

**REGULAR MEETING
BELVEDERE CITY COUNCIL
JULY 12, 2021, 6:30 PM
REMOTE VIA ZOOM
MINUTES**

COUNCIL PRESENT: Steve Block, James Lynch, Nancy Kemnitzer, Sally Wilkinson, and James Campbell.

COUNCIL ABSENT: None

STAFF PRESENT: City Manager Craig Middleton, Police Chief Jason Wu, Public Works Director Robert Zadnik, Senior Planner Rebecca Markwick, Administrative Services Manager Amber Johnson, Planning and Building Director Irene Borba, City Attorney Emily Longfellow, and City Clerk Beth Haener

These minutes are intended to reflect the general content of the regular meeting. An audio file of the meeting is available: <https://www.cityofbelvedere.org/agendacenter>.

CALL TO ORDER IN REMOTE OPEN SESSION

The meeting was called to order by Mayor Campbell at 6:31 PM via remote Zoom meeting. The COVID-19 disclaimer was read.

OPEN FORUM

Belvedere resident William Rothman commented on the process of the Zoom platform and discussed the roles of leadership in the City.

REPORTS & PRESENTATIONS

Item 1. Interviews for the Belvedere Tiburon Library Agency Board.

William Smith and Roxanne Richards were interviewed by the Council for the Belvedere Tiburon Library Board open seat. Mayor Campbell thanked both applicants, as well as applicant Maria Shuman who was unable to attend. Mayor Campbell indicated that a decision on appointment would be made at the end of the meeting.

Item 2. City Council Reports

Councilmember Nancy Kemnitzer reported that the Marin League of Women Voters and the Marin County Office of Education have a program, Student Election Ambassadors, which is open to Marin residents aged 14 to 25. Program participants serve as links between the elections department and their peers to encourage their classmates to become engaged in the elections process. If there is interest in this program, contact Councilmember Kemnitzer or Megan Stone at mstone@marincounty.org.

Item 3. City Manager Report

City Manager Craig Middleton reported that City Hall is welcoming people back into the building. Counter hours are from 8:00 a.m. to Noon and appointments for in-person meetings are available all day. City Manager Middleton asked people who are not vaccinated to please wear a mask when visiting City Hall.

City Manager Middleton announced that the California Public Employees' Retirement System (CalPERS) reported a preliminary investment return of 21.3% for the past year, which will impact both the discount rate, dropping it from 7% to 6.8%, and the City's annual pension payment for 2023.

City Manager Middleton announced that Andrew Cunningham, a student at the University of California, Berkeley, is working this summer as this year's City Management Intern.

Item 4. Police Department Quarterly report from Police Chief Jason Wu.

Police Chief Jason Wu gave a presentation on the Police Department's second quarterly report for 2021 and took questions from

the Council.

Mayor Campbell called for public comment.

Belvedere resident Linda Remy asked how many police responses are out of County, and Police Chief Wu stated that the Police Department has never responded out of County.

Mayor Campbell closed public comment.

Item 5. Fire Safety presentation from Deputy Fire Marshall Mike Lantier and Public Works Director Robert Zadnik.

Deputy Fire Marshall Mike Lantier gave a presentation on fire prevention efforts for 2021. Public Works Director Robert Zadnik gave a presentation on efforts to implement an evacuation software tool for Belvedere. There were no questions from the Council or the public.

Item 6. Greenhouse Gas (GHG) presentation from Christine O'Rourke.

Christine O'Rourke, Sustainability Coordinator for the Marin Climate and Energy Partnership, presented Belvedere's Green House Gas inventory of community-wide emissions for the year 2019 and took questions from the Council.

Mayor Campbell called for public comment.

Belvedere Resident William Rothman commented on the use electricity instead of natural gas, and how this could result in more rolling black outs. Mr. Rothman asked how someone would power electric appliances in such a circumstance. Christine O'Rourke stated that new options for generating backup power, such as from an electric vehicle, are being developed.

Mayor Campbell closed public comment.

CONSENT CALENDAR

Mayor Campbell removed Item 11 from the Consent Calendar for further discussion, and City Manager Middleton removed Item 13 for consideration at a later meeting,

MOTION: Move to adopt the Consent Calendar, with the exception of Item 11 and Item 13.

MOVED: By Kemnitzer, seconded by Wilkinson; approval was unanimous.

