

BETHALTO VILLAGE BOARD MEETING
Community Room at Village Hall
213 N. Prairie St
Bethalto, IL
July 13, 2020

Due to COVID-19 social distancing guidelines, the Village Board of Trustees meeting was held in the Community Room of Village Hall on the above date in a regular meeting called to order by Mayor Alan Winslow at 7:00 p.m. The meeting opened with the “Pledge of Allegiance”. Roll call was taken by Village Clerk Sue Lowrance with Trustees Bost, Dugger, Gibbons, Lowrance, Perkhiser, and Stassi in attendance. Also attending were Village Attorney Ken Balsters, Public Works Director Rod Cheatham, Police Chief Mike Dixon, Fire Chief James Schulte, Village Treasurer Joe Hughes, and Zoning Administrator Randy Reddick.

Motion made by Perkhiser, seconded by Gibbons, to approve the village board meeting minutes of June 8, 2020 as printed. All members voted aye viva voce. Motion carried 6-0.

REPORTS FROM DEPARTMENTAL SUPERVISORS:

Fire Chief James Schulte presented the monthly report, reviewing the number of calls for the month (102) & year-to-date (654) and the staffing levels within the department. There are currently 22 volunteers and 19 part-timers, with one resignation due to full-time employment elsewhere. There were no box alarms but one fire loss of approximately \$1,000. The annual Bethalto Homecoming has been canceled due to State restrictions on festivals and large gatherings due to COVID-19. July 20 will be the 135th birthday of the department. There were no questions.

Police Chief Mike Dixon presented his monthly activity report. There has been one officer on quarantine due to COVID-19 exposure while on duty, he is showing no symptoms and tested negative for the virus but has yet to return to work. Deputy Chief Lamb and Chief

Dixon have been working on the evidence room at the PD and have created more storage space. The department has been working with Zoning on the property at 408 N. Prairie and several issues there have been resolved. There were no questions.

Public Works Director Cheatham presented his departmental reports. There were four main breaks this month, none major. Flushing work is completed for Spring. The 12' main along 255 keeps causing issues, and Cheatham is working on a solution (either lining or replacement). Crews are working on ground restoration at some of the areas that have been torn up for repairs. The interceptor line behind Cross Creek has been lined, and our vendor said it's one of the worst lines he's seen. There was a part of the Interceptor line along Culp Lane creek that washed out but has since been repaired. IEPA paperwork was filed for that break, and 300' of line was replaced. Several areas of roadway have been repaired this month. Ball fields are all open and free to use as long as reservations are made in our online system. Crews are behind in mowing but are working as quickly as possible. Electrical work is complete in Central Park; there is cleanup to do but lights are functional. There were no questions.

Zoning Administrator Randy Reddick presented his monthly report and reviewed permits issued and violations. Reddick compared this year's permits issued to last year's and noted that we will need to consider all the work Metro is doing at their apartments when we budget revenue for next year (permits won't be as numerous next year). Mayor asked what Metro's plans are for the South Prairie Apartments; Reddick stated they are basically gutting them all, and commended Metro on the work they've done so far. There were no further questions.

GUESTS/PUBLIC COMMENT:

Dennis Aurand had asked to meet with the Board over the park restrooms still being closed, but he was not in attendance. There were no other guests wishing to address the board.

RESOLUTIONS

Resolution 2020-02 Resolution for Approval of Stipulation for Assessed Value was presented. This authorizes the Mayor to sign a 2020 Proposed Stipulation showing assessed value for Cedarhurst of Bethalto as discussed in committee. There were no questions. **Motion made by Bost, seconded by Dugger, to approve Resolution 2020-02 Resolution for Approval of Stipulation for Assessed Value.** Trustees Bost, Dugger, Gibbons, Lowrance, Perkhiser and Stassi voted aye, nays none. Motion carried 6-0.

Resolution 2020-03 Resolution for Approval of Procurement Policies and Procedures was presented. This comes by recommendation from Treasurer Hughes so we are in compliance with State and Federal funding guidelines, as discussed in committee. **Motion made by Perkhiser, seconded by Gibbons, to approve Resolution 2020-03 Resolution for Approval of Procurement Policies and Procedures.** Trustees Bost, Dugger, Gibbons, Lowrance, Perkhiser and Stassi voted aye, nays none. Motion carried 6-0.

ORDINANCES

Ordinance 2020-07 Appropriation Ordinance was presented. This is the annual budget in ordinance form, and is required to be passed by the end of July. Discussed in depth in committee meetings, there were no questions or further discussion. **Motion made by Bost, seconded by Stassi, to approve Ordinance 2020-07 Appropriation Ordinance.** Trustees Bost, Dugger, Gibbons, Lowrance, Perkhiser and Stassi voted aye, nays none. Motion carried 6-0.

