

Bellevue Common Council  
Monday May 11, 2020  
Bellevue City Hall, 115 E Pine St, Bellevue  
Regular Meeting Minutes

6:00 p.m. Call to Order:

Mayor Burns called the Regular Meeting to order. A roll call attendance was conducted, and Council members present were Tammy Davis, Kathryn Goldman, Greg Cappel, Chris Johnson, Doug Brown, and Shaun Mahoney all appearing by teleconference. For the record, Mayor Burns and Clerk/Treasurer Edwards were physically present in the official meeting location of the Council Chambers of City Hall. A quorum was present for the entire meeting. Staff present were Rick Allington, City Attorney; Greg Beaver, Fire Chief; Diane Shay, Community Development Director; Frank Suwanrit, Public Works Director; Kristin Gearhart, Library Director; Jason Calhoun, Streets Supervisor; and Marian Edwards, City Clerk/Treasurer.

Notice and Hearing Compliance:

The posting of this meeting agenda complied with Idaho Code 74-204. The regular meeting agenda was posted five (5) days prior to the meeting at the Bellevue Post Office, the bulletin board outside City Hall and on the website on May 6, 2020. Goldman motioned that the notice was in compliance with Idaho Code 74-204. Johnson seconded. All in favor. The motion passed.

1. Call for Conflict as outlined in Idaho Code §59-703 (f) – 704 With Any Agenda Item.  
Burns called for conflict from any Alderman with any agenda items. No conflicts were noted.
2. Public Comment for Items of Concern not on the Agenda.  
Lisa Adam, South 4<sup>th</sup> Street asked about the park playground reopening schedule. Burns noted that this topic was on the agenda and would be discussed later in the meeting.

OLD BUSINESS

3. Consent Agenda:
  - a. Minutes of April 27, 2020
  - b. Claims from April 28, 2020 to May 11, 2020
  - c. Department Head Reports

Goldman motioned to accept the consent agenda as presented. Mahoney seconded. Roll call vote results: Mahoney- yes, Davis- yes, Goldman- yes, Brown- yes, Cappel- yes, Johnson-yes. Motion passed.

NEW BUSINESS

4. Proclamation that May 2020 is Mental Health Awareness Month in Bellevue. Burns read the proclamation aloud. Goldman motioned to approve the proclamation. Brown seconded. Roll call vote results: Mahoney- yes, Davis- yes, Goldman- yes, Brown- yes, Cappel- yes, Johnson-yes. Motion passed.

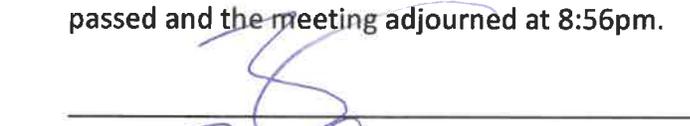
5. Presentation on Community Garden. John Casey requested permission to establish a community garden on City property, plant a crop of potatoes in the very near term to be able to harvest this growing season along with other crops to be added later, and to establish a board to oversee the garden. Casey and the Council discussed various City owned locations. Suwanrit suggested that the Chestnut location would provide sunlight and preexisting water availability but would need to conform to well-head protection standards. Johnson stressed that the well-head issue would need to be addressed. The Council asked staff if a public hearing would be necessary to establish a garden at the Chestnut location. Shay noted that the Chestnut property is zoned for General Residential which allows for gardens and orchards and that this type of use is allowed. Burns suggested that the Park Committee be involved and directed Suwanrit to contact the Committee Chair. Edwards was directed to look at liability issues/coverage under the City's insurance policy. Goldman motioned to approve the establishment of a community garden for the 2020 growing season only at the 811 Chestnut property after a Council mandated site visit to confirm appropriateness, require that all well-head protection standards be followed, and that all gardening treatments be organic and conform to protection standards. Cappel seconded. Roll call vote results: Mahoney- yes, Davis- yes, Goldman- yes, Brown- yes, Cappel- yes, Johnson-yes. Motion passed.
  
