

**BELLEFONTAINE CITY COUNCIL
MINUTES FOR TUESDAY, FEBRUARY 14, 2023
7:30 pm**

CALL TO ORDER: Zeb Wagner

PLEDGE & INVOCATION:

ROLL CALL: DeSomma *First Chair*
James
Lile
Reser
Springs
Aler
Baker *Minister* All Present

SUSPENSION READING OF MINUTES: Moved by Springs, seconded by Aler V All Ayes

CORRECTIONS/ADDITIONS: none

ADMINISTRATION REPORTS:

Mayor - Emailed all a letter to Council from Logan County Metro Housing which is one of many steps to develop housing in our community. The former McBeth School that was on W. Chillicothe Ave. was removed through he Brown Field Grant. The new project will be Chillicothe Cove of 46 units, one, two and three bedrooms. This is not yet a final announcement. It has been at least 15 years since Metropolitan Housing has done any new developments in to our community.

At 5:30 pm this evening a new firefighter was sworn in. Our second female firefighter hire. This is the end result of the SAFER Grant with federal FEMA dollars adding three full time firefighters. With this addition, the department will begin next week with 7, 7 and 7 shift numbers making it the highest staffing level ever in our city.

Curt Peterson served a fairly short term with Bellefontaine Parks and Rec. Asks that Council give their approval of Cain Strickland to replace Mr. Peterson on the unexpired term of the Parks Board. President Wagner asks for a motion and a second.

Motion to appoint Cain Strickland to fill the unexpired term of Curt Peterson on the Parks Board moved by DeSomma, seconded by Baker V All Ayes

S/SD - Update on work at W. Sandusky and Troy Rd. where a water main break occurred. The break has been repaired, the road is being patched and should see asphalt by the end of the week. That will be the conclusion of the project. Thanks crews for getting this done.
Water Department Superintendent Tim Newland intends to retire at the end of March. His retirement notice was given last fall. Thanks for his long service to the city. After interviews, Ryan Shields will be the new Superintendent starting April 1st.
Attended the United Way Awards Breakfast at the end of January. The city was once again Gold Campaign status. Thanks to all who contributed.

Law - Bring attention to first three ordinances that relate to Municipal Court. Judge Beck brought to attention that the Ohio Revised Code does provide that the Municipal Court Judge has the ability to establish the pay rates for her Chief Bailiff and Deputy Bailiff. The positions have been on the clerical pay scale. In response the city will establish these positions by separate legislation and remove them from our clerical pay scales.

Law Director requests an Executive Session after the conclusion of the legislation but before adjournment with Council, Administration and Chief Standley to discuss police employment matters.

Auditor - No report
Police Chief - No report
Fire Chief - Not present
Engineer- Not present
Parks & Rec- Not present
Economic Dev- No report

REPORTS OF STANDING COMMITTEES:

- Finance –** Explained ordinances/resolution on the agenda.
- Rules -** Rules committee met and discussed health based face masks and recording of council meetings. The decisions will be passed to Law Director Stolly to turn into legal language.
- Safety -** No report
- Utilities -** No report
- Streets -** No report
- Sidewalks, Curbs & Parks -** Attended the recent park board meeting.
- Audit –** No report

COMMUNICATIONS FROM CITIZENS: Chase Barrett, regional manager of Invisible Friends Society, 410 N. Main St. here to ask the city to allow a 4-20 Festival. The festival would safely allow the legal consumption of marijuana for 1 day. The issue of marijuana is on the ballot for recreation use. The organization has ties to the city of Ann Arbor. The festival brought in a surplus of money to the city for fire and police departments. All businesses would benefit and proceeds would go to the police department. Questions answered.

INTRODUCTION OF ORDINANCES:

1. ORDINANCES FOR 1ST READING

23-03 A. AN ORDINANCE AMENDING THE CLERICAL WORKERS PAY SCALE TO REMOVE THE MUNICIPAL COURT CHIEF BAILIFF AND DEPUTY BAILIFF FROM SAID SCALE AND DECLARING AN EMERGENCY. **FINANCE**

3RR- Moved by Baker, seconded by
Passage-
Adoption-

23-04 B. AN ORDINANCE PROVIDING FOR COMPENSATION FOR THE MUNICIPAL COURT CHIEF BAILIFF POSITION AND DECLARING AN EMERGENCY. **FINANCE**

3RR- Moved by Baker, seconded by DeSomma V All Ayes
Passage-
Adoption-

23-05 C. AN ORDINANCE PROVIDING FOR COMPENSATION FOR THE MUNICIPAL COURT DEPUTY BAILIFF POSITION AND DECLARING AN EMERGENCY. **FINANCE**

3RR- Moved by Baker, seconded by Aler
Passage-
Adoption-

R23-06 D. A RESOLUTION ESTABLISHING A NEW EXPENSE ACCOUNT WITHIN THE GENERAL FUND- POLICE DEPARTMENT. **FINANCE**

Adoption- Moved by Baker, seconded by Springs V All Ayes

2. ORDINANCES FOR 2ND READING

3. ORDINANCES FOR 3RD READING

COMMUNICATIONS FROM CLERK: none

COMMUNICATIONS FROM COUNCIL: President Wagner moves the special hearing scheduled for February 28th to March 14th at 7:00 pm due to advertising issues.

EXECUTIVE SESSION-7:50 Motion to move into Executive Session including Council, President of Council, Administration and Chief Standley to discuss police department employment matters moved by James, seconded by Reser
V All Ayes

Motion to return to regular session moved by Springs, seconded by Aler
V All Ayes

ADJOURNMENT – 8:15 pm moved by Lile, seconded by DeSomma

Bonnie Campbell, Clerk of Council

Zeb Wagner, President of Council