

BETHALTO VILLAGE BOARD MEETING

Bethalto, IL

January 11, 2021

7:00pm

Village Hall Community Room

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, Lowrance, Perkhiser, and Stassi in attendance. Trustee Gibbons was absent. 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.

A motion was made by Lowrance, seconded by Stassi, to approve the village board meeting minutes of December 14, 2020. All members voted aye viva voce. Motion carried 5-0.

REPORTS FROM DEPARTMENTAL SUPERVISORS:

Fire Chief James Schulte presented his monthly report, noting 136 runs in December and a total of 1450 calls in 2020 (up 155 from 2019). Schulte noted that there are still 20 volunteer firefighters on the roster, and 19 part-time personnel. There were no box alarms and no fire loss in December. Lift assist calls are up, largely due to Cedarhurst and the Villas of Hollybrook. The LUCAS device is in service and Schulte expressed appreciation to the board for allowing that purchase. There were no questions.

Police Chief Mike Dixon presented his monthly activity report, and noted that year-end records had been sent to trustees via email. Andrew Augustine has made another donation to the department; this money will be used for basement improvements. Dixon expressed appreciation for Augustine’s support of the BPD. The Christmas for All event was a success, with nearly \$10,000 in cash and other donations received; 36 families received aid, with 65

kids given a nice Christmas. The department hiring list has 28 candidates, oral interviews are being conducted. There were no questions.

Public Works Director Cheatham presented his departmental reports. Street crews have seen two ice events thus far, but little salt was needed. Street sweeping, sign maintenance, and pothole work is keeping crews busy. Water crews are working on new main taps and have had four 2" breaks to deal with. Sewer crews are working on lift station maintenance, and Parks crews are removing holiday décor and continuing with work on field maintenance and the multi-use trail. There were no questions for Director Cheatham.

Zoning Administrator Randy Reddick presented his monthly activity report and reviewed the number of permits and violations issued. 1,224 permits were issued this past year. Metro Apartments has completed their construction, so Reddick expects fewer permits to be issued in 2021. There were no new construction permits issued this month, but one commercial permit was issued. Reddick noted that permits have all been issued in a timely fashion, and reviewed violations and fines for the year. All department liens are being filed in-house now rather than through our Zoning attorney, saving the Village money in the process. There were no questions.

GUESTS/PUBLIC COMMENT

There were no guests or residents wishing to address the board.

RESOLUTIONS

There were no resolutions presented for consideration at this time.

ORDINANCES

There were no ordinances presented for consideration.

REPORTS FROM THE MAYOR:

Offices will be closed on January 18 in observance of Dr. Martin Luther King, Jr. Day.

Mayor would like to schedule an auction of excess Village property and has contacted an auction service for this purpose. Department heads will be furnishing a list for each department, and the auction will be online. Preview appointments will be allowed if anyone wishes to view the merchandise. Mayor is hoping to have a list complete at the February meeting; the auction date will be finalized later this week.

Farm Fresh has applied for the final 2020 Façade Grant. They've installed a drive-up window at a total cost of \$6,957, which qualifies for a reimbursement of \$3,478.50. This was discussed in depth at the November committee meeting, and there were no further questions or comments. **Motion made by Perkhiser, seconded by Dugger, to approve Farm Fresh's Façade Grant application and provide reimbursement of \$3,478.50 for their project.** Trustees Bost, Dugger, Lowrance, Perkhiser and Stassi voted aye, nays none. Motion carried 5-0.

Mayor turned the discussion to Façade Grant funding for 2021; noting that he has applications in-hand for \$100,000 in projects that qualify for \$50,000 in reimbursements. Winslow recommended that the 2021 budget be increased to \$100,000 with an option to increase later if necessary as several applications are still outstanding. There was discussion of enforcing a deadline as discussed when the program was implemented; applications could be received in January with a deadline of March 1 for awarding at the March board meeting, with another round later in the year. **Motion made by Stassi, seconded by Bost, to receive applications through March 1 for a March board meeting award date and a budget of \$100,000 for the 2021 calendar year.** Trustees Bost, Dugger, Lowrance, Perkhiser and Stassi voted aye, nays none. Motion carried 5-0.

