

RECORD OF PROCEEDINGS
Minutes of Bellbrook City Council Regular Meeting
September 27, 2021

PRESENT: TJ Hoke
Ernie Havens
David Van Veldhuizen
Forrest Greenwood
Elaine Middlestetter
Mike Schweller, Mayor

ALSO PRESENT: City Manager Rob Schommer

REGULAR MEETING

Mayor Schweller called the regular meeting to order at 7:00 pm.

ROLL CALL

Mr. Hoke, yes; Mr. Havens, yes; Dr. Van Veldhuizen, yes; Mr. Greenwood, yes; Mrs. Middlestetter, yes;
Mayor Schweller, yes.

APPROVAL OF MINUTES

Mayor Schweller asked if anyone had any comments or corrections to the minutes of September 13.
Hearing none he declared the minutes approved.

MAYOR'S ANNOUNCEMENTS AND SPECIAL GUESTS

Mayor Schweller announced that this was the last Council meeting for Clerk of Council Pamela Timmons who had resigned. Mrs. Timmons was sworn in as the Clerk in November of 2018. He stated that Council had enjoyed working with her. He complimented her organizational skills and willingness to help when she was needed. During her tenure the role of the Clerk changed tremendously. One of her strengths was keeping Council informed and introduced the Clerk's Update to the meeting agendas which is now part of the ongoing agendas. The search for a replacement will begin this week.

Mrs. Middlestetter stated she would miss Mrs. Timmons who was an awesome Clerk.

Mr. Greenwood added that he thought she had done an outstanding job working for Council and appreciated the amount of research that she did.

Mr. Hoke added that it had been a challenging time dealing with COVID and thanked her for all her work.

RECORD OF PROCEEDINGS
Minutes of Bellbrook City Council Regular Meeting
September 27, 2021

Mayor Schweller read a proclamation naming the week of October 3 through 9 as **Fire Prevention Week** and invited Chief Bizzarro to speak. Chief Bizzarro thanked the Mayor for the proclamation. He explained that this is his favorite time of the year. The activities of Fire Prevention week for the schools had started that day. Tuesday October 5 is the annual Open House from 6:00 until 8:00 pm.

Mayor Schweller read a proclamation naming October as **Domestic Violence Awareness Month**. There will be a candlelight vigil on October 4 at 6:00 pm at The Greene.

Mayor Schweller swore in LaKisha Taylor to the Village Review Board and Kyle Boehmer to the Board of Zoning Appeals and Property Review Commission.

PUBLIC HEARING OF ORDINANCES

Dr. Van Veldhuizen read **Ordinance 2021-8 An Ordinance Amending Ordinance 2021-4 By Making Supplemental Appropriations To Adjust The City of Bellbrook Appropriations for 2021**.

Mr. Schommer reviewed the information that had been reported at the introduction of this Ordinance detailing the updates to the City's appropriations.

Dr. Van Veldhuizen made a motion to adopt **Ordinance 2021-8 An Ordinance Amending Ordinance 2021-4 By Making Supplemental Appropriations To Adjust The City of Bellbrook Appropriations for 2021**. Mr. Havens seconded the motion. The Clerk called the roll. Dr. Van Veldhuizen, yes; Mr. Havens, yes; Mr. Hoke, yes; Mr. Greenwood, yes; Mrs. Middlestetter, yes; Mayor Schweller, yes. The motion passed 6-0.

NEW BUSINESS

Mr. Havens made a motion to appoint Mr. Schommer as the acting Clerk of Council until a new Clerk is hired. Mr. Hoke seconded the motion. The Clerk called the roll. Mr. Havens, yes; Mr. Hoke, yes; Dr. Van Veldhuizen, yes; Mr. Greenwood, yes; Mrs. Middlestetter, yes; Mayor Schweller, yes. The motion passed 6-0.

RECORD OF PROCEEDINGS
Minutes of Bellbrook City Council Regular Meeting
September 27, 2021

CITY MANAGER REPORT

Mr. Schommer invited all interested people to the Community Forum to discuss the Kleinger Group's Streetscape Plan on Wednesday September 29 from 6:00 until 8:00 pm at the Art Gallery at 15 W. Franklin Street.