Ordinance 2020-08 An Ordinance Amending Chapter 1-Administration was presented. This raises the threshold for bidding requirements from \$20,000 to \$25,000 to mirror State Statutes. Any purchases over \$25,000 should go through the bidding process. There were no questions. **Motion made by Lowrance, seconded by Dugger, to approve Ordinance 2020-08 An Ordinance Amending Chapter 1-Administration.** Trustees Bost, Dugger, Gibbons, Lowrance, Perkhiser and Stassi voted aye, nays none. Motion carried 6-0.

REPORTS FROM THE MAYOR:

Mayor Winslow stated that there has been a lot of discussion over sewer billing for residences with pools and irrigation systems. Several options were discussed in committee, with the installation of a second meter that can track water usage not run through the sewer system as the most viable option for accurate records. This would be installed, as in the past, at the homeowner's expense. Winslow believes this to be the best option. There was further discussion, with "financing" disregarded due to that option not being available to those who have already installed the second meter. Approximately 50 "dual meters" are in existence within town, with half being residential and the other half commercial. Using the historical average for the residence was also disregarded due to the paperwork requirements and the need to calculate the credit each month. **Motion made by Lowrance, seconded by Bost, to make no change to the current Ordinance.** Each homeowner has the option to install a second meter for such use. Trustees Bost, Dugger, Gibbons, Lowrance, Perkhiser and Stassi voted aye, nays none. Motion carried 6-0.

Three applications have been received for the Business District Facade Grant program, with projects totaling approximately \$67,000. Winslow will send the applications to the Grant committee for review and will present the final projects at the August board meeting.

Winslow announced that the State has banned festivals and large events until Phase 5 of the Restore Illinois Plan, and that Village Buildings will remain closed as well. Rental facilities will remain closed, the calendar cleared and refunds issued as quickly as possible. Winslow stated he doesn't have much hope for any events through the remainder of the year, but is waiting as long as possible to "pull the trigger" to cancel any further community events.

The Village has renewed its participation in the Electrical Aggregation program. Beginning in December, the rate will be 0.0429/kwh which is one of the lowest rates since the program started. There were a few months when the aggregation rates were slightly higher than the regular Ameren rates, but this new rate should prove to be a substantial savings once again.

MONTHLY TREASURER'S REPORT:

The monthly Treasurer's Report was reviewed by Treasurer Hughes. Revenues and expenses were reviewed, and Hughes announced that the sales tax figures for April came in at a 5% decrease rather than the anticipated 12% decrease, which is positive news. There were no questions. **Motion made by Stassi, seconded by Bost, to approve the Treasurer's Report for the month of June, 2020.** Trustees Bost, Dugger, Gibbons, Lowrance, Perkhiser and Stassi voted aye, nays none. Motion carried 6-0.

COMMITTEE MEETINGS:

Committee meetings were scheduled for Monday, July 27 at 6:00pm, with the main topic of discussion to be the water rates charged to subjurisdictions. Winslow is hoping to have the matter settled for the August meeting.

GENERAL FUND

After reviewing the bills listing, Trustee Stassi asked if the outside cleaning company that currently sanitizes our offices and staff areas could also clean public restrooms if the Village were to decide to open them up. Winslow noted that he sees several issues with opening the restrooms, including liability issues, the frequency of cleaning and sanitizing, and the expense as well. He added that it really comes down to a financial and staffing issue as to why they remain closed. **Motion by Lowrance, seconded by Dugger, authorizing payment of bills in the amount of \$250,173.64.** Trustees Bost, Dugger, Gibbons, Lowrance, Perkhiser and Stassi voted aye, nays none. Motion carried 6-0.

WATER & SEWER FUND

Motion by Gibbons, seconded by Lowrance, authorizing payment of bills in the amount of \$76,800.92. Trustees Bost, Dugger, Gibbons, Lowrance, Perkhiser and Stassi voted aye, nays none. Motion carried 6-0.

MFT FUND

Motion by Bost, seconded by Gibbons, authorizing payment of bills in the amount of \$430.10. Trustees Bost, Dugger, Gibbons, Lowrance, Perkhiser, and Stassi voted aye, nays none. Motion carried 6-0.

GARBAGE FUND

Motion made by Gibbons, seconded by Dugger, authorizing payment of bills in the amount of \$53,063.58. Trustees Bost, Dugger, Gibbons, Lowrance, Perkhiser, and Stassi voted aye, nays none. Motion carried 6-0.

BUSINESS DISTRICT

Motion by Bost, seconded by Stassi, authorizing payment of bills in the amount of \$5,000.00. Trustees Bost, Dugger, Gibbons, Lowrance, Perkhiser, and Stassi voted aye, nays none. Motion carried 6-0.

The next regularly scheduled meeting will be held on August 10, 2020 at 7:00pm.

Having no further business, a **motion to adjourn the meeting was made by Perkhiser, seconded by Lowrance.** All voted aye viva voce. Meeting adjourned at 7:33pm.

Sue E. Lowrance, Village Clerk

Alan Winslow, Mayor