

October 2, 2023
Regular Session

The Bellevue City Council met on Monday, October 2, 2023 in Regular Session at 6:30 P.M. in the Council Chambers with Mayor Roger Michels presiding. The Pledge of Allegiance was recited by all present. The roll was called as follows:

PRESENT: Councilmembers Nic Kueter, Tim Roth, Tom Roth and Jayden Scheckel. Also present were City Administrator/Clerk Teresa Weinschenk, Officer Kody Sieverding, Utility Chairman Ken Walsh, Utility Superintendent Jamie Haxmeier, Public Work's Superintendent Nick Kilburg, Librarian Marian Meyer, Children's Librarian Trish Kilburg, Kelley Brown, and Jo Fifield

ABSENT: Lyn Medinger

APPROVAL OF AGENDA:

Mayor Roger Michels reviewed the Agenda and declared it approved.

CONSENT AGENDA

Tom Roth moved with a second by Scheckel to approve the Consent Agenda. Motion carried unanimously.

- A. Approve Minutes of September 20, 2023 Regular Session
- B. Approve Downtown Incentive Request: Brian & Joan Hart 118 S. Riverview - Facade
- C. Approve New Revenue and Expense Line to Help Track the Hotel/Motel Tax and Little League Baseball Funds

VISITORS

MARIAN MEYER AND TRICIA KILBURG – UPDATE ON LIBRARY

Meyer informed Council that the Library has over 3,000 patrons. Kilburg invited the Council to come to the library and see the murals that have been painted by volunteers and also sign up for a library card. Meyer also commended Kilburg for the successful children's programs. Mayor Michels thanked the library for the job they are doing.

JAMIE HAXMEIER- UTILITY BOARD APPROVING A VARIANCE FOR THE BELLEVUE COMMUNITY SCHOOL

Haxmeier explained to the Council that Marc Ruden, Origin Design, had met with the Utility Board regarding the open loop geothermal system at the BCS. Walsh and Haxmeier went on to explain that BCS is drawing water from the Galena Aquifer. City of Bellevue is drawing water from the Cambreant Aquifer. BCS is not a threat to the City since they are using a different Aquifer. There is very low influence of interference from the schools geothermal.

The school has applied for a test permit with the DNR. Deb Williams out of Des Moines DNR will be overseeing the project and assuring the process/policies are followed. She will make sure the City is protected and will not issue a permit if it is not safe for Bellevue's water supply. Utilities can be on site when the test well is drilled, and a transducer can be put on well #3 for monitoring.

The Utility Board recommends allowing the school to have a variance to move forward with an open loop geothermal system with Iowa DNR oversight.

TIM ROTH MOVED WITH A SECOND BY SCHECKEL TO MOVE THE SANITATION & RECYCLING DISCUSSION FURTHER DOWN THE AGENDA.

Motion carried unanimously.

JJ'S MEMORIAL PARK UPDATE.

The equipment has been delivered and will be installed on October 9th. The bathroom will be installed at 10am on October 12th. The crane is being donated by Lawson Rigging and Fabrication. This will save \$6,000. The tree board (Don & Warren) along with the Public Works Dept. will be planting trees at JJ's Park on the 12th also.

USDA GRANT/LOAN UPDATE- UTILITY EXTENSION TO STAMP PROPERTY

Bellevue is not eligible for a USDA grant due to the latest census and the median household income. Even if we were eligible there is no grant funding available. The costs for the utility extension of sewer and water, is \$3.3 million. This would need to be a loan. On Thursday (9/28), the interest rate for Bellevue was 2.875%. Weinschenk has told ECIA to put the application with the USDA on hold until Council can decide on a go forward plan. The Council discussed the cost of the utility extension and agreed to put the application on hold. The Council discussed getting costs for street extensions of Park Street and Edwards Street. The Council would like to reach out to property owners to the North and West and see if there is interest in selling property. Weinschenk has informed BETA member Toby Giesman of the situation.

SANITATION & RECYCLING- NICK KILBURG

A survey was sent out in the Utility Billing to 1700 households. It was in the newspaper and website. There were 285 responses which were divided between a once-a-week garbage pickup vs twice a week. Kilburg presented to the Council the tonnage of garbage and recycling. Kilburg explained that there is an average of six garbage overages per week and if we changed to once-a-week pickup there would be more people paying for overages and extra garbage cans. With the lack of response to the survey, it is assumed that people are happy with the service as is. It was decided not to change the garbage and recycling schedule.

APPROVE TO ALLOW DEPARTMENT HEADS AND CITY ADMINISTRATOR TO APPROVE SPECIAL EVENTS

Kueter moved with a second by Tim Roth to approve the Department Heads and City Administrator to approve the Special Events. Motion carried unanimously.

OFF SHORE AGREEMENT RENEWAL

Mayor Michels, Medinger, Tom Roth and Weinschenk met with Steve Launspach and Lois Ludwig from Off Shore on Friday, September 22nd to discuss the annual renewal agreement with Off Shore. Both parties agreed that things have went well. Launspach stated that due to the increased costs (lifeguards especially) they were raising the Bellevue rate from \$6 to \$7. Within 5 miles of Bellevue will remain at \$10 as will the regular rate of \$15. It was agreed that we renew the contract paying Off Shore \$15,000 for the year.

RESOLUTON NO. 28-23 APPROVING A VARIANCE FOR THE BELLEVUE COMMUNITY SCHOOL

Tom Roth moved with a second by Kueter to approve Resolution No. 28-23. Motion carried unanimously.

RESOLUTION NO. 28-23

**RESOLUTION ACKNOWLEDGING APPROVAL OF A VARIANCE ORDINANCE
TITLE VI PHYSICAL ENVIRONMENT CHAPTER 4 UTILITIES 6-4-20. 4
GEOTHERMAL WELL STANDARDS**

WHEREAS, a variance from the Bellevue Municipal Utility Board was requested by the Bellevue Community School to allow them to install an Open Loop Geothermal System, and

WHEREAS, the Bellevue Municipal Code states that Open Loop Geothermal Systems are Prohibited.

WHEREAS, Origin Design recommends allowing the Bellevue Community School to install an Open Loop Geothermal System, and

WHEREAS, the concurring vote of three members of the Bellevue Municipal Utility Board were in favor of approving the request to allow an Open Loop Geothermal System, and

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED by the City Council of Bellevue, IA that the Bellevue Community School be granted a variance to install an Open Loop Geothermal System.

Passed and approved this 2nd day of October 2023.

Roger Michels, Mayor

ATTEST:

Teresa L. Weinschenk

COUNCIL AND MAYOR UPDATES

Rotary Halloween Parade Sunday. October 29 3pm at Cole Park Baseball, with Bellevue Trick or Treating 4pm-6pm.

Next meeting October 18th.

ADJOURNMENT

As there were no other matters on the agenda for discussion, Mayor Roger Michels adjourned the meeting at 7:27 P.M.

City Administrator/Clerk

Mayor