

MINUTES FOR THE REGULAR CITY COUNCIL MEETING

September 28, 2026

Bellevue City Council met on Monday, September 28, 2026, at 7:30 p.m. Following the Pledge of Allegiance, a prayer was offered by Pastor Diane Carter of St. Paul's United Church of Christ. Council members present: MR. BAKER, MR. DANIEL, MR. HILL, MR. MORRISON, MS. MUNIZ, MR. SHEPHERD, and MR. WYNBISSINGER.

The minutes of the regular City Council meeting of September 14, 2026, were presented for approval. A motion was made by Mr. Baker to approve the minutes as written. It was seconded by Ms. Muniz. The minutes are approved as written.

REPORTS AND COMMUNICATIONS FROM CITY OFFICIALS:

Mayor Strecker welcomed Council Clerk, Mrs. Soper back. He stated that he received a letter from Columbia Gas of Ohio. On or before Oct 19, Columbia Gas will file an application for a rate increase. The last one was done in 2021. The new rates will likely take effect at the end of 2027.

Safety-Service Director, Mr. Brugnone, stated that Rumke recycled 11.46 tons in July and 13.5 tons in August.

We discussed the Ashford property during the last meeting. We have a company coming from Tiffin to clean up and we are awaiting a date.

Auditor, Mr. Smith, stated that as soon as the September numbers come out, they will work on temporary budget numbers for 2027 and have a draft ready by the end of October.

Law Director, Mr. Leal, reminded everyone he has the e-bike ordinance ready. If anyone has suggestions or questions, reach out to him. Maybe we can get a committee meeting scheduled to discuss it. Steve Hill stated that we first started with e-bikes you can pedal. Now there are e-bikes that you don't need to pedal and they go up to 40 miles an hour. Someone soon will get hurt. Young people have been seen riding through the parks, circling the streets, jumping curbs, and weaving around vehicles. This is definitely an important issue within every municipality. Mr. Brugnone stated that they are working on it.

Clerk of Council, Mrs. Soper, stated that she appreciated Mrs. Dauch for filling in for her on September 14. She then stated that last Friday she was almost wiped out by a young man on a very fast e-bike. She was approaching a bridge in Fremont and looked around the corner, and no one was coming. She turned to get on the bridge, and suddenly an e-bike was right there, and she barely avoided a crash. It was very frightening and accidents are bound to happen.

REPORTS FROM CITY COUNCIL MEMBERS:

Mr. Shepherd stated that he has recently noticed an increase of trucks trying to make a right turn from east Main Street to South Sandusky Street. It isn't going well. Mr. Brugnone stated that they can look into it.

Mr. Morrison stated he was approached and asked if there is an official ordinance or rule for growing marijuana plants. Mr. Leal stated that it is a State ordinance and is in the Ohio Revised Code. It was discussed that six plants are allowed per residence.

Mr. Baker stated that regarding dogs in the City's cemetery, he feels that citizens can take their dogs to designated dog parks instead of walking them through the cemetery. He inquired if something can be done. Mr. Brugnone stated that there are rules regarding dogs in the cemetery. He is currently coordinating with the Recreation Department to come up with signs with cemetery rules that are all uniform with other signs in the City. The rules need to be visible.

Mr. Wynbissinger inquired about the property on 211 at the bottom of the overpass. Mr. Brugnone stated they are waiting to have a survey done.

Mr. Hill mentioned Bellevue resident, Sue Roth, who passed away a couple of weeks ago. She was a wonderful citizen and a huge supporter of the City with the Committee to Grow Bellevue. She attended a lot of City Council meetings and gave reports on all the things the Committee was working on and she took a lot of it on by herself. She was a big part of the Immaculate Conception group and she was always donating things to others. With all she had to do with her home and family, she was an amazing person and accomplished so much. He just saw her recently and didn't know she was fighting cancer. She asked about everyone else and was always more concerned about others. Her passing is a huge loss for the City and for her family. She will be missed.

COMMITTEE REPORTS: None

CITIZEN COMMENTS:

Patti Gray, 252 Gunther Street, announced that there will be a fundraiser for the Backpack Program on October 7. It will be a pick-up dinner sponsored by Bone Boys BBQ. The cost is \$16.00 each. The last day to purchase tickets is this Friday. If they sell 50 meals, it will finance 100 lunch bags. President Smith thanked Mrs. Gray for all she does for the community and her help with the Backpack Program.

PRESIDENT'S REPORT:

President Smith stated that Treasurer Dave Freitag is excused from tonight's meeting. He welcomed members of Bellevue High School's government class.

He turned time over to Bellevue Police Chief, Marc Linder, who introduced Commander Dean Bliss and Assistant Commander Charles Horn, of the Sandusky County Drug Task Force. Two handouts were distributed regarding what the task force is and what they do. They work diligently every day to reduce the supply of dangerous drugs in the county. They investigate offenders. They educate the public. They also help connect individuals who are struggling with addiction to treatment centers. They have an 80% success rate getting those individuals into treatment.

President Smith turned the time over to Law Director, Mr. Leal, for tonight's legislation.

LEGISLATION:

Resolution No. R-10-26 was given its first reading: A RESOLUTION ACCEPTING THE AMOUNTS AND RATES AS DETERMINED BY THE BUDGET COMMISSION AND AUTHORIZING THE NECESSARY TAX LEVIES AND CERTIFYING THEM TO THE COUNTY AUDITOR.

A motion was made by Mr. Shepherd to suspend the rules and give Resolution No. R-10-26 its second and third readings by title only. It was seconded by Ms. Muniz. A vote was taken and passed by a vote of 7-0.

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A motion was made by Ms. Muniz to adopt Resolution No. R-10-26. It was seconded by Mr. Wynbissinger. A vote was taken and passed by a vote of 7-0.

CLOSING REMARKS:

President Smith asked for a motion to enter into an Executive Session to discuss the City's possible land acquisition, and afterward to return to the regular City Council meeting only for adjournment and no further business. A motion was made by Mr. Shepherd to enter into an Executive Session. It was seconded by Mr. Wynbissiner. Everyone was in favor. President Smith announced that the executive session is closed to the public and press.

ADJOURNMENT:

A motion to adjourn was made by Mr. Wynbissinger. It was seconded by Ms. Muniz. Everyone was in favor.

Respectfully submitted,

Ronald Smith
President of Council

Rhonda R. Soper
City Council Clerk