6. Presentation Idaho Water Resource Board (IWRB) Funding for Flood Mitigation Projects. Council President Goldman introduced Ryan Santos from the Wood River Land Trust (WRLT). Santos gave a PowerPoint presentation on a proposed river restoration project at the south end of the Howard Preserve that was part the Biota project study from last year. The project has grant funding available from IWRB, but the funding is only available to eligible recipient. The City is eligible to be recipient and the WRLT would like to make the grant application on behalf of the City. The application is due June 19, 2020, with awards made July 31, 2020. The council discussed the project, necessary permits, ongoing maintenance responsibility and costs, and liability. Allington requested information on the City's downstream liability and whether the downstream stakeholders have reviewed and accepted the project. Allington advised the Council to request a waiver of liability from downstream parties to protect the City. Johnson motioned to move forward with the grant proposal with requesting formal buy in from downstream stakeholders prior to final Council approval as the application is not due until June 19<sup>th</sup>. Mahoney seconded. Roll call vote results: Mahoney- yes, Davis- yes, Goldman- yes, Brown- no, Cappel- yes, Johnson-yes. Motion passed.
  
7. Council Discussion on City of Bellevue's plan to reopen outdoor recreation amenities such as city play equipment, picnic areas and playing fields. Shay reported that she has received many calls from the public about using the City parks and play equipment. The Council discussed the current social distancing requirements and liability to the City. Calhoun volunteered to sterilize playground equipment a couple of times per week on his own time. Council and staff discussed installing handwashing stations, signage and adding Marshal patrols. Johnson motioned to reopen outdoor recreation amenities after the installation of 1) handwashing stations; and 2) signage noting that use must be supervised by adults, is at your own risk and limiting occupancy to ten (10). Mahoney seconded. Roll call vote results: Mahoney- yes, Davis- yes, Goldman- no, Brown- no, Cappel- yes, Johnson-yes. Motion passed.

8. Council Discussion of Whether to Consider Holding the Bellevue Labor Day Festivities. Shay requested direction from the Council on behalf of the external event organizers and recommended that the City form and sponsor a committee. The Council discussed current state health guidelines and decisions made by other Wood River localities on upcoming annual events. Mahoney and Suwanrit volunteered to serve on the new committee and Sara Burns was nominated to participate on the committee by Mayor Burns. The Council agreed that more information was needed along with a drop-dead date to make a decision that would still give the organizers time to plan if the event date were unchanged. Johnson motioned to table the discussion to the date certain of May 26, 2020. Brown seconded. Roll call vote results: Mahoney- yes, Davis- yes, Goldman- yes, Brown- yes, Cappel- yes, Johnson-yes. Motion passed.
9. Treasurer's Six-Month Financial Analysis for FY2020. Edwards gave a recap of the written report provided to the Council. The current COVID19 health crisis brings a great level of economic uncertainty which will very likely manifest in reduced revenues in all three City funds. Utility collections have remained on track but continued economic declines could cause our property owners to not be able to make timely payments and declines in property tax collections will not be quantifiable until July. Revenue sharing payments from both the County and State will be lower due to health mandated business closures and will not be quantifiable until July. Edwards noted that the City would need to make hard decisions on spending as well as staffing in the near term for all the funds and answered Council questions. Johnson questioned if the water meter project could be delayed and if the open position in the Water Department could remain open. Suwanrit responded affirmatively. Burns directed all department heads to spend money wisely, cut discretionary expenditures, consult with him prior to committing to any significant costs over \$500 and to focus on the mission-critical functions of the City: safety of our citizens, safety and compliance of our water and sewer systems and safety of the staff.
10. Council Discussion on Actions Needed to reopen City Hall to the Public. The Council discussed that establishing an appointment system for obtaining permits was necessary as there should be no hindrance to providing those type of services with the building being closed and agreed that the options in place for customer payments were varied and appropriate. The Aldermen requested that the Mayor start working on a plan with the staff on what needs to be done to allow the building to reopen to allow for the safety of visitors and staff in conformance with existing health guidelines.
11. Executive Session to Discuss Personnel, Pending Litigation and/or Land Acquisition Pursuant to Idaho Code §74-206. Goldman motioned that the Council enter executive session pursuant to Idaho Code 74-206 subsection (1) (f). Cappel seconded. Roll call vote results: Mahoney- yes, Davis- yes, Goldman- yes, Brown- yes, Cappel- yes, Johnson-yes. Motion passed and the Council entered executive session at 8:26pm.

Goldman motioned to leave executive session. Davis seconded. All in favor and the Council returned to the regular meeting at 8:50pm. Goldman motioned to accept the settlement

agreement with Northwest Grading, Inc. Cappel seconded. Roll call vote results: Mahoney- yes, Davis- not present, Goldman- yes, Brown- yes, Cappel- yes, Johnson-yes. Motion passed.

**12. Adjournment.** Goldman motioned to adjourn. Cappel seconded. All in favor. The motion passed and the meeting adjourned at 8:56pm.



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Ned Burns, Mayor



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Marian Edwards, City Clerk/Treasurer