

VILLAGE BOARD MEETING
Bethalto, IL
February 12, 2024
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, Perkhiser, Tweedy, Mull and Sontag. Trustee Keister was absent. Also present: Police Chief Jason Lamb, Public Works Director Rod Cheatham, Village Finance Administrator/Treasurer Aleisha Randolph, Village Attorney Ken Balsters, Fire Chief Brian Buhs, and Zoning Administrator Chris Cameron.

Motion made by Tweedy, seconded by Mull, to approve village board meeting minutes of January 8, 2024, as printed. All members voted aye viva voce. Motion carried 5-0.

REPORTS FROM DEPARTMENTAL SUPERVISORS:

Fire Chief Brian Buhs reviewed the statistical report for the month of January, noting 176 calls for the month and two fires. Buhs had no update on the new fire truck. There were no questions.

Police Chief Jason Lamb presented the monthly activity report for January. The department’s firearms qualifying was completed with their new glocks. A few of our squad cars need repairs, some due to age and two others due to incidents involving other parties. We will be seeking restitution for repair costs from those two incidents. Departmental training is continuing in-house. Deputy Chief Hale’s daughter Lucie has been released from the hospital and is home doing well. Lamb stated that her trivia night fundraiser was a success, and that Lucie was able to attend. Trustee Tweedy asked what facility the department uses for its qualifying; Lamb answered Piasa Armory. Brittany Gun Club has been used in the past, but an indoor facility is preferred during the winter months. Mayor

Bost announced that the Village is working with Utilitra to update the exterior cameras around the perimeter of Village Hall as well, for added security. There were no other questions.

Public Works Director Cheatham presented his departmental reports. There were three main breaks in January, and some ground restoration work is being completed from those. CIPP work will be completed along “sub-interceptors” in the area as soon as weather allows. Pothole patching is being completed, and Cheatham reminded everyone that Route 140 does not belong to us, and we don’t maintain it. Work along Plegge for decorative lighting and the new 4-way stop light is being completed. Christmas lights and decorations have all been removed, and equipment maintenance is being completed as well. Renovations at Village Hall and the Senior Building are being done. We had one snow event and one ice event in January. A lot of work will be completed along Plegge Boulevard in 2024, with the multi-use path and resurfacing of the entire roadway. The ground density test for the multi-use pathway could not be completed due to wet conditions, but that will be done as soon as possible, and asphalt started as soon as plants reopen. Water office billing, red tags, shut offs and liens were reported. There were no questions.

Zoning Administrator Chris Cameron presented his department’s monthly report, noting 38 permits issued and 79 code enforcement violations. Cameron stated that as time spent on permits increases, time leftover for code enforcement decreases, and asked the board to be aware of that dynamic. Cameron reviewed outstanding construction projects and nuisance properties shown in the report. 58 N. Williams is now the property of the Village. 781 Roosevelt had a court date in December, and attorneys for both parties are trying to come to an agreement. The next court date is February 23. The potential sale of Neumann’s trailer park is now off the table, so our attorney is working on moving forward with issues there. Trustee Mull asked about the 30 derelict vehicles shown in the report; Cameron stated that is

correct and that the vehicles are either inoperable or without valid tags. There were no questions.

GUESTS/PUBLIC COMMENT:

There were no guests or public comments.

RESOLUTIONS

There were no resolutions presented for consideration.

ORDINANCES

Ordinance 2024-03 An Ordinance Amending Bethalto Ordinance 2014-29 To Amend Territory of the Riverbend Enterprise Zone was presented. This amends the existing boundaries of the Riverbend Enterprise Zone to allow both Wood River and Hartford to each pick up a parcel that was not previously included in the district; no entities are losing property. Anytime changes are made to the zone, all parties must approve the change, thus the need for this action. **Motion made by Mull, seconded by Dugger, to approve Ordinance 2024-03 An Ordinance Amending Bethalto Ordinance 2014-29 To Amend Territory of the Riverbend Enterprise Zone.** Trustees Dugger, Perkhiser, Tweedy, Mull and Sontag voted aye; nays none. Motion carried 5-0.

REPORTS FROM THE MAYOR:

Village offices will be closed February 19 for Presidents Day.

Mayor Bost stated that the Bethalto Jaycees have asked for use of Central Park for their annual carnival to be held May 23-26, 2024. Trustee Tweedy stated that last year's event caused damage to the park, including ruts from large trucks, and that repair work was needed after the event. Tab Roberson of the Jaycees was in attendance and stated he personally

walked the park after the event for clean-up and didn't notice any significant ruts, adding that the Jaycees have always been willing to fix whatever damage the event causes. Tweedy continued by stating the damage was toward the Arboretum end of the park and that this is an expense to the Village. Roberson asked if the fire department is held to the same standards after their annual Homecoming carnival; Tweedy stated the fire department has always taken care of any damage. Roberson stated that each year he seems to have hurdles involved in holding the event, which the Jaycees have had in town for over 40 years. He asked for some direction, and stated he would do whatever it takes to ensure the event can continue. Tweedy asked how the funds raised are put back into the community; Roberson answered that the Jaycees offer scholarships, back-to-school backpack giveaways, and adopt-a-family at Christmas. Mayor Bost noted that all events now must go through the same application process and that Roberson would need to complete that paperwork process again this year. He was informed that the FD volunteer group owns the equipment in the fish stand, so any use of that would need to be approved by their board, as that was an issue last year as well. Bost further noted that any event held within the park causes damage, and that the Village has the responsibility to be sure care is taken with any event. Heather, another member of the Jaycees, stated that she believes all the group is asking is that guidance be given so the event can continue, and they can be prepared when the time comes. **Motion made by Perkhiser, seconded by Mull, to approve use of Central Park for the annual Jaycees Carnival from May 23-26, 2024, provided the Village application process is completed satisfactorily.** Trustees Dugger, Perkhiser, Tweedy, Mull and Sontag voted aye; nays none. Motion carried 5-0.

MONTHLY TREASURