

**CITY OF BELLEFONTAINE NEIGHBORS
BOARD OF ALDERMEN
REGULAR MEETING MINUTES
OCTOBER 17, 2019 – 7:30PM**

PRESENT: Mayor Tommie Pierson, Sr., Alderwoman Barbara West, Alderwoman Dinah Tatman, Alderwoman Theresa Reed, Alderman Samuel Simril, Alderman Jim Christian, Alderwoman Miranda Avant-Elliott, Police Chief Jeremy Ihler, City Attorney Helmut Star, and City Clerk Fran Stevens.

ABSENT: Alderman John Jordan, Ward 3 and Alderwoman Alease Dailes, Ward 4.

MEETING WAS CALLED TO ORDER BY Mayor Pierson at 7:30 p.m. Copies of all ordinances and resolutions to be considered at the meeting were made available for public inspection prior to the time of consideration by the Board of Aldermen.

PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE TO THE FLAG was led by Mayor Pierson, Sr.

ROLL CALL: City Clerk called the roll and all members were present except Alderman Jordan Ward 3 and Alderwoman Dailes, Ward 4.

APPROVAL OF THE AGENDA: Motion to approve agenda made by Alderwoman Avant-Elliott seconded by Alderman Simril. Motion carries.

PRESENTATION OF THE UNAPPROVED MINUTES: Motion to approve Regular Board Meeting Unapproved Minutes of October 3, 2019 after necessary corrections, made by Alderwoman Avant-Elliott, seconded by Alderman Christian. Motion carried unanimously.

MEETING OPEN TO THE PUBLIC: The meeting was opened to the public to speak 3 minutes each.

Peg Warnusz - 100XX Crete Dr. – She attended the RGSD Parade and it was nice except experiencing difficulty with the street blocking and the fact that the young early childhood children were at the end of the parade.

Wanda Lane – 99XX Martingale Ln. – Had questions and comments regarding designating the city as a Promise Zone.

Marcie Gooden – 94XX Duenke Dr. – Shout out to Officer Shreves for the investigation of a vacant home entry. The RGSD Parade was nice, discuss the desire to bring back neighborhood watch and the chief responded that he will get educational information out to the public regarding Neighborhood Watch.

Carnell Jones – 11XX Wentworth: Discussed his Army career and stated that he feels the community is in disarray.

Darnell Harris – 104XX Coburg Lane – Discussed the unnecessary speeding in the community.

Pete Carlson - 12XX Bakewell – Stated the web site needs to be updated and the outage of street lights.

Debbie Carlson – 12XX Bakewell – Discussed the fact that all residents do not have trash receptacles and there are derelict automobiles in the community.

Willie Williams – 10XX Hopewell Dr.- Discussed the loud music, incorrect parking at the park and the cluttered parking lot at Bissell Hills Mall.

TREASURER'S REPORT: Motion to pay 14 unpaid invoices over \$500.00 in the amount of \$65,792.95 made by Alderwoman Reed seconded by Alderwoman Avant-Elliott. Motion carries. Note that going forward the BOA will only approve invoices with sufficient back up.

CITY COLLECTOR'S REPORT: None

CHIEF OF POLICE REPORT: Back Stoppers Event was well attended and went well. Discussed the shooting in BN, stolen cars and looking for BOA to do ride along with patrol. MIRMA Conference is October 29th and 30th. Motion to allow Chief to attend the MIRMA Conference (expenses total \$258.20) made by Alderwoman West seconded by Alderwoman Tatman. Motion carries.

CITY ATTORNEY – Requested a closed meeting tonight after the BOA Meeting to discuss personnel - section 610.21 (3).

UNFINISHED BUSINESS

A. Motion made by Alderwoman Tatman seconded by Alderwoman West to reimburse resident the insurance deductible for the City's tree falling on her car in the amount of \$500.00; the resident must sign a release for this amount. Motion carries. Alderman Christian opposed.

NEW BUSINESS

A. North County Chambers 2020 Partnership

Motion to remain same as last year and allocate \$500.00 as Small Business Partner to Greater North County Chamber of Commerce made by Alderwoman Reed seconded by Alderwoman Avant-Elliott. Alderwoman West opposes. Motion carries.

B. St. Louis County Board of Elections Candidate Filing Agreement

After discussion it was decided that the City would not adopt the Election Candidate Filing Agreement with St. Louis County.

C. Bill No. 2557 – Election Candidate Filing Agreement With Board of Elections

Motion to table Bill No. 2557 indefinitely made by Alderman Simril seconded by Alderwoman West. Motion carries.