He reported that Bellbrook's State Route 725 Bridge project was ranked third by the District 11 Ohio Public Works Integration Committee. The project will widen the bridge and add a multiuse path to connect downtown with the rest of the City. The matching funds will greatly reduce the cost to the City. The next required step is to hire a right-of-way acquisition consultant. Once that is done ODOT will acquire the project and continue it from there.

Mr. Schommer reviewed key points of the Renewal Tax Levy that will be voted on at the November 2 election. The levy will provide approximately \$225,000 that the City will use for general operating expenses specially allocated to the public safety subsidy, the street paving program, and storm water system maintenance. He emphasized that the effective tax rate is 13 percent less than it was in 2017. And because this is a renewal of an existing levy it still qualifies for the homestead credit from the state. This and much more information is available on the City website.

Along the upcoming election the City Manager explained that the City will be watching the placement of election signs. All signs need to follow the rules outlined in the Zoning Code specifically concerning safety with line of sight along roadways and at intersections.

COMMITTEE REPORTS

Service – Mr. Greenwood reported that the Service Department has had a preconstruction meeting to prepare for the painting of the water tower by Ron Keil park. There will be two coats of paint on the inside and three on the outside. The City logo will be repainted. This water tower will be offline for two weeks. Starting October 4, the City's fire hydrants will be flushed. This could cause the water to be cloudy for a day and citizens should be aware.

Safety – Mr. Hoke reported that the Police Department completed firearms training with their newly purchased weapons and sighting system.

RECORD OF PROCEEDINGS
Minutes of Bellbrook City Council Regular Meeting
September 27, 2021

Finance – Dr. Van Veldhuizen reminded everyone that the next three Council meetings will begin with budgeting work sessions. He added that he will miss Mr. Edwards’ advice.

Community Affairs – Mrs. Middlestetter said that WHIO featured Bellbrook on Channel 7 Sees. The video is available on the City’s website.

COMMENTS

Mr. Greenwood invited the public to provide input at Wednesday’s Community Forum. He also wanted to highlight a great weekend full of activities in Bellbrook that included music on Friday Night at McGee Park sponsored by Council Member Havens, an Arts Festival on Saturday hosted by Mr. Landseidel, and the first annual Family First Foundation Car Show on Sunday. As a long-time resident of the old village, he is excited by the momentum in the City.

Mr. Havens welcomed the two new board members. He attended the Greene County Regional Planning meeting to hear about the new development being constructed off of Clys Road. There will be a secondary entrance that will connect to Kensington Drive which adds to the safety of that development.

Mr. Hoke also welcomed Ms. Taylor and Mr. Boehmer. He stated he has heard of preliminary plans for 100 E. Franklin Street, and they sound like a great addition to the City. He also urged residents to attend the Community Forum.

Mrs. Middlestetter echoed the other Council Members.

Dr. Van Veldhuizen thanked Mrs. Timmons for her work as the Clerk and highlighted some of the items he most appreciated. These included developing trainings, studying the pertinent laws and regulations, and keeping things focused.

Mayor Schweller welcomed the new board members and added his invitation to the Community Forum.

PUBLIC COMMENT

John Stafford, a Sugarcreek Township resident, complimented City Council on their selection of the new City Manager. He stated that he believes a good City Manager is critical to the entire region not just Bellbrook.

Meredith Brinegar, 2221 Ivy Crest Drive, welcomed Ms. Taylor and Mr. Boehmer to the boards as she is the Chair of the BZA-PRC. She expressed her pleasure that the City is looking for input on the uses of the

RECORD OF PROCEEDINGS
Minutes of Bellbrook City Council Regular Meeting
September 27, 2021

ARPA funds. She also appreciates the information being provided on the tax levy. She also wanted to thank Mrs. Timmons for her work for the City and with the Boards.

EXECUTIVE SESSION

The Mayor announced that this would end the regular business of Council at 7:49 PM. Mr. Havens made a motion to enter into executive session to consider the employment of a public employee and potential litigation. Dr. Van Veldhuizen seconded the motion. The Clerk called the roll. Mr. Havens, yes; Dr. Van Veldhuizen, yes; Mr. Hoke, yes; Mr. Greenwood, yes; Mrs. Middlestetter, yes; Mayor Schweller, yes. The motion passed 6-0.

ADJOURNMENT

Mrs. Middlestetter made a motion to adjourn from executive session. Mr. Hoke seconded the motion.



Michael W. Schweller, Mayor



Robert Schommer, Clerk of Council