

City of Beaverton

Minutes of City Council Meeting

May 20, 2024

Meeting called to order by Mayor Raymond Nau at 6:00PM

Roll Call:

Present: Nellie List, Nila Frei, Colleen Reader, Tim Danielak, Christine Gerace

Absent: Jennifer Harper

Staff Members Present: City Manager Shannon Sirpilla, Brad Davis, Jodie Klamer, Pat Stanley, Janelle Keen

Pledge of Allegiance recited by all present.

Approval of Agenda: Motion by Danielak, second by Frei to approve agenda with amendment to add item G: Resolution 2024-8: Consumers Energy Light Contract. All voting aye, motion carried

Approval of Meeting Minutes: Motion by List, second by Frei to approve minutes from Regular Meeting March 18, 2024, and Special Meeting March 27, 2024 as written. All voting aye, motion carried.

Public comments: Frei stated that Beaverton will celebrate Memorial Day on Monday, May 27th with a parade at 2:00pm. Memorial/Remembrance will start approximately 2:30pm at Ross Lake Park. Robert Frei is being honored as Veteran of the Year by the American Legion. Michele Ambrozaitis represented herself as candidate for 55th District Court Judge on this year's ballot. Rev. Karen Blatt stated that the Lion's constructed the park pavilions. An agreement needs to be signed stating that the City will maintain them based on the rental funds they receive and the Lion's Club will provide free help to fix and repair them as the need arises. The City will supply the materials for repairs. Jimmy Case gave information on the pancake breakfast coming up on May 27th along with raffle tickets he is selling. Seanne Pfeifer brought to the attention of the council her concerns about the lack of water monitoring for the months of December 2023-January 2024 as outlined in the City newsletter. The chlorine residual samples were not taken at two of the locations but the samples are taken at the water treatment plant every morning. There are paper reports of the actual samples the DPW took showing the water was safe at that time. Jess King, representing Paula King, spoke in reference to the property at 330 Lang Road that they have been trying to sell. It's been a residence for 74 years but is zoned commercial. It was brought before the zoning board to request it be rezoned to residential and was denied. He has had buyers back out due to the possibility of a fire and the home not being able to be rebuilt due to it being zoned as commercial property. According to Jess, there's not enough property there to have both a business and enough parking spaces for a business. He believes the sale of this home would benefit the community. He is asking the council to reconsider the situation. Barbara Gibbings, who purchased the home at 196 Lakeview Drive in 2003, introduced herself and her husband Tom. She expressed her concerns about what is being done about Ross Lake. They are now retired and full-time residents and the weeds have gotten much worse in the last 20 years. There was discussion about how to address the weed problem and how Pratt Lake handles the weed problem. Other residents

commented on the problem. Sirpilla has been continuously checking on treatment and commented on potentially putting it on the ballot as a special assessment. Sirpilla will make contact with the person who handles treating Pratt Lake to inquire about how they treat it. The floods affected the branches out of the lake and caused the silt and debris to back up. The water is not moving enough to keep the weeds cleared out. Sirpilla stated we do not have a fully executed grant to be able to dredge. We are waiting on the state to make a decision on a grant which would allow us to dredge the lake. We have many EGLE guidelines also due to having a hydro dam in the City. Coleen Allen inquired about blight issues. Chief Davis addressed the current blight issues stating that we are working within the City ordinances and doing as much as they can to take care of the problem. There is nothing we can do to make the courts move ahead any faster. Sirpilla is working with the judges to possibly bring in some people who are sentenced with community service to help residents who may not be able to physically deal with their blight problems.

