

**VILLAGE BOARD MEETING**  
**Bethalto, IL**  
**May 8, 2023**  
**Council Chambers, Village Hall**  
**213 N. Prairie St, Bethalto, IL**

The Village Board of Trustees met on the above date in the Council Chambers of Village Hall for a regular meeting called to order by Mayor Gary 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, Tweedy, Keister and Mull. Also present: Police Chief Mike Dixon, Public Works Director Rod Cheatham, Village Finance Administrator Aleisha Randolph, Village Attorney Ken Balsters, Fire Chief Brian Buhs, Zoning Administrator Randy Reddick, newly elected Trustee Rachel Sontag, and several firefighters, residents, family and friends.

**Motion made by Tweedy, seconded by Lowrance, to approve village board meeting minutes of April 10, 2023, as printed.** All members voted aye viva voce. Motion carried 6-0.

**REPORTS FROM DEPARTMENTAL SUPERVISORS:**

Fire Chief Brian Buhs reviewed the statistical report for the month of April, noting 164 calls for the month. At this pace the department will run 1900-2000 calls in 2023. Business reinspections are continuing as needed, all with good results thus far. Trustee Perkhiser asked what happens if a business doesn’t comply; Buhs answered that situation will come to the board when/if the time comes. There were no further questions.

Police Chief Dixon presented the monthly activity report for April, with his department running 683 incidents. There were no lateral transfer applications received; Dixon is running an ad for probationary officers and is hoping for better results with that. The Lexipol policy manual update is completed, and Dixon is now working on updating our procedures manual. Our reciprocal agreements with the State’s Attorney and School District are expired, so those

are being reworked as well. Dixon updated the board on recent significant cases. There were no questions.

Public Works Director Cheatham presented his departmental reports with no questions. The annual MS4 Stormwater permit with IEPA is complete and we are in compliance. Paperwork involved with this mandate is increasing, so will be more burdensome on manpower in the future. The RFQ for street mill & overlay was returned only by Christ Brothers. They have done many projects for us in the past and are reliable. This agreement will be for a maximum of three years in one-year intervals. There were no questions.

Zoning Administrator Randy Reddick presented his monthly report, with 80 permits issued in April. We are up 19 year-to-date. All permits are being issued on a timely basis. Reddick reviewed the commercial improvements happening around town; Roma's new dining area is open and only the outside veneer needs to be completed. O'Reilly Auto Parts has pulled their building permit and construction should be done within 6 months. Code violations were down this month, likely due to residents taking advantage of Public Works crews and the storm clean up that was offered. Reddick updated the board on nuisance properties as well, noting that 100 Wesley Drive, Lot 49, will likely be added to the list at the next board meeting. There were no questions.

**GUESTS/PUBLIC COMMENT:**

Bill Rainey, 409 Winona, was in attendance expressing infrastructure concerns around the schools near him; he'd like to see improved roads and sidewalks.

Steve Brazier, resident of Rosewood Heights, was in attendance to express concern over the dark intersection at Route 111 and Airline Drive. He has approached IDOT about the possibility of installing overhead lights, and they referred him to Bethalto as we would also

need to make the request. Mayor Bost noted that this is a state road, so any request would have to go to IDOT for the approval process but that we would investigate it.

Ryan Payne, resident of Bethalto, asked if the board would consider live streaming meetings in the future. Bost noted that the Village had at one time applied for a grant for council room improvements for that purpose, but that we weren't awarded the grant. Payne went on to state for the record that he is against allowing any livestock in residential areas and that the Board needs to consider risk vs. reward, and he does not see any reward in passing tonight's ordinance. Payne also questioned whether there was anyone living in the home at 781 Roosevelt to be keeping watch over the cows currently there.

## **RESOLUTIONS**

**Resolution 2023-05 A Resolution for Improvement Under Illinois Highway Code** was presented. This MFT Resolution relates to the multi-use trail project from Ashbrook St. to Old Bethalto Road. This will be funded partially by the Village along with grant money, Federal money, and Madison County funding, and includes crosswalks at the intersections, a 4-way stop at Ashbrook, resurfacing, and the trail itself. Cheatham noted we also received word this week that we have approval for the trail from the park to Oak Street, so things are moving in the right direction and quickly. **Motion made by Keister, seconded by Mull, to approve Resolution 2023-05 A Resolution for Improvement Under Illinois Highway Code.** Trustees Dugger, Lowrance, Perkhiser, Tweedy, Keister and Mull voted aye; nays none. Motion carried 6-0.

## **ORDINANCES**

**Ordinance 2023-03 An Ordinance Amending Chapter 40-Zoning Code** was presented. This ordinance amends the zoning code to establish a special use category for specialty agriculture in RS5 & RS8 Zoning Districts and includes updated performance standards

which differ from those recommended by the Planning & Zoning Commission as discussed in committee. **Motion by Lowrance, seconded by Dugger, to approve Ordinance 2023-03 An Ordinance Amending Chapter 40-Zoning Code.** Trustees Dugger, Lowrance, Perkhiser and Tweedy voted aye, Trustees Keister and Mull voted nay; motion carried on a vote of 4-2.

**REPORTS FROM THE MAYOR:**

Mayor Bost announced that this was Trustee Lowrance's last meeting, and thanked him for his four years of service on the board.