REPORT OF THE MAYOR

A. Sherry Ramsey, our janitor was injured in a car accident and is still in the hospital paralyzed. Prayers go out to Sherry and her family.

B. Motion to appoint Patrick Howard as the City Treasurer pending his resignation as City Collector made by Alderwoman Avant- Elliott seconded by Alderman Simril. Motion carries.

REPORT OF ALDERPERSONS

Alderman Christian – Happy Halloween to everyone and be safe. Communication between the Mayor and BOA is still lacking. All the vacant offices need to be filled so the BOA is not micro-managing. Bissell Hills Ribbon Cutting Ceremony is 10/26/19 from 2-6pm.

Alderman Simril – He was witness to (2) car chases in the city, the speeding in BN is ridiculous and he questioned the Chief as to ways to combat this issue. Chief explained that officers are aware of the situation and while they are present, drivers obey the law, but the officers can not stay in one spot all day every day.

Alderwoman Avant-Elliott – Thanked everyone in attendance, she enjoyed the RGSD Parade. Family Frightful Fun Night is 10/18/2019 and volunteers are needed. Content for the newsletter deadline is 10/25/2019. It was mentioned when to put out trash receptacles and when to bring them back in. There was extended conversation regarding what will be in the newsletter. Motion for the Job Description along with preparation of the ordinance for the salary of Parks and Rec Director made by Alderwoman Avant-Elliott seconded by Alderwoman Reed.

Alderwoman Reed – Thanks to everyone in attendance. Motion for Craig to purchase needed food items for the Ribbon Cutting and Bonfire made by Alderwoman Reed seconded by Alderman Simril. Motion carries. Motion for Craig to deliver items to park and give Alderwoman Reed a key to park restrooms made by Alderwoman Reed seconded by Alderman Simril. Motion carries. Questioned if the city has received RFP's for tree trimming. Bissell Hills Ribbon cutting and Bonfire is 10/26/19 from 2-6pm.and volunteers are still needed.

Alderwoman Tatman – Good evening to everyone. Thanked BOA for the voting of reimbursement for the resident that had the tree fall on her car. Working on a Financial Resource Fair with Midwest Bank. Everyone is invited to the Holiday Gala in Ward 1 to be held in December 2019. Date to be announced. Public Safety meetings are every fourth Thursday here at City Hall.

Alderwoman West – She is not on any commissions this year and has agreed to work on the Safety Committee. Kwanzaa will be celebrated on December 28, 2019 from 2-6pm.

Alderwoman Avant-Elliott read a thank you card to the Board Of Alderpersons from the City Clerk in appreciation for her birthday acknowledgements.

Motion to go into Closed Session pursuant to section 610.021 (3) to discuss personnel at the end of regular meeting made by Alderman Christian seconded by Alderwoman Reed. Motion passed with the following votes: Alderwoman West-yes, Alderwoman Tatman-yes, Alderwoman Reed-yes, Alderman Simril-yes, Alderman Jordan-absent, Alderman Christian-yes, Alderwoman Dailes-absent, Alderwoman Avant-Elliott-yes.

MEETING OPEN TO THE PUBLIC (With a 3-minute time limit or as long as the Mayor deems necessary)

Chuck Vogelsang – 101XX Coburg Lane Dr. – He is hearing impaired but can read lips, had various complaints regarding inability to see everyone's lips, the manner in which individuals sat in their chairs, etc.

Wanda Lane – 99XX Martingale – Had pictures regarding the parking lot at Bissell Hills parking lot. Commented that the Rec Center is not scheduling many activities and she could not understand the reason that there were complications when someone wanted to use the entire (or majority) center for classes, conferences etc. Also made mention that adults should not have to be taught how to conduct themselves in meetings.

Carnell Jones – 11XX Wentworth Drive – He expressed his feelings of displeasure with the functions of Bellefontaine Neighbors government. Stated that people should be cognate of what they say in relation to what they do.

Peg Warnusz – 100XX Crete Dr. - Asked about the meeting that the Mayor had with Better Family Life regarding young adult employment. Discussed the trash at Bissell Hills Shopping Mall.

Adjournment: Motion to adjourn made by Alderwoman Reed seconded by Alderwoman Avant-Elliott. Motion carries. Meeting adjourned at 9:32pm.

ATTEST:



Fran Stevens, City Clerk

Approved by the Board of Aldermen on 11-7-2019