

City of Belleville
City Council Meeting
Monday, January 15, 2024
Belleville City Council Room

The meeting of the City of Belleville Council was held on Monday, January 15th, 2024 at 7:00 p.m. at the Belleville City Council room.

CALL TO ORDER:

Mayor Adam Robertson, called the meeting to order at 7:00 p.m. The Pledge of Allegiance was recited.

ATTENDENCE:

Council members present: Pam McGregor, Mike Nondorf, Doane Sells, James Doyle and Mike Palmquist. Nick Cox was absent

City Staff present: City Manager Adam Anderson, City Clerk Russ Piroutek and Power Plant Operator John McChesney.

Others present: Fred Arnold, Brad Chatfield and Steve Payne

PLANNING SESSION:

John McChesney and Steve Payne both provided information to the Council regarding engine upgrades at the power plant. Items discussed were removing old engines, having Donna with Power Plant Compliance submit paperwork to retire those engines, costs of new engines and other upgrades to the power plant that need to be done.

Brad Chatfield addressed the Council regarding Nuisance Abatement for 2024 and ideas he had for implementing it.

APPROVAL OF MEETING MINUTES AND DISBURSEMENTS:

James Doyle made a motion to approve the minutes from the December 11th, 2023 regular Council Meeting. Mike Palmquist seconded the motion, which carried unanimously on a voice vote.

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

PUBLIC COMMENT:

None.

NEW BUSINESS:

James Doyle made a motion to appoint Pam McGregor as Council President. Mike Palmquist seconded the motion, which carried unanimously on a voice vote.

Mike Palmquist made a motion to approve Resolution No. 2024-001, waiving the City of Belleville from the requirements of the generally accepted accounting principles. James Doyle seconded the motion, which carried unanimously on a voice vote.

Mike Palmquist made a motion to rollover the unused amount of sidewalk funds from 2023 and include with the current year for a total of \$25,000. Pam McGregor seconded the motion, which carried unanimously on a voice vote. The City would use all funds not applied for in 2024 for City sidewalk construction. The Council also discussed setting a deadline of September 1st for applications and setting up a master plan of which sidewalks should be replaced or installed.

Mike Palmquist made a motion to approve Resolution No. 2024-002, designating \$25,000 for sidewalk construction or replacement in 2024. James Doyle seconded the motion, which carried unanimously on a voice vote.

Mike Palmquist made a motion to designate the Citizen's National Bank, Astra Bank, New Century Bank and United Bank & Trust as official depositories of the City's funds for 2024, through regular checking accounts, CDs, CDARS or money markets. James Doyle seconded the motion, which carried unanimously on a voice vote.

Mike Palmquist made a motion to designate the City Manager, City Clerk and City Treasurer as designated signees at the official depositories approved by the City Council for the year 2024. James Doyle seconded the motion, which carried unanimously on a voice vote.

Mike Nondorf made a motion to have the Belleville Telescope as the official newspaper and the Local Channel 12 and KREP radio station for special announcements for the City of Belleville. Pam McGregor seconded the motion, which carried unanimously on a voice vote.

City Manager Anderson gave an update on the quarterly auditing of utility accounts to look for any errors. Staff has reviewed the large electric accounts and are looking at other utilities and sizes of accounts.

James Doyle made a motion to go into executive session to discuss data relating to financial affairs or trade secrets of second parties, with the Mayor, Council, City Manager and City Clerk, and return to the Council room at 8:15 p.m. Mike Palmquist seconded the motion, which carried unanimously on a voice vote. The Governing Body left for executive session at 8:03 p.m. The Council returned at 8:15 p.m. James Doyle made a motion to charge the underbilled customer an average of water usage during the winter for the past 3 years. Mike Palmquist seconded the motion, which carried unanimously on a voice vote.

The Council discussed replacing a Police vehicle. The City is unable to obtain a quote or lead time from the local Chevy dealer for a Tahoe or Truck. The Council was asked their opinion of purchasing outside of Belleville. The consensus of the Council was to obtain quotes for a Dodge or Ford SUV or Truck, as long as they are a police package. Quotes will be brought back to the next meeting.

The annual report on the Land Bank was provided. No action was needed.

The Council discussed raising admission fees at the Swimming Pool for the 2024 season. Concerns were raised on whether there was a need to raise fees, and what is a reasonable amount. Staff will bring back wage costs for lifeguards, hours worked and other expenses for the pool over the last few years to make a better decision on the fees.

Councilmember Doane Sells gave information on expanding the Fire Station to house a hummer the Fire Department acquired. Doane will obtain quotes from local vendors to see what the cost would be for the addition. Costs would most likely be split with Rural Fire. Quotes will be brought back to a future meeting for approval.

CITY MANAGER'S REPORT:

After conferring with the auditors, it was recommended to rescind the motion made at the December meeting for the promotional video, so 2024 funds could be used. Mike Palmquist made a motion to rescind the motion from the December 11th meeting, and make a motion to approve the cost of \$15,000 for the City's promotion video with Grindstone, with \$10,000 from the Economic Development line item and the other \$5,000 from Swimming Pool sales tax. James Doyle seconded the motion, which carried unanimously on a voice vote.

COUNCIL MEMBER/MAYOR COMMENTS:

Pam McGregor and Mike Nondorf thanked the City Staff for all the snow removal and work in cold weather.

Doane Sells commented on the 7th grade essay.

James Doyle also thanked City staff and commented on the Nuisance Abatement program, stressing the City does not want to make all of Belleville an HOA, that is not the City's intent.

Mike Palmquist thanked John and Steve for the update of the Power Plant.

Mayor Robertson was excited about all the projects that will be going on this year.

ADJOURNMENT:

James Doyle made a motion to adjourn the meeting. Mike Palmquist seconded the motion, which carried unanimously on a voice vote. The meeting adjourned at 8:58 p.m.

Russ Piroutek
City Clerk