

City of Belleville
City Council Meeting
Monday, March 13th, 2023
Belleville City Council Room

The meeting of the City of Belleville Council was held on Monday, March 13th, 2023 at 7:00 p.m. at the Belleville City Council room. A tour of the Municipal Power Plant for the Governing Body began at 6:00 p.m.

CALL TO ORDER:

Mayor Adam Robertson, called the meeting to order at 7:00 p.m. Pastor Rick Snodgrass provided the opening prayer and comments. The Pledge of Allegiance was recited.

ATTENDANCE:

Council members present: Pam McGregor, Mike Nondorf, Doane Sells and Mike Palmquist.

City Staff present: City Manager Adam Anderson, City Clerk Russ Piroutek and City Attorney Jason Brinegar.

Others present: Fred Arnold, Chris Springer, Rick Snodgrass, Sam Alexander, Chuck Westin, Jay Kallman, Cindy Erickson and Loretta Cole.

APPROVAL OF MEETING MINUTES AND DISBURSEMENTS:

Mike Palmquist made a motion to approve the minutes from the February 27th, 2023 regular Council Meeting. Doane Sells seconded the motion, which carried unanimously on a voice vote.

Mike Palmquist made a motion to approve the appropriations and disbursements. Mike Nondorf seconded the motion, which carried unanimously on a voice vote.

PUBLIC COMMENT:

Chuck Westin touched on a number of topics including a pile of trash at 1110 17th Street, stray cats, the City's housing plan and welcoming the wind farm workers.

UNFINISHED/OLD BUSINESS

Jay Kallman presented the City's Insurance renewal. Overall cost for all premiums is \$177,402. Mike Palmquist made a motion to accept the renewal from Kallman Insurance Services as presented. Mike Nondorf seconded the motion, which carried unanimously on a voice vote.

NEW BUSINESS:

Sam Alexander, with the Belleville Chamber and Main Street, requested \$6,000 from the City for the business incentive grant for 2023. Mike Palmquist made a motion to donate \$6,000

from the City Capital Improvement fund to the Chamber for the Business Incentive Grant. Pam McGregor seconded the motion, which carried unanimously on a voice vote.

A draft CID Policy was presented to the Council. After some review, Mike Palmquist made a motion to approve Resolution No. 2023-017, establishing a policy for the City of Belleville, relating to Community Improvement Districts. Doane Sells seconded the motion, which carried unanimously on a voice vote.

City Manager Anderson gave an update on City sales tax revenues. The City has seen an increase in sales tax of around 9% each of the last three years. Future projections look good also. No action was taken.

The Council discussed the Recreation Bus schedule for summer 2023. At the previous meeting, it was discussed to shorten the season, or the hours per day. The Recreation Board was open to any of those possibilities. Cindy Erickson, assistant director, also answered questions and provided her thoughts. After more discussion, the Council felt that no changes should be made to the schedule, and staff should work within the budget provided.

A list of potential vacant buildings was provided to the Council. The Governing Body spent a great deal of time discussing how to get back on track with the ordinance. A number of specific structures were discussed. City Attorney Brinegar provided advice for the Council. It was the consensus of the Council to have the City Attorney draft an initial letter to send to all buildings that may be considered vacant, and have the property owners contact the City.

City Attorney Brinegar gave an update on the upcoming tax sale. The County Attorney is getting close to finalizing his portion of the tax sale. Once he is done, he will cross reference with the City to see if there are any additional properties the City would like to have added before it's outsourced to a different entity that is more familiar with the process.

CITY MANAGER'S REPORT:

City staff is looking at upgrading the security cameras at Rocky Pond. The lighting committee will consider working with the City on this upgrade.

Staff will abate the nuisances at 901 N Street as soon as they have time, now that progress on cleaning the property has stopped.

COUNCIL MEMBER/MAYOR COMMENTS:

Mike Palmquist thanked the City Attorney for his advice. He also appreciated John taking the time to give a tour of the Power Plant.

Doane Sells commented on the house demos and stated a number of citizens are not aware of the program.

Mike Nondorf mentioned he saw some streets being fixed.

Pam McGregor was encouraged by the progress happening in Belleville. Other towns she has visited are not looking as good.

Mayor Robertson echoed what everyone else commented on, and also wanted to look into getting more help for the Power Plant.

ADJOURNMENT:

Mike Palmquist made a motion to adjourn the meeting. Mike Nondorf seconded the motion, which carried unanimously on a voice vote. The meeting adjourned at 8:11 p.m.

Russ Piroutek
City Clerk