

CITY OF BELMOND
COUNCIL PROCEEDINGS

December 2, 2024
Belmond, Iowa 50421

Mayor Frank Beminio called the regular meeting of the City Council to order at 7:00 p.m. in the Community Room at City Hall with the roll call showing:

Present: Council Members DePuew, Mattison, Schlichting, Swenson, and Tulp

Absent: None

Motion made by Mattison, seconded by DePuew, to approve the agenda as presented. Roll call: Yes-5, No-0, Absent-0. Motion carried.

The mayor asked if there was anyone present who wished to address the council on a matter not appearing on the agenda and when no one indicated they wished to address council, the mayor moved on.

Council Member Mattison gave a report on the Wright County Area Landfill and stated that the tonnage is back to normal and Belmond continues to lead the way in recycling. There is still some work to be done after the fire but are looking at a February completion date for that work.

City Manager Nicholas stated that he will continue to be working on budget and end of year paperwork.

Public Works Director Fournier stated they continue to service equipment for winter.

Police Chief Gamino stated that they are still working with two applicants.

Mayor Beminio then moved on to Public Hearings by opening the public hearing on the authorization of a Loan Agreement and the issuance of Notes to evidence the obligation of the city thereunder. Financial advisor Chip Schultz offered an explanation of the path chosen to obtain financing by stating that it was the most cost-efficient way. Aimee Goeman then presented a list of all the individuals who have helped with the project so far. She also explained some of the decisions that were made to come up with the concept design with the goal to have the pool opened sooner so that it was less expensive. She also stated that a lot of the people who signed the petition have enjoyed the pool at some point. Tad McKnight then addressed council stating that Belmond is a great community and has many important assets. Without those assets, he himself may not have ever moved to town. Having the pool and many other assets is attractive for businesses and families. Brittnay Bock stated that as an employee of the hospital she sees many people that come from everywhere to Belmond. She asked council to think about the revenue that is lost when people go to other towns to enjoy certain amenities. Not only do they go to that one attraction, but they will probably also eat there, get gas there, and get groceries there. This is lost revenue for the town they live in. Nicole Dennler mentioned to council that more people have donated than who voted in the last election. The fundraising committee has raised \$2 million in 8 months. She also provided numbers on average of the cost of the bonds by stating it was \$.32 per day, less than a stamp at the post office. She also stated if there is no pool, it would have an effect on other businesses and we may not be able to buy local. Lee Ann Waltzing then read three letters to council from citizens that were not able to attend. Letter from Sarah Jannsen stated that as a parent of four children the pool is important. Not having it limits activities for kids. Kids often ride to the pool on bikes and this teaches them responsibility among many other things. She mentioned they purchased a season pass in Garner but now have to provide a individual to take her kids there and pay that individual to watch their kids. She stated swimming is a vital skill. She also stated that a pool is important to adults as well. Letter from Michelle Buseman stated that the pool provides a recreation benefit to the community. People look at amenities when deciding where to live. The pool provides a sense of community and is affordable recreation. The pool is also an asset that would make people be proud to live in Belmond. Letter from Greg and Pam Post stated they are including a donation for \$5,000 as they watch from afar. Back when the pool was built, a substantial donation came from Chester Luick to help get the ball rolling and others came on board. The donations from these individuals allowed for many people to enjoy the pool for 65

years. Marilyn Janssen stated she remembers going to the pool when she was younger and seeing her children and grandchildren enjoy the pool. She stated she was on the school board when the school went in to build Jacobson Elementary. By the time the bond passed the school was smaller than planned but cost more. She also stated it was originally supposed to be where the softball fields are currently. She stated she is saddened by the petition that stopped the momentum and is worried that kids may leave. Don Goeman mentioned that he grew up here and remembers attending the pool with many people that signed the petition. He also stated if we can stick together and provide for our children and our children’s children we can continue to have an amazing community. Linzie Morris then asked council to think back to language arts class when we were taught “i before e, except after c”. She stated that we put ourselves (i) before everyone else (e) because if we don’t our households would fall to pieces. But when it comes to community (c) we put everyone before ourselves. She provided a list of many various groups in Belmont that provide for the community. She asked, what would the town look like without these groups to help obtain the many important amenities. She stated there has been a lot of time and energy put forth in fundraising to provide a gift to the city to have amenities. She also highlighted the connection between a pool and economic development. Sherri Baldwin stated she had to take time away from work to take kids to pool. She is writing a check to the pool from her business and unfortunately it is not as much as she would like. She also mentioned that the petition is a roadblock that she knows the committee will push through. Josh Faaborg stated that a lot of hard work has gone into this project. He stated that he is passionate about this community and the reasons to push forward with this project outweigh any downsides. He stated this is an accelerator for growth. He also expressed concern with the risk in waiting. The pool project is action on the town’s motto; Be Here, Build Here, Belong Here. When no one else stood to address, the mayor asked Nicholas if City Hall had received any comments on the matter. Nicholas stated that there were two petitions turned in to the city and that he had received one letter opposing the funding. Nicholas also stated there were a few people who had asked about rescinding their name from the petition. Nicholas stated that once it is signed, you cannot rescind. The mayor closed the Public Hearing. Motion to adjourn and defer action on the Resolution and the proposal to institute proceedings for the issuance of notes to the meeting to be held at 7:00p.m. on the 16th day of December, 2024 at this place by Swenson, seconded by Tulp. Mattison thanked the individuals who spoke and the fundraising committee. He stated it reinforces his belief in this community and looks forward to working with them all going forward. Council member Swenson also thanked the committee. Roll Call: DePuew-Yes, Mattison-Yes, Schlichting-Yes, Swenson-Yes, Tulp-Yes. Yes-5, No-0, Absent-0. Motion carried

Mayor Beminio then led the council to the Consent Agenda.

Under Consent Agenda:

A. Approval of the November 18, 2024 Regular Meeting Minutes

B. Approval of the Bills

ACCESS SYSTEMS	COPIER SERVICES NOVEMBER,2024	188.58
AHLERS COONEY ATTORNEYS	LEGAL FEES	630
ALDRICH TREE FARM	PROMOTION COUNCIL WREATHS	1,875.00
ALLIANT ENERGY	GAS & ELECTRIC	11,215.25
ARNOLD MOTOR SUPPLY LLP	WATER-EQUIPMENT	59.16
BCD SERVICES	CLEANING SERVICES - NOV 2024	320
CAMPBELL,JASON	BOOT-CAMPBELL	114.95
CINTAS CORPORATION #947	UNIFORM SERVICES - NOVEMBER,24	259
CITY OF BELMOND	INS	1,731.54
CRITICAL HIRE	PROFILE/BLUNT	150
DARIO GAMINO	UNIFORM-GAMINO	35
DEARBORN NATIONAL	GROUP LIFE INSURANCE-DEC 2024	61.5

H & K PLUMBING & HEATING	516 2ND ST SE - SHUT OFF	1,961.00
HAWKINS INC.	CHEMICALS - WTP & WWTP	270
IOWA SPECIALTY	PRE-EMPLOYMENT TEST - PD	106
IPERS	PROTECT IPERS	9,161.27
KLECKNER, LUCAS	MILEAGE REIMBURS. - KLECKNER	1,840.49
M PRINTS INK	UNIFORM-GAMINO	28
MACQUEEN EQUIPMENT	STREET SWEEPER DOOR	1,214.58
MICROBAC LABORATORIES, INC	TESTING	222
PETTY CASH	ZIP LINE - TOUR OF HOMES	100
POSTMASTER	POSTAGE ON WATER BILLS	276.38
PRINTING SERVICES INC.	PD- DOOR HANGERS	95.82
RELIANT FIRE APPARATUS, INC.	VALVE/SWITCH-DECK GUN TANKER	250.39
RELIANT FIRE APPARATUS, INC.	REPAIRS DECK GUN TANKER	21,138.00
TEAMSTERS LOCAL 238	UNION DUES	140.48
TREASURER, STATE OF IOWA	STATE TAXES	2,013.36
TRUENORTH COMPANIES,LC	AD&D INS. RENEWAL	412.3
UNITED STATES TREASURY	FED/FICA TAX	6,839.49
USDA-RURAL DEVELOPMENT	LOAN PAYMENT- DECEMBER 03,2024	16,038.00
VEENSTRA & KIMM, INC	AQUATIC CENTER SURVEY- OCT-NOV	2,370.00
Payroll Checks		19,493.87

C. Motion – Approval of Class C Liquor License for El Padrino 2 Night Club LLC, 403 East Main Street. -Renewal

Motion made by Mattison, second by Swenson, to approve the consent agenda as presented. Roll call: Yes-5, No-0, Absent-0, Motion carried.

With nothing under New Business, the Mayor then asked if there were any other matters. Mayor Beminiio stated that he supports the pool and appreciates everyone’s respectfulness tonight. Mattison mentioned the tax credit for those 65 and older and how that helped to lower his tax bill by \$400. Nicholas then mentioned that the pool committee is doing a Grinch promotion right now. If you would like to nominate someone to receive a grinch yard decoration, contact a committee member. Motion made by Schlichting, second by DePuew to adjourn the meeting. Roll call: Yes-5, No-0, Absent-0. Motion carried. The meeting adjourned at 7:59 p.m.

Cody Nicholas, City Manager/Clerk

Frank Beminiio, Mayor