

## MINUTES FOR THE REGULAR CITY COUNCIL MEETING

March 23, 2026

Bellevue City Council met on Monday, March 23, 2026, at 7:30 p.m. Following the Pledge of Allegiance, a prayer was offered by Councilman, Mr. Wynbissinger. Council Members present: MR. BAKER, MR. DANIEL, MR. MORRISON, MS. MUNIZ, MR. SHEPHERD, and MR. WYNBISSINGER. Mr. Hill was excused.

The minutes of the regular City Council meeting of March 9, 2026, were presented for approval. A motion was made by Mr. Morrison to approve the minutes as written. It was seconded by Ms. Muniz. A vote was taken and the minutes were approved as written.

### REPORTS AND COMMUNICATIONS FROM CITY OFFICIALS:

**Mayor Strecker** stated that the dinner and entertainment by Duling Pianos at the Eagles on Saturday, March 21, 2026, was a big success. He thanked the Bellevue Eagles Club, the Bellevue Selective Fund, and the Holiday House for sponsoring this event. All proceeds will go to the America 250 Celebration to be held at Central Park over the weekend of July 24, 2026.

The annual meeting of the Huron County Health Department will be Thursday, March 26, 2026, in Monroeville. He will be attending the meeting. This meeting pertains to a resolution that allows the Huron County Health Department to have a satellite office inside the City Office building in Bellevue.

**Safety-Service Director, Mr. Brugnone**, stated that a new traffic light system was installed at the light by Dendinger's where the old car wash used to be. There were issues with the lighting system and it was missing rotations and cars were waiting long periods of time before the light would change. The new system has cameras. The camera footage can be viewed for security purposes. Mr. Daniel inquired if the cameras would be used for ticketing. Mr. Brugnone emphasized that the cameras will **not** be used for ticketing and used only for security purposes. If there are traffic incidents, they will be able to view the video to see what happened.

All new lights have been installed in Council chambers and in the activity center. They are concentrating on internal projects this year since they took care of outside issues last year.

There was an incident a week or so ago with couple of police officers. The Chief of Police and he will give a briefing on the incident at a later date. He is happy to report that neither of the police officers were injured. One of the cruisers took a little damage, but that is minimal when compared with harm that could have come to the officers. The Administration is very proud of how the officers handled the situation.

As expressed on social media, the millpond in Bellevue, Ohio, has faced issues with severe algae coverage accompanied by foul odors, and reports of dead fish, suggesting poor water quality. These are drainage issues. There will be periodic days throughout the spring when it rains when the millpond will be closed and they will pump drain it into the ditch across the street. These periodic closings will last until they get the drain fixed under the street.

Some of the long swag lights on Route 20 came down over the weekend and were hit and destroyed. They are discussing what to do and they are not sure they will continue using swag lights across Route 20. They are thinking about a new program for holiday lighting. Our street lights and lamp posts were not designed to hold half the stuff we have on them right now. If we are going to continue with holiday lighting, he would like to replace what we have with new holiday displays that can be used all year

around. Mr. Baker inquired if the holiday lights were donated and will it be opened up again to groups and individuals for donations. It was discussed that there were donations before. They can ask for donations again, but some of the bulbs, etc. will be provided by the City.

**Auditor, Mr. Smith** reported that the Finance Department is running smoothly.

#### REPORTS FROM CITY COUNCIL MEMBERS:

**Mr. Shepherd** stated that his daughter recently received a skateboard. He took her to the skateboard park and there is a list of rules in the park. One rule specifically states that all skateboards have to be registered with the Bellevue Police Dept. He called the Police Department and they had no idea what he was talking about. It is according to Ordinance 2490 that passed in 1990 that regulates skateboards. He would like to go through many of these old laws and find the ones that are no longer applicable. Mr. Brugnone stated that he is wanting to do the same thing. When things calm down, he wants to go through and make adjustments to the outdated rules. They are supposed to be looked at every 5-7 years and haven't been looked through for many years.

Mr. Shepherd stated that he was driving by the cemetery and saw someone putting a bunch of bushes in the Cyclone dumpster. If they do cleanup at the cemetery, maybe they could get a dumpster just for landscaping. Mr. Brugnone stated that he would rather have them use the dumpster there. The compost site isn't open yet. There have been no complaints from the trash company regarding the bushes being put in the dumpster.

**Mr. Morrison** stated that had a local business owner who has offices at the corner of Route 4 and Route 20 inform him that there is no public sewer going out that far. He inquired who they should contact for information regarding that. Mr. Brugnone stated that they have already been in contact with that particular business owner. Citizens can always call and discuss these things with members of the Administration.

**Mr. Baker** stated that this is the first City Council meeting since the Lady Red Basketball Team went to the State championship. This season they had only one loss. He wanted to congratulate them for their very good season. They represented Bellevue very well as did the high school wrestlers. Bellevue can be very proud of them.

He was asked if Bellevue has been approached about having an AI data center. Mr. Brugnone stated that he and Mr. Wallingford have already spoken about it and they are looking into possibly getting an ordinance in place to help with that. They are talking with other cities presently dealing with this and we would like to be prepared when we are approached about it. In the near future would like to have an ordinance ready. Mr. Baker stated that he knows from his prior job that the electricity used is phenomenal and the water usage is out of this world. Mr. Brugnone stated that we haven't been approached yet but we want to be proactive and ready.

**Mr. Wynbissinger** thanked the Administration for their help with Autokiniton who is expanding their auto parts manufacturing company securing 400 plus jobs they currently have and adding up to 100 more. A lot of hard work goes on behind the scenes from members of the Administration in order to make this happen. He thanked everyone involved. This really helps Bellevue grow.

## COMMITTEE REPORTS:

**President Smith** stated that a Committee of the Whole work session was held tonight at 6:45 p.m. to discuss proposed Resolution No. R-3-26 and Ordinance No. 10-26 and the possible change of bid to the ordinance for street repaving (Ordinance No. 3-26) which has already had one reading. During the meeting, they discussed changing the bid amount of \$300,000.00 by adding \$200,000.00 to the bid bringing it up to \$500,000.00. Everyone was in agreement. It was agreed that Ordinance No. 3-26 would be tabled during the regular meeting.

He stated that at Council's pleasure, the Resolution No. R-3-26 and Ordinance No. 10-26 can be added to tonight's agenda by motion.

A motion was made by Mr. Wynbissinger to add Resolution No. R-3-26 and Ordinance No. 10-26 to tonight's agenda. It was seconded by Mr. Baker. A vote was taken and passed by a vote of 6-0.

**Auditor, Mr. Smith**, reminded Council that a Budget & Finance Committee meeting will be held on Monday, April 13, 2026, at 7:00 p.m.

**Mr. Baker** scheduled a Public Safety Committee meeting for Monday, April 13, 2026, at 7:15 p.m.

## CITIZEN COMMENTS:

**Jeff Ritz** introduced himself and stated that he is running for Huron County Commissioner. He will be retiring Friday as Superintendent of the Willard City Schools. His first goal for his Superintendent job was to partner with his City and do everything together for the collective good of their community. Everything is a partnership. He views the County Commissioner position the same way as far as working with cities and townships to do strategic planning for the future. They need to have good planning to put together a team to see how the County can grow. Transportation and emergency management services are issues he wants to tackle. He states he will do a good job if he is elected.

## PRESIDENT'S REPORT:

**President Smith** stated that Law Director, Mr. Wallingford; Treasurer, Mr. Freitag; and Councilman, Mr. Hill, are all excused tonight.

He stated that everyone previously received a copy of the Mayor's 2026 Boards & Commissions for review at the last City Council meeting. He asked for a motion to approve them and a motion was made by Mr. Wynbissinger. It was seconded by Mr. Baker. All were in favor of approving the Mayor's Boards & Commissions.

He reminded Council that there will be two Mondays before our next City Council meeting on April 13, 2026.

He then turned the time over to Council Clerk, Mrs. Soper, for tonight's legislation.

## LEGISLATION:

A motion was made by Mr. Baker to table Ordinance No. 3-26. It was seconded by Ms. Muniz. A vote was taken and passed by a vote of 6-0. Ordinance No. 3-26 is tabled.

**Resolution No. R-3-26 was given its first reading:** A RESOLUTION DETERMINING EMERGENCY MANAGEMENT SERVICES FOR THE POLITICAL SUBDIVISION OF THE CITY OF BELLEVUE, AND DECLARING AN EMERGENCY.

A motion was made by Mr. Shepherd to suspend the rules and give Resolution No. R-3-26 its second and third readings by title only, and as an emergency. It was seconded by Mr. Wynbissinger. A vote was taken and passed by a vote of 6-0.

**Resolution No. R-3-26 was given its second and third readings by title only:** A RESOLUTION DETERMINING EMERGENCY MANAGEMENT SERVICES FOR THE POLITICAL SUBDIVISION OF THE CITY OF BELLEVUE, AND DECLARING AN EMERGENCY.

A motion was made by Mr. Baker to adopt Resolution No. R-3-26, and as an emergency. It was seconded by Ms. Muniz. A vote was taken and passed by the vote of 6-0.

