlagheck commented that each year in February Council acts on the water rates for the upcoming year and said he would present that at the February 9th meeting. He said in the meantime he would forward the recommendation to the Finance Committee prior to that meeting and if necessary, the Finance & Audit Committee could meet.

Mr. Bennett complimented Mr. Schlagheck on his report and said that he had mentioned that the pre-treatment plant was gone. Mr. Bennett commented that Mr. Hamilton was the driving force behind that and complimented Mr. Hamilton.

**COMMITTEE REPORTS:**

**SERVICE:**

Mayor Graves commented that people should drive carefully tonight if the weather gets as bad as predicted.

**SAFETY: NONE**

**FINANCE/AUDIT: NONE**

**COMMUNITY AFFAIRS: NONE**

**OLD BUSINESS: NONE**

**NEW BUSINESS:**

Mayor Graves mentioned that in the past the City has given a donation of \$1,000 to the **Family Resource Center** and asked if we could look into doing that again this year. The Mayor said they were taking a big hit this year and could use any help they could get. She said they are also our food pantry for this area. She announced that if anybody wanted to help the Family Resource Center to give them a call. The Clerk was asked to find out their hours. Mayor Graves said in a pretty affluent city such as Bellbrook this was a hard time and it might be hard for people to ask for help. She said that people should never feel embarrassed if they have to ask for help.

**OPEN DISCUSSION:**

Mr. Bennett said the **Sugarcreek Reserve** was a winter wonderland.

Mr. Bennett said he and his wife did a **polar bear dip** on New Years' Day at the Whitewater State Park.

Mrs. Campbell asked everyone to **drive carefully** if the storm predicted did arrive.

Mayor Graves **thanked the viewing audience** and invited viewers to call her or the Clerk and she thanked **Louie Schatzberg**, cameraman, for his service.

There being no further business to come before this regular session of Bellbrook City Council, **Mr. Bennett moved to adjourn**. Mrs. Campbell seconded the motion. The Clerk called the roll. Mr. Bennett, yes; Mrs. Campbell, yes; Mr. Baird, yes; Mr. Fussner, yes; Mr. Ritzel, yes; Mr. Schweller, yes; Mayor Graves, yes. The motion passed 7-0 and the Regular Session of City Council was adjourned at 8:04 p.m.

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Mary C. Graves, Mayor

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Jill D. Rosner, Clerk of Council