Winslow reviewed a proposed contract extension with Republic Services. This extension contains a slight (2%) annual increase in waste hauling charges, but eliminates the twice-annual "large item pickup" and replaces it with custom pick-up dates allowed four times a year per household. Concern was expressed over this causing a constant eyesore within the Village and that it may be hard for Zoning to keep up with what are violations and what are goods set out for pickup. The board consensus was to keep the twice-annual pickup weeks to eliminate any issues. Trustee Bost asked if our contract contained a clause that would allow Republic to increase rates arbitrarily like he believes they did with Alton recently; Winslow doesn't believe so but will research. Mayor will proceed with negotiations with Republic.

MONTHLY TREASURER'S REPORT:

The monthly Treasurer's Report was reviewed by Joseph Hughes. Income and expenses were reviewed, and the ending cash balance was up from the previous month. There were no questions. **Motion made by Bost, seconded by Dugger, to approve the Treasurer's Report for the month of December, 2020.** Trustees Bost, Dugger, Lowrance, Perkhiser and Stassi voted aye, nays none. Motion carried 5-0.

COMMITTEE MEETINGS:

Committee meetings were scheduled for Monday, January 25 at 6pm.

BILLS:

GENERAL FUND

Motion by Bost, seconded by Stassi, authorizing payment of bills in the amount of \$143,760.51. Trustees Bost, Dugger, Lowrance, Perkhiser and Stassi voted aye, nays none. Motion carried 5-0.

WATER & SEWER FUND

Motion by Stassi, seconded by Lowrance, authorizing payment of bills in the amount of \$319,368.19. Trustees Bost, Dugger, Lowrance, Perkhiser and Stassi voted aye, nays none. Motion carried 5-0.

FICA FUND

Motion by Bost, seconded by Dugger, authorizing payment of bills in the amount of \$34.01. Trustees Bost, Dugger, Lowrance, Perkhiser and Stassi voted aye, nays none. Motion carried 5-0.

GARBAGE FUND

Motion by Perkhiser, seconded by Lowrance, authorizing payment of bills in the amount of \$58,799.50. Trustees Bost, Dugger, Lowrance, Perkhiser and Stassi voted aye, nays none. Motion carried 5-0.

TIF FUND

Motion by Dugger, seconded by Stassi, authorizing payment of bills in the amount of \$125.00. Trustees Bost, Dugger, Lowrance, Perkhiser and Stassi voted aye, nays none. Motion carried 5-0.

The next regularly scheduled meeting will be held on February 8, 2021 at 7:00pm.

Mayor Winslow announced the need to enter Executive Session to discuss a personnel issue and potential sale/lease of property. **Motion made by Bost, seconded by Lowrance, to enter Executive Session per ILCS Section 2 (c) (1) Personnel and 2 (c) (6) Sale or Lease of Real Estate.** All trustees voted aye viva voce. Entered executive session at 7:29pm.

Re-entered regular session at 8:36pm.

RESOLUTIONS

Resolution 2021-01 A Resolution for Approval of Negotiating Intergovernmental Agreement to Provide for Police Dispatching Services was presented. This authorizes the Mayor and Police Chief to begin negotiations with the City of Wood River for police dispatching services for the Bethalto Police Department. **Motion made by Bost, seconded by Stassi, to approve Resolution 2021-01 A Resolution for Approval of Negotiating Intergovernmental Agreement to Provide for Police Dispatching Services.** Trustees Bost, Dugger, Lowrance, Perkhiser and Stassi voted aye, nays none. Motion carried 5-0.

Having no further business, a **motion to adjourn the meeting was made by Dugger, seconded by Perkhiser.** All voted aye viva voce. Meeting adjourned at 8:38pm.

Sue E. Lowrance, Village Clerk

Alan Winslow, Mayor