**MONTHLY TREASURER'S REPORT:**

The April Treasurer's Report was presented by Finance Administrator Aleisha Randolph. Revenue and expenses were reviewed, and the ending cash balance decreased approximately \$86,000 from the previous month. There were no questions. **Motion made by Mull, seconded by Perkhiser, to approve the Treasurer's Report for the month of April, 2023.** Trustees Dugger, Lowrance, Perkhiser, Tweedy, Keister and Mull voted aye, nays none. Motion carried 6-0.

**BILLS**

**GENERAL FUND**

**Motion by Lowrance, seconded by Dugger, authorizing payment of bills in the amount of \$158,567.45.** Trustees Dugger, Lowrance, Perkhiser, Tweedy, Keister and Mull voted aye, nays none. Motion carried 6-0.

**WATER & SEWER FUND**

**Motion by Mull, seconded by Lowrance, authorizing payment of bills in the amount of \$545,267.12.** Trustees Dugger, Lowrance, Perkhiser, Tweedy, Keister and Mull voted aye, nays none. Motion carried 6-0.

**GARBAGE FUND**

**Motion by Mull, seconded by Tweedy, authorizing payment of bills in the amount of \$55,194.24.** Trustees Dugger, Lowrance, Perkhiser, Tweedy, Keister and Mull voted aye, nays none. Motion carried 6-0.

**BUSINESS DISTRICT FUND**

**Motion by Mull, seconded by Lowrance, authorizing payment of bills in the amount of \$48,727.78.** Trustees Dugger, Lowrance, Perkhiser, Tweedy, Keister and Mull voted aye, nays none. Motion carried 6-0.

Having no further business for the seated board, **motion made by Lowrance, seconded by Perkhiser, to adjourn sine-die.** All Trustees voted aye viva voce; meeting adjourned sine-die at 7:23pm.

Trustees Maria Perkhiser, Jeff Mull, and Rachel Sontag were sworn in by Village Clerk Sue Lowrance. Trustees were seated on the dais; roll call was taken at 7:37pm by Village Clerk Lowrance with Trustees Dugger, Perkhiser, Tweedy, Keister, Mull and Sontag in attendance.

**REPORTS FROM MAYOR AND OTHER OFFICERS**

Mayor Bost presented his appointments for approval:

**Motion made by Mull, seconded by Tweedy, to approve Zoning Administrator Randy Reddick, Building & Occupancy Inspector Chris Cameron, Electrical Inspector Tim Henson, Plumbing Inspector Greg Fowler.** Trustees Dugger, Perkhiser, Tweedy, Keister, Mull and Sontag voted aye, nays none. Motion carried 6-0.

**Motion made by Tweedy, seconded by Mull, to approve Police Chief Mike Dixon and Deputy Police Chief Jason Lamb.** Trustees Dugger, Perkhiser, Tweedy, Keister, Mull and Sontag voted aye, nays none. Motion carried 6-0.

**Motion made by Tweedy, seconded by Perkhiser, to approve Public Works Director Rod Cheatham.** Trustees Dugger, Perkhiser, Tweedy, Keister, Mull and Sontag voted aye, nays none. Motion carried 6-0.

**Motion made by Keister, seconded by Dugger, to approve Fire Chief Brian Buhs, Deputy Fire Chief Dan Bartels, Assistant Fire Chief Jeremiah Grant, Fire Inspector Brian Buhs, and Emergency Management Coordinator Brian Buhs.** Trustees Dugger, Perkhiser, Tweedy, Keister, Mull and Sontag voted aye, nays none. Motion carried 6-0.

**Motion made by Mull, seconded by Keister, to approve Village Attorney Ken Balsters and Village Treasurer Aleisha Randolph.** Trustees Dugger, Perkhiser, Tweedy, Keister, Mull and Sontag voted aye, nays none. Motion carried 6-0.

**Motion made by Perkhiser, seconded by Tweedy, to approve appointees to Boards & Commissions: Police Pension Board Bonnie Coleman, Fire & Police Commission Kris Tharp, PC/ZBA Ed Slayden and Tina Davis.** Trustees Dugger, Perkhiser, Tweedy, Keister, Mull and Sontag voted aye, nays none. Motion carried 6-0.

There is still one vacancy on the Police Pension Board. Committee assignments were distributed, but it was noted that all trustees attend all committee meetings.

The Splash Pad is set to open May 27. Village offices will be closed on May 29 for Memorial Day. There will be a Planning & Zoning public hearing and meeting on May 25 at 6pm to consider the extension of a variance for Zion Lutheran school to continue to utilize temporary school buildings for the upcoming school year. Zoning Administrator Reddick noted that there have been no issues with the current use of the temporary school buildings on this site, and that Zion is seeking to extend the variance for an additional two years.

### **RESOLUTIONS**

There were no resolutions presented for consideration.

### **ORDINANCES**

There were no ordinances presented for consideration.

### **COMMITTEE MEETINGS**

Committee meetings will be held on Monday, May 22 at 6:00pm.

The next regularly scheduled board meeting will be held on June 12, 2023, at 7:00pm.

Having no further business, a **motion to adjourn the meeting was made by Perkhiser, seconded by Mull.** All voted aye viva voce. Meeting adjourned at 7:41pm.

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Sue Lowrance, Village Clerk

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Gary Bost, Mayor