The Consent Calendar consisted of the following Items:

7. **Approve minutes of the June 14, 2021, regular meeting.**
8. **Approve warrants of June 2021.**
9. **Adopt a Resolution extending the Marin County Abandoned Vehicle Service Authority Vehicle Registration Fee Until April 2032.**
10. **Adopt a Resolution to amend the City of Belvedere Administrative Policy Manual to incorporate revisions to the Public Memorial Policy.**
12. **Approve revocable license for proposed private improvements in the City street right-of-way along North Point Circle for the property at 5 North Point Circle.**

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11. **Adopt a Resolution to amend the City of Belvedere Administrative Policy Manual to incorporate revised Personnel Policies.**

City Manager Craig Middleton presented the staff report and took questions from the Council. Councilmember Lynch stated that the policy should be clarified to ensure that the needs of the City and its residents are prioritized. He added that the policy should be reviewed periodically by the City Manager. With these revisions, he could support the policy. Councilmember Kemnitzer stated that she shares Councilmember Lynch's concerns. Councilmember Block stated that he agrees with

Councilmember Lynch's revisions, and he fully supports making this a policy. Councilmember Wilkinson asked how this policy would affect the City Manager, and City Manager Middleton stated that it would not affect his role.

Mayor Campbell called for public comment.

Belvedere Resident Linda Remy commented that she has worked remotely for the University of California since 1985 and stated that remote work is very productive. Ms. Remy indicated her support for a policy that allows employees to work remotely.

Mayor Campbell closed public comment and brought the discussion back to the Council. Mayor Campbell stated that residents would like to see City Hall running the way that it has in the past, but that there could be a hybrid that might work for the City. Councilmember Block stated that revisions to the policy should be made, then brought back to the Council. Councilmember Kemnitzer and Councilmember Wilkinson both agreed that clarity is needed before a decision is made. City Manager Middleton stated that he appreciated the conversation and that he would bring the item back in August.

INDIVIDUAL CONSENT CALENDAR

14. Approve revocable license for private improvements in the City street right-of-way along Bayview Avenue for the property at 129 Bayview Avenue.

MOTION: To approve revocable license for private improvements in the City street right-of-way along Bayview Avenue for the property at 129 Bayview Avenue.

MOVED: By Block, seconded by Lynch; approved.

VOTE:

AYES: Block, Lynch, and Vice Mayor Wilkinson

NOES: None

ABSENT: None

RECUSED: Kemnitzer, and Mayor Campbell

OTHER SCHEDULED ITEMS

15. Belvedere Playground Discussion.

Councilmember Nancy Kemnitzer stated for the record that her residence is within 500 feet of the subject property and that therefore she must recuse herself from this item

Public Works Director Robert Zadnik presented the staff report and took questions from the Council.

Mayor Campbell called for public comment.

Belvedere residents Claus Lund and Steen Lund each yielded time to Belvedere resident Carolyn Lund. Carolyn Lund gave a presentation on Pour-in-Place surface matting. She stated her opposition to using this material at the Belvedere Playground.

Belvedere resident Kathy Pearson yielded her time to Bryan Kemnitzer. Parks and Open Space Committee member Bryan Kemnitzer stated his support for the Pour-in-Place surface matting for the Belvedere Playground remodel.

Belvedere resident Jean Bordon stated that she opposes the use of the Pour-in-Place surface material and sand for the Belvedere Playground remodel, but that she supports the use of wood chips.

Michael Davis, Jill Davis, Jerome Bellach, and Katherin Bellach yielded their time to William Rothman for this item.

Belvedere Resident Linda Remy stated that she opposes the use of the Pour-in-Place material for the Belvedere Playground remodel and yielded the rest of her time to William Rothman.

Dr. William Rothman stated that he opposes the use of the Pour-in-Place material for the Belvedere Playground remodel and stated his concern about the material.

Mayor Campbell closed public comment and brought the discussion back to the Council. City Manager Middleton stated that this item is not an action item, but is on the agenda so that the Council can hear the concerns of the public on all sides of the issue. City Manager Middleton stated that the Council has already approved the playground design, and indicated that, if the Council would like to direct staff to make design changes, staff would return with the requested information and would agendaize an action item for a subsequent meeting. City Council discussed the issue and asked staff return to the Council with more information on alternative designs that may include more wood chips. Included in the information should be comparative costs, design cost and timeframes, and a comparison of maintenance requirements and costs associated with different surface materials.

16. Make Appointments to the Belvedere Tiburon Library Agency Board and the Historic Preservation Committee.

MOTION: To reappoint all four incumbents to the Historic Preservation Committee.
MOVED: By Block, seconded by Lynch; approval was unanimous.

Council discussed the nominees for the Belvedere Tiburon Library Agency Board.


MOTION: To appoint Roxanne Richards to the Belvedere Tiburon Library Agency Board.
MOVED: By Wilkinson, seconded by Kemnitzer; approval was unanimous.

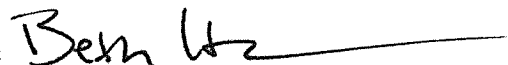
ADJOURN

The meeting was adjourned at 9:44 P.M.

THE FOREGOING MINUTES were approved at a regular meeting of the Belvedere City Council on August 9, 2021, by the following vote:

AYES: Steve Block, James Lynch, Nancy Kemnitzer, Vice Mayor Wilkinson, and Mayor Campbell
NOES: None
ABSENT: None
RECUSED: None

Approve: 
James Campbell, Mayor

Attest: 
Beth Haener, City Clerk