

**BELLEFONTAINE CITY COUNCIL
MINUTES FOR TUESDAY, OCTOBER 10, 2023
7:30 pm**

CALL TO ORDER: Zeb Wagner
PLEDGE & INVOCATION:
ROLL CALL: Lile *First Chair*
Reser
Springs
Aler
Baker
DeSomma
James *Minister* All Present

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

CORRECTIONS/ADDITIONS: none

ADMINISTRATION REPORTS:

Mayor - The Planning Commission met today at 4:00 pm concerning an alley vacation. The alley has been grown over for quite some time. This was voted unanimous in favor of. Requests that a public hearing be set. Requests a vote for five appointments for several vacancies/expiration. The Board of Zoning Appeals has one vacancy and Brian Osterfeld has volunteered.

Shade Tree Commission has three members that are presently serving and all have said yes to continue in that capacity. Joanne Ritter, Joe Antram and Sherry Wilkins for reappointments. For the Bellefontaine/Logan County Finance and Development Authority, Tom Simon, reappointment.

Motion to appoint Brian Osterfeld to the Board of Zoning Appeals, moved by Aler, seconded by Reser V All Ayes

Motion to reappoint Joanne Ritter, Joe Antram and Sherry Wilkins to the Shade Tree Commission moved by Reser, seconded by Springs V All Ayes

Motion to reappoint Tom Simon to the Bellefontaine/Logan County Finance and Development Authority moved by Aler, seconded by James V All Ayes

Swearing in ceremony for Jordan Simon, Firefighter/EMT.

S/SD - Leaf pick up has been published for October 23rd north of Columbus Ave. and east of Main St., October 26th southeast, October 31st southwest and November 2nd northwest. Another round will start November 6th. A large solar eclipse event on April 8th, at 3:10 pm. Chief Marlow and Chief Fissel have been meeting with the EMA for preparations. The population could be expected to double or triple during the event. Festivities and events are being planned by the DBP.

Served as President of the LUV Regional Planning Commission . There will be an annual dinner on November 16th at TRC for anyone interested. Tickets are available.

Law - The petition to amend the city ordinances was found to be rejected. The Secretary of State's ruling was overturned due to the petitioner's failure to follow protocol. Mr. Tim Steinhelfer was the attorney responsible for the electoral protesters, designated by the Supreme Court as the relators. So this will no longer be on the ballot. Council can expect that they will receive requests from some of our electors to amend city ordinances to achieve the same goal. Law Director Stolly cautions that if that road is taken, as a council, to consider the enforceability of any language. The language that was presented to be on the ballot was basically the same language that the Federal Court of Tennessee found to be unconstitutional.

Auditor - Financial audit of 2022 is completed and has been filed.

Police Chief - Tailgate last Friday at the homecoming game was very successful. Thanks Mr. Brentlinger, Mr. Dodds and Mr. Aler for helping with the event.

Mason Treen, newly sworn in officer, has successfully gone through his dispatch rotation. Brendon Jacobs will start at the beginning of next month.

Fire Chief - No report

Engineer- The Sidewalk Program is going strong and well over halfway done with replacements around the parks and cemetery.

Opened bids for our painting and stripping project a few weeks ago. Griffin Painting/Striping out of Fremont is the selected contractor and will start in a week to ten days

Parks & Rec- Not present
Economic Dev- No report

REPORTS OF STANDING COMMITTEES:

Finance – Explained ordinances/resolution on the agenda.
Rules - Explained ordinance on the agenda.
Safety - No report
Utilities - No report
Streets - No report
Sidewalks, Curbs & Parks -No report
Audit – Mr. Brentlinger deals with state and also federal audits. Commends him for a good job.

COMMUNICATIONS FROM CITIZENS: Tim Steinhelfer, 216 E Patterson Ave. Thanks Mayor Staher for encouraging him to speak. As a candidate for Mayor on the November 2023 ballot, he wishes to speak to the issue of responsible pet ownership. On October 1st, while canvassing in the Lake Edition, he was mauled by a pit bull. Notified the candidates and canvases for both political parties of the address of the irresponsible dog owner. Does not wish to bring undue publicity to one person, but public safety is a concern. If anyone is involved in door to door interactions, he encourages contacting him at victorytimismymayor.com to notify of the address to ensure that Bellefontaine remains a safe place to conduct legal and civic activities.