Business Agenda Items:

- A. Motion by Danielak, second by Frei to approve Resolution 2024-5: Purchase of property located at 210 Glidden using Land Bank funds. All voting aye by roll call, resolution adopted
- B. Motion by Danielak, second by Frei to approve Resolution 2024-6: Purchase of Huntington Bank parking lot using USDA funds. All voting aye by roll call, resolution adopted.
- C. Motion by Danielak, second by Reader to approve Resolution 2024-7: Updated bank signatories. All voting aye by roll call, resolution adopted
- D. Motion by Danielak, second by Reader to approve 3% pay increase for Fire Chief Phil Andrist. All voting aye, motion carried.
- E. Motion by Reader, seconded by Danielak to approve Fire Department Budget for 2024. All voting aye, motion carried
- F. Motion by List, second by Frei to update City Hall hours from 7:30am-6:00pm to 7:00am-5:30pm.
- G. Motion by Danielak, second by Frei to approve Resolution 2024-8: Consumers Energy Light Contract. (Lakeview Drive near Brown St.) All voting aye by roll call, resolution adopted

Reports:

- A. County Commissioner's Report/Karen Moore: There is a need for child care in the community, Midland County thru Middle Michigan hosted us for a two hour round table discussion, Gladwin County is currently working no grants, law enforcement week was last week and thank you for all you do, Thunder on the Strip was Saturday and they had a record crowd for the event, June 1st will be the flower planting in Beaverton, July 13th is the Community Event held in Gladwin from 9:00am-3:00pm. Moore will be on the ballot for this area's current commissioner and Mid-Michigan College Trustee.
- B. DPW Report/Pat Stanley: Written report provided
- C. Police Report/Chief Brad Davis: Written report provided: Davis stated that 12 tall grass warning letters were sent out previously, 10 have been taken care of, 2 are vacant lots and will be taken care of soon, 10 more letters went out yesterday and those residents have 10 days to comply, 34 blight letters have been sent out, 31 have complied, 4 citations have been issued, the situation with housing the chickens

has been postponed, Davis stated that we need to know if residents see houses or yards that need attention as far as blight is concerned so we can address it

- D. Mayor's Report: Mayor Nau has spent many hours helping plant and water flowers. He has also been coordinating workers for the campground and for some of the City work that needs to be done. He works closely with the DPW to maintain the city properties.
- E. City Manager Report/Shannon Sirpilla: Written report provided, Sirpilla reported on Mercantile Bank information in packet, Harper will gather information on Huntington Bank information to bring back to council, the road repair on East Brown has been completed, the sewer lagoons are being worked on
- F. Library Use Date Report: Written report provided

Ways & Means:

Motion by Frei, second by Gerace to approve bills and tax disbursements for March and April 2024 in the amount of March \$ 183,410.04 and April \$ 165,765.02. All voting aye, motion carried.

Committee Reports:

- A. Fire Board - Written report provided
- B. Fair Board - Gerace stated that they met last month and will meet again tomorrow. They are getting ready for the 2024 fair. They are applying for a grant. They are selling signage for all the new gates on the pens. They would still like to hold the equestrian events at the fairgrounds year-round but the events do not generate enough funds for the \$5,000 insurance cost
- C. Parks and Recreation - Reader stated that a new side-by-side has been purchased for Calhoun Campground, Farmer's Market will be opening for Mother's Day weekend and the official opening date is June 7th, Sherry Bates is volunteering to oversee the market, there is some renewed interest in

community gardens at Leo Ross park, the EGLE permit was just issued for the last section of the Trail of Two Cities

- D. Police Committee - No report
- E. Personnel Committee - No report
- F. Downtown Development Authority - Items in the agenda were voted on previously in the meeting

Communications: Danielak thanked the citizens for giving their thoughts during public comment. He added there is value in having more families and homes in the city. The lake issue has been on his mind as well, there was a resident who had an emergency on Saturday night and they wanted to extend thanks to Reader for checking on them. Officer Gerbe from the Beaverton Police Department was very professional and calmed the situation down. Jordan and Pat from the DPW came in to assist as well. It was very reassuring to the community members and they expressed their thanks and appreciation. Reader thanked Sirpilla for driving the forklift and assisting in mulching our gardens. Sirpilla stated that Joe from Calhoun Campground also assisted her in the project.

Adjournment: Motion by Danielak, second by Frei to adjourn meeting at 7:15pm. All voting aye, motion carried.

Respectfully submitted,

Janelle Keen
City Clerk