

VILLAGE BOARD MEETING
Bethalto, IL
February 14, 2022
7:00pm
Council Chambers

The Village Board of Trustees met on the above date in the Council Chambers of Village Hall in a regular meeting called to order by Mayor Bost at 7:00 p.m. The meeting opened with the “Pledge of Allegiance”. Roll call was taken by Village Clerk Sue Lowrance. Present: Trustees Dugger, Lowrance, Perkhiser, Keister and Mull. Trustee Tweedy was absent. Also present: Police Chief Mike Dixon, Public Works Director Rod Cheatham, Village Attorney Ken Balsters, Fire Chief Brian Buhs, Zoning Administrator Randy Reddick, and Village Treasurer Joe Hughes.

Motion made by Lowrance, seconded by Mull, to approve Village Board meeting minutes of January 10, 2022, as printed. All members voted aye viva voce. Motion carried 5-0.

REPORTS FROM DEPARTMENTAL SUPERVISORS:

Fire Chief Brian Buhs presented his report for January, noting 169 calls, one of which was a fatal traffic crash on S. Moreland Road. If this pace is sustained, the department would run 1900 calls for the year. Buhs reported the annual number of calls for 2020 was 1450 and for 2021, 1399. There were no questions.

Police Chief Dixon presented the monthly activity report for January, with his department running 601 calls. Dixon summarized the significant cases the department has worked on in January: stolen vehicle recovery, domestic battery, fatal traffic crash. There was a conviction in the triple homicide case as well, and Dixon commended his officers and all who worked that case to completion. There were no questions. Chief Dixon then announced the promotion of Jack Wofford and Jordan Lind to Sergeant; Sgt. Wofford was promoted on December 22 and was formally pinned by his wife this evening. Sgt. Lind was promoted on

January 17 and pinned by his mother & wife this evening. Chief Dixon then presented Sgt. Scott Hale with a plaque of appreciation for his diligent work in the triple homicide case.

Public Works Director Cheatham presented his reports and reviewed activity by department. There were no questions.

Zoning Administrator Randy Reddick presented his monthly report, noting 55 permits issued in January, down likely due to weather. Permits continue to be issued in a timely manner. Reddick updated the board on nuisance properties. Permits have been pulled for the mini storage units on MacArthur Drive. There were no questions.

GUESTS/PUBLIC COMMENT:

The Village's Airport Board member, Brian Keister, was in attendance to announce that the Airport Board meets every third Thursday and he invited public participation at this month's meeting, scheduled for 2/17.

Anne Dobson, 234 St. Mary's, asked for consideration of a grace period between water bill due dates and late charges being added; she stated she pays her bills through her bank and that sometimes her payments don't get applied "on time" and she is assessed late fees. She also expressed concerns over a large hole near her home and asked for something to be done about it; it is a sink hole around a drain pipe. Mayor Bost told Dobson that when using a third party service to pay bills there is always a chance it may be late, and informed her that our water office would be open again to the public once it is moved to Village Hall. Bost said the board would review the billing process as well.

RESOLUTIONS

Resolution 2022-03 A Resolution Authorizing Mayor to Apply for PEP Grant Funding through Madison County was presented. This authorizes the Mayor to apply for grant funding through the County PEP Grant Program, which can be used for park upgrades. This money will be used for fencing and improvements at the multi-use/pickleball courts in Central Park. **Motion made by Lowrance, seconded by Perkhiser, to approve Resolution 2022-03 A Resolution Authorizing Mayor to Apply for PEP Grant Funding through Madison County.** Trustees Dugger, Lowrance, Perkhiser, Keister and Mull voted aye; nays none. Motion carried 5-0.

ORDINANCES

There were no ordinances presented for consideration.

REPORTS FROM THE MAYOR:

Village offices will be closed on February 21 for Presidents Day.

Bethalto Spirit has asked for use of Central Park on Sundays beginning June 5 through October 9 for their Farmers Markets. **Motion by Mull, seconded by Dugger, to approve use of Central Park by Bethalto Spirit for their weekly Farmers Markets on Sundays from June 5 – October 9.** Trustees Dugger, Lowrance, Perkhiser, Keister and Mull voted aye, nays none. Motion carried 5-0.

Mayor Bost noted an existing vacancy on the Plan Commission/Zoning Board of Appeals and presented former member of that board Ed Slayden as his appointee to fill the vacancy. Slayden had resigned from the board when he moved from the Village, but has since returned and expressed interest in rejoining the board. **Motion made by Mull, seconded by Perkhiser, to approve Ed Slayden as appointee to the Plan Commission/Zoning Board**

of Appeals. Trustees Dugger, Lowrance, Perkhiser, Keister and Mull voted aye, nays none. Motion carried 5-0.

After positive input from trustees in committee meetings and review of the benefits of membership, the Village will be joining the Bethalto Chamber of Commerce with an annual membership fee of \$350. The Village will not be renewing membership in the River Bend Growth Association at this time.

MONTHLY TREASURER'S REPORT:

The January Treasurer's Report was presented by Treasurer Joseph Hughes. Income and expenses were reviewed, and the Village's cash balance is down approximately \$125k from the previous month. There were no questions. **Motion made by Lowrance, seconded by Dugger, to approve the Treasurer's Report for the month of January, 2021.** Trustees Dugger, Lowrance, Perkhiser, Keister and Mull voted aye, nays none. Motion carried 5-0.

COMMITTEE MEETING

Committee meetings will be held on February 28, 2021 at 6pm. Bost noted this could become a special meeting depending on progress with the Police FOP contract.

BILLS

GENERAL FUND

Clerk Lowrance noted an error in the amount listed for payment to Balsters & Hinrichs. The actual amount due is \$937.50, not \$2281.25. This payment will be corrected prior to sending out payments. **Motion by Mull, seconded by Perkhiser, authorizing payment of bills in the amount of \$91,092.04.** Trustees Dugger, Lowrance, Perkhiser, Keister, and Mull voted aye, nays none. Motion carried 5-0.

WATER & SEWER FUND

Motion by Lowrance seconded by Dugger, authorizing payment of bills in the amount of \$130,513.39. Trustees Dugger, Lowrance, Perkhiser, Keister and Mull voted aye, nays none. Motion carried 5-0.

TIF FUND

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

The next regularly scheduled meeting will be held on March 14, 2022 at 7:00pm in the Council Room of Village Hall.

Mayor Bost announced the need to enter Executive Session for Collective Bargaining, 5 ILCS 120 Section 2 (c) (2). Entered executive session at 7:31 pm.

Re-entered regular session at 10:10pm. Having no further business, **motion made by Perkhiser, seconded by Lowrance, to adjourn the meeting.** All trustees voted aye viva voce. Meeting adjourned at 10:10pm.

Sue Lowrance, Village Clerk

Gary Bost, Mayor