**Ordinance No. 10-26 was given its first reading:** AN ORDINANCE TO APPROVE THE COMMUNITY HOUSING IMPACT AND PRESERVATION 2026 JOINT COOPERATING AGREEMENT BETWEEN THE CITY OF BELLEVUE AND SANDUSKY COUNTY AND TO AUTHORIZE AND DIRECT THE MAYOR OF BELEVUE TO EXECUTE THE AGREEMENT, AND DECLARING AN EMERGENCY.

A motion was made by Mr. Shepherd to suspend the rules and give Ordinance No. R-3-26 its second and third readings by title only, and as an emergency. It was seconded by Mr. Daniel. A vote was taken and passed by a vote of 6-0.

**Ordinance No. 10-26 was given its second and third readings by title only:** AN ORDINANCE TO APPROVE THE COMMUNITY HOUSING IMPACT AND PRESERVATION 2026 JOINT COOPERATING AGREEMENT BETWEEN THE CITY OF BELLEVUE AND SANDUSKY COUNTY AND TO AUTHORIZE AND DIRECT THE MAYOR OF BELEVUE TO EXECUTE THE AGREEMENT, AND DECLARING AN EMERGENCY.

A motion was made by Mr. Shepherd to adopt Ordinance No. 10-26, and as an emergency. It was seconded by Mr. Baker. A vote was taken and passed by the vote of 6-0.

**Ordinance No. 4-26 was given its second reading by title only:** AN ORDINANCE REVISING THE SALARY AND BENEFITS OF THE FINANCE SUPERINTENDENT OF THE CITY OF BELLEVUE, OHIO, THEREBY REPLACING ANY AND ALL PREVIOUS ORDINANCES OR RESOLUTIONS PERTAINING THERETO, AND SPECIFICALLY TO AMEND THE PREVIOUS ORDINANCE NO. 14-19, REGARDING THE PROVISIONS FOR SALARY AND BENEFITS, AND DECLARING AN EMERGENCY.

**Ordinance No. 5-26 was given its second reading by title only:** AN ORDINANCE REVISING THE SALARY AND BENEFITS OF THE ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT DIRECTOR OF THE CITY OF BELLEVUE, OHIO, THEREBY REPLACING ANY AND ALL PREVIOUS ORDINANCES OR RESOLUTIONS PERTAINING THERETO, AND SPECIFICALLY TO AMEND THE PREVIOUS ORDINANCE NO. 9-16, REGARDING THE PROVISIONS FOR SALARY AND BENEFITS, AND DECLARING AN EMERGENCY.

**Ordinance No. 6-26 was given its second reading by title only:** AN ORDINANCE REVISING THE SALARY AND BENEFITS OF THE RECREATION AND PARKS SUPERVISOR OF THE CITY OF BELLEVUE, OHIO, THEREBY REPLACING ANY AND ALL PREVIOUS ORDINANCES OR RESOLUTIONS PERTAINING THERETO, AND SPECIFICALLY TO AMEND THE PREVIOUS ORDINANCE NO. 8-14, REGARDING THE PROVISIONS FOR SALARY AND BENEFITS, AND DECLARING AN EMERGENCY.

**Ordinance No. 7-26 was given its second reading by title only:** AN ORDINANCE REVISING THE SALARY AND BENEFITS OF THE CITY SUPERVISORS OF THE CITY OF BELLEVUE, OHIO, THEREBY REPLACING ANY AND ALL PREVIOUS ORDINANCES OR RESOLUTIONS PERTAINING THERETO, AND SPECIFICALLY TO AMEND THE PREVIOUS ORDINANCE NO. 5-14, REGARDING PROVISIONS FOR SALARY AND BENEFITS, AND DECLARING AN EMERGENCY.

**Ordinance No. 8-26 was given its second reading by title only:** AN ORDINANCE REVISING THE SALARY AND BENEFITS OF THE CITY ENGINEER AND SAFETY-SERVICE DIRECTOR OF THE CITY OF BELLEVUE, OHIO, THEREBY REPLACING ANY AND ALL PREVIOUS ORDINANCES OR RESOLUTIONS PERTAINING THERETO, AND

SPECIFICALLY TO AMEND THE PREVIOUS ORDINANCE NO. 4-14, REGARDING THE PROVISIONS FOR SALARY AND BENEFITS, AND DECLARING AN EMERGENCY.

CLOSING REMARKS:

**Safety-Service Director, Mr. Brugnone**, stated that the restroom at the park will be open the first week of April.

ADJOURNMENT:

**President Smith** thanked everyone for attending and requested a motion to adjourn.

A motion to adjourn was made by Mr. Baker. It was seconded by Mr. Wynbissinger. All were in favor.

Respectfully submitted,

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**Ronald Smith**  
**President of Council**

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**Rhonda R. Soper**  
**City Council Clerk**