Also speaks to the issue of transparency in government. Congratulates Council for the great step forward of putting meetings on YouTube. One tradition historically held in the city was a mayoral debate to give the people an opportunity to hear both of the candidates ideas to select who’s plans are best suited to carry the city forward.. Invites his opponent to honor the tradition of transparency and participate in such a debate. Traditionally this has been hosted by the American Association of University Women with questions provided by the Bellefontaine Examiner.

Thanks all of City Council for resisting the urge to listen to community outsiders to enact any sort of ordinance regulating thoughts, speech and behavior concerning the way people dress in public. Your courage and bravery has saved tax payors hundreds of thousands of dollars. The victory at Supreme Court is a victory for everyone.

INTRODUCTION OF ORDINANCES:

1. ORDINANCES FOR 1ST READING

R23-66 A. A RESOLUTION APPROVING THE BELLEFONTAINE COMMUNITY REINVESTMENT AREA PROJECT APPLICATION OF PLATINUM REI LLC AND AUTHORIZING THE CITY TO ENTER INTO A COMMUNITY REINVESTMENT AREA AGREEMENT WITH SAID APPLICANT AND DIRECTING THE HOUSING OFFICER AND CITY AUDITOR TO TAKE ALL NECESSARY ACTIONS TO EFFECTUATE THE TAX EXEMPTIONS GRANTED THEREIN. **FINANCE**

Adoption- Moved by Baker, seconded by Springs V Ayes-James, abstain
Re: family member business

2. ORDINANCES FOR 2ND READING

23-63 A. AN ORDINANCE AUTHORIZING THE SERVICE-SAFETY DIRECTOR TO ENTER INTO A MEMORANDUM OF UNDERSTANDING WITH THE BELLEFONTAINE-LOGAN COUNTY FINANCE AND DEVELOPMENT AGENCY FOR THE INSTALLATION AND PROVISION OF PEAK FIBER INTERNET SERVICE TO THE MUNICIPAL AIRPORT AND DECLARING AN EMERGENCY. **FINANCE**

3RR- Moved by Baker, seconded by Springs V Ayes-James, abstain

Passage- Moved by Baker, seconded by Springs

Re: family member business
V Ayes-James, abstain

Adoption- Moved by Baker, seconded by Springs

Re: family member business
V Ayes-James, abstain
Re: family member business

23-64 B. AN ORDINANCE MAKING SUPPLEMENTAL APPROPRIATIONS AND AMENDING THE PERMANENT APPROPRIATIONS ORDINANCE FOR PURPOSES OF INCIDENTALS-CAPITAL IMPROVEMENTS #2 AND DECLARING AN EMERGENCY. **FINANCE**

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

V All Ayes

3. ORDINANCES FOR 3RD READING

23-56 A. AN ORDINANCE MAKING SUPPLEMENTAL APPROPRIATIONS AND AMENDING THE PERMANENT APPROPRIATIONS ORDINANCE FOR PURPOSES OF STATE AUDIT EXPENSES – AUDITOR AND CAPITAL EQUIPMENT – POLICE AND DECLARING AN EMERGENCY.

FINANCE

Adoption- Moved by Baker, seconded by Aler

V All Ayes

23-59 B. AN ORDINANCE AMENDING CHAPTER 1313 FLOOD DAMAGE PREVENTION OF THE CODIFIED ORDINANCES OF THE CITY OF BELLEFONTAINE AND DECLARING AN EMERGENCY.

RULES

Adoption- Moved by Reser, seconded by James

V All Ayes

COMMUNICATIONS FROM CLERK: none

COMMUNICATIONS FROM COUNCIL: President Wagner sets the above mentioned alley vacation hearing for November 28, at 7:00 pm.

ADJOURNMENT – 7:55 pm moved by Lile, seconded by James

Bonnie Campbell, Clerk of Council

Zeb Wagner, President of Council

