



ITEM NO. C-1
DATE 4-13-21
DISPOSITION Approved as submitted

Berwyn City Council Regular Meeting

March 23, 2021

Clerk's Note: The City of Berwyn uses best efforts to comply with Governor Pritzker's COVID-19 Emergency Executive Orders and the spirit of the Open Meetings Act. The City Council has taken the following measures to provide residents with notice of changes to the Regular Meeting when necessary and how to observe or participate in the meeting remotely. The City posts Meeting Notices and Agendas on its website and in City Hall with directions on how the public may view meetings, participate in public meetings, and address the City Council during Open Forum.

- The City posts directions to the public on its Face Book page on how they may participate and or view the public meeting.
- City staff live-stream the meeting on the City of Berwyn website (www.berwyn-il.us), Berwyn Facebook page, and YouTube during the City Council meeting. The video stream / audio is recorded and available to the public.

A. Roll Call, Pledge of Allegiance, and Moment of Silence:

Mayor Lovero called the meeting to Order at 8:00 p.m. The following Aldermen attending in person responded present on the call of the roll: Lennon, Ramirez, Reardon, Fejt, Santoy, Ruiz, Avila, and Nowak. The attendees recited the Pledge of Allegiance. Mayor Lovero asked for a moment of silence in memory of Elizabeth Pabst, Mildred Jercha, and Ana Lourdes Martinez and to keep in mind Berwyn's First Responders.

B. Open Forum:

Mr. Benjamin Henning spoke about his experience being racially profiled on February 23, 2021 while he was at Morton West High School volunteering for a candidate in the Consolidated Primary Election that day. He submitted a copy of his written remarks to the Clerk for the record.

Ms. Andrea Munday spoke in support Mr. Henning and underscored his reaction to his experience. She spoke about her own experiences on February 23, 2021 at the same location. She spoke about the police presence she witnessed at the polling location and identified police personnel who were at the polling location as election volunteers and others who drove by the location. She described one off-duty officer who was wearing a jacket bearing a "Thin Blue Line" patch. She criticized "scare tactics" used by politicians during the election cycle.

Ms. Rhonda Mieja spoke about meeting with Mayor Lovero to discuss her experience of voter intimidation during the Consolidated Primary by an identified campaign worker outside a polling place. She asked Mayor Lovero to make a public apology to residents. She requested the Mayor and council members to publicly denounce voter intimidation. She asked elected officials to support residents stepping up sharing their stories of voter intimidation.

Mayor Lovero, and on behalf of the City Council, apologized for the election intimidation experienced by Ms. Mieja and stated that he did not condone intimidation tactics and will not tolerate them. Mayor Lovero stated he did not know the specific person Ms. Mieja had identified.

Ms. Luz Chavez thanked her neighbors for expressing their experiences. She criticized Mayor Lovero stating that there were pictures of Mayor Lovero with the identified person at a Midlothian event. Mayor Lovero denied attending an event in Midlothian and knowing the person in question.

Clerk Paul received two emails for Open Forum. Ms. Luz Chavez and Mr. Leo Chi submitted identical statements. Clerk Paul read the content of one of the identical statements out loud. Each statement urged the council to "...vote NO on the Ridgeland TIF" because it adds to population density, adds discomfort to school children traveling to Freedom School, and because the homes built on the property in question will change Berwyn's demographic. Copies of the emails will be made a part of the record.

- ### C. Approval of Minutes: Ald. Avila ade the motion, seconded by Ald. Fejt, to approve the Minutes for the Regular City Council Meeting held on March 9, 2021 and the Minutes of the Public Hearing held on March 9, 2021 as submitted. The motion carried by a unanimous voice vote.

D. Bid Openings: Nothing submitted to council.

E. Berwyn Township, Berwyn Health District, Berwyn Development Corporation (BDC):

E-1: Ald. Lennon made the motion, seconded by Ald. Nowak, to **adopt** the Resolution approving the BDC's Route 66 Car Show on August 28, 2021, subject to all Illinois Department of Public Health restrictions imposed at the time, to request closure of required streets from the Illinois Department of Transportation, and to authorize city services as requested. The motion carried by a unanimous roll call vote.

E-2: Ald. Lennon made the motion, seconded by Ald. Nowak, to approve the Why Berwyn Integrated Marketing Campaign Budget in the amount of \$100,000 as submitted. Mayor Lovero recognized Erika Carona Owens from the BDC to answer questions about the budget and advertising campaign plan. Questions and discussion ensued. The motion carried by a unanimous voice vote.

E-3: Mayor Lovero recognized Ms. Owens. She explained the benefits of renewing Berwyn's partnership with the Visit Oak Park Convention and Visitor Bureau. Ald. Lennon made the motion, seconded by Ald. Reardon, to approve and authorize the Mayor to renew the partnership. The motion carried by a unanimous voice vote.

E-4: Mayor Lovero recognized Clerk Paul who addressed the council in her capacity as Berwyn Public Health District President. Clerk Paul asked council members and Berwyn residents to observe April 1, 2021 as Berwyn's Night of Light commemorating the 1 year anniversary of the first COVID-19 related Berwyn death. The Berwyn Township and Health District will light a luminary for each of the 105 Berwyn residents who have died. Ald. Avila made the motion, seconded by Ald. Lennon, to mark the item as informational. The motion carried by unanimous voice vote.

F. Reports from the Mayor:

F-1: Ald. Avila made the motion, seconded by Ald. Nowak, to approve the Health, Dental and Life insurance policy renewals as presented for 2021 and to accept the contract for vision coverage from VSP Choice. The motion carried by a unanimous roll call vote.

G. Reports from the Clerk: Nothing submitted for the agenda.

H. Zoning Boards of Appeals: Nothing submitted for the agenda.

I. Reports from the Aldermen, Committees, and Boards:

I-1: Ald. Avila made the motion, seconded by Ald. Nowak, to accept the Police and Fire Commission's Annual Report for Year 2020 as informational. The motion carried by a unanimous voice vote.

J. Reports from the Staff:

J-1: Ald. Santoy made the motion, seconded by Ald. Lennon, to **adopt** the Ordinance entitled: **Ordinance for the Abatement of Taxes Levied for General Obligation Bonds for the Tax Year 2020**, direct the Corporate Authorities to affix the necessary signatures and send it on its way to passage. the motion carried by a unanimous roll call vote.

J-2: Ald. Ruiz made the motion, seconded by Ald. Reardon, to amend the proposed Ordinance entitled: **An Ordinance Amending Part Ten, Title Four, Chapter 1048, Section 1048.02 of the Berwyn Code of Ordinances Regarding Basic Water Use Charges for the City of Berwyn, County of Cook, State of Illinois** by striking Paragraph 1048.02 (B) [automatic annual adjustment provision] and to **adopt the Ordinance as amended**, direct the Corporate Authorities to affix the necessary signatures and send it on its way to passage. The motion carried by a unanimous roll call vote.

J-3: Ald. Santoy made the motion, seconded by Ald. Ruiz, to **adopt** the Resolution entitled: **A Resolution Adopting a Residential Water Service Line Shared Cost Pilot Program for the City of Berwyn**, direct the Corporate Authorities to affix the necessary signatures and send it on its way to passage. The motion carried by a unanimous roll call vote.

J-4: Ald. Ruiz made the motion, seconded by Ald. Lennon, to concur and conditionally award a contract to Postl-Yore for construction engineering for the Depot Utility and Streetscape project for a fee of 6.5% of the construction projects or an estimated \$1,950,000 upon approval of JLR's SAM.gov. The motion carried by a unanimous roll call vote.

J-5: Ald. Ruiz made the motion, seconded by Ald. Nowak, to **adopt** the Resolution entitled **Resolution for Improvement Under the Illinois Highway Code**, direct the Corporate Authorities to affix the necessary signatures and send it on its way to passage. The motion carried by a unanimous roll call vote.

J-6: Ald. Avila made the motion, seconded by Ald. Nowak, to approve the requested police department promotion of one Patrol Officer to the rank of Sergeant due to the retirement of Unit Commander Kenneth Howard. The motion carried by a vote of 7 AYES and 1 NAY.

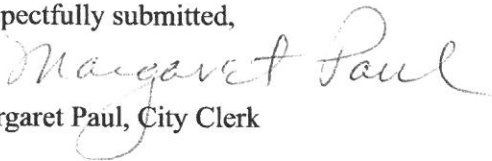
J-7: Ald Nowak made the motion, seconded by Ald. Avila, to approve the City's collaboration with Mr. Tom Benson to host a 4th of July Fireworks display on July 3, 2021 with a rain date of July 5, 2021 and authorize city services in support of the event. The motion carried by a unanimous roll call vote.

K. Consent Agenda: Ald. Avila made the motion, seconded by Ald. Lennon, to approve the Consent Agenda (Item K1) by omnibus designation. The motion carried by a unanimous voice vote.

Committee Meetings: Ald. Ramirez announced a Second Ward Clean-Up event on April 10th, Ald. Reardon announced a Janura Park Clean-Up event, Ald. Ruiz announced a 6th Ward Clean-Up event for April 10th.

Adjournment: Ald. Nowak made the motion, seconded by Ald. Lennon, to adjourn the meeting. The motion carried by a unanimous voice vote. The meeting adjourned at 8:50 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,



Margaret Paul, City Clerk