

City of Belleville
City Council Meeting
Monday, August 26th, 2024
Belleville City Council Room

The meeting of the City of Belleville Council was held on Monday, August 26th, 2024 at 7:00 p.m. at the Belleville City Council room.

CALL TO ORDER:

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

ATTENDENCE:

Council members present: Pam McGregor, Mike Nondorf, Doane Sells, James Doyle, Mike Palmquist and Chris Zach.

City Staff present: City Manager Adam Anderson, City Clerk Russ Piroutek and City Attorney Coleman Younger.

Others present: Fred Arnold, Chris Springer, Rick Snodgrass, Deanna Morris, Diane Boman, Wade Johnson, Tyler Johnson, Mia Caracciolo, Ellen Ball, Molly Potuzak-Springer and Barry Childs.

APPROVAL OF MEETING MINUTES AND DISBURSEMENTS:

Mike Palmquist made a motion to approve the minutes from the August 12th, 2024 regular Council Meeting. James Doyle 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:

Deanna Morris, Belleville Area Chamber of Commerce, introduced Molly Potuzak-Springer as the new Chamber Director. They both presented information on upcoming activities. They also asked permission to use the grassy lot at 18th & M Street for an Autumn Festival on October 5th, 2024. James Doyle made a motion to allow the use of the lot for the Chamber Autumn Festival. Mike Palmquist seconded the motion, which carried unanimously on a voice vote.

James Doyle made a motion to approve Resolution no 2024-014, authorizing the abatement of a nuisance at 2312 O Street. Mike Palmquist seconded the motion, which carried unanimously on voice vote.

The Council considered declaring the property at 1709 20th Street a nuisance. Both the property owner and tenant were at the meeting. They stated that they have started cleaning up some items on the property and discussed constructing a fence to place other items behind. The consensus of the Council was to see what progress has been made in the next 30 days, and address the property again at that time.

The Council had questions for the owner of the vacant building located at 1801 N Street concerning the condition of the structure. He has been working on fixing the building up, but still has some work to do. He needs to finish the siding and close some areas where cats are getting into the structure. He will keep in contact with the City on his progress, and report back to the Council in 30 days.

Two claims for damages were submitted to the City. One was a follow up from a previous claim, at 2615 K Street, that happened while the City crews were converting electric lines. The applicant is requesting \$284.48 for a damaged sub-woofer. The other claim was for the Wesleyan Church at 909 Wesleyan Drive for labor to repair their AC units when the City wired the new service incorrectly. They are requesting \$210 in reimbursement. Mike Palmquist made a motion to approve both claims, and reimburse the applicants for the amount requested. James Doyle seconded the motion, which carried unanimously on a voice vote.

Mike Palmquist made a motion to approve an animal permit at 1653 12th Street, for a combination of horses and sheep, for no more than 7 animals total. Mike Nondorf seconded the motion, which carried unanimously on a voice vote.

Mike Palmquist made a motion to approve Ordinance No 1072, setting natural gas rates for City of Belleville customers. James Doyle seconded the motion, which carried unanimously on a roll call vote.

A request from the property owner at 1201 K Street to repeal Ordinance No. 1073 was shared with the Council. This ordinance was adopted at the last meeting, which authorized the removal of the structure on that property. The property owner would like to work on the structure so it is no longer unsafe. After some discussion from the Council, the consensus was to take no action at this time, but due to staff schedules, that structure will not be slated to be demolished in the near future.

The Council discussed replacing sidewalks with the funds left in the sidewalk fund. It would take approximately 25 yards of concrete to fill in the gaps from East Elementary to the High school on O Street. There was discussion on City staff installing the concrete or hiring it out, and whether grant funds should be sought. In the end, City Manager Anderson was directed to obtain quotes by the next meeting to install 375 feet of 4 feet wide sidewalk.

Safety concerns were addressed regarding parking on 23rd Street and K Street. As of lately, there does not appear to be as many vehicles parked along those streets. After some discussion, the Council felt there was enough feedback from the public not to change any parking along these streets.

The Republic County Health Department will be hosting a meeting to discuss solutions for the lack of daycares needed in Belleville. The Council briefly discussed the role of the City. It was decided to see what becomes of the meeting, and discuss further how the City fits in.

Mike Palmquist made a motion to approve the appointment of Megan Lewellyn to the Parks & Recreation Board. Mike Nondorf seconded the motion, which carried unanimously on a voice vote.

EXECUTIVE SESSION:

Mike Palmquist made a motion to go into executive session for consultation with an attorney on matters that would be deemed privileged in an attorney-client relationship, with the Mayor, City Manager, City Clerk and City Attorney, and return to the Council room at 8:00 p.m. James Doyle seconded the motion, which carried unanimously on a voice vote. The Governing Body left for executive session at 7:47 p.m. The Council returned at 8:00 p.m. No action was taken.

Mike Palmquist made a motion to go into executive session for personnel matters of non-elected personnel, with the Mayor, City Manager, City Clerk and City Attorney, and return to the Council room at 8:15 p.m. James Doyle seconded the motion, which carried unanimously on a voice vote. The Governing Body left for executive session at 8:02 p.m. The Council returned at 8:15 p.m. No action was taken.

CITY MANAGER'S REPORT:

NMPP had the power plant run this afternoon and may tomorrow again.

City Manager Anderson was asked about the status of the assessment for teardown at the property at 9th & N Street. The property owner was in attendance and talked how he would like to build a house on the property, but the assessments would make it difficult. The Council spent time discussing options, but in the end, decided it would need to be talked about at future meetings.

COUNCIL MEMBER/MAYOR COMMENTS:

Chirs Zach thanked the City workers.

Mike Palmquist commented on the races and fair.

James Doyle mentioned how fast the summer went.

Doane Sells also thanked the workers and commented on upcoming projects.

Mike Nondorf echoed others statements.

Pam McGregor was thankful for the splashpad.

Mayor Robertson commented on long term plans to resurface roads, the pool season and was happy the Water Treatment Plant was operating.

ADJOURNMENT:

James Doyle made a motion to adjourn the meeting. Mike Nondorf seconded the motion, which carried unanimously on a voice vote. The meeting adjourned at 8:25 p.m.

Russ Piroutek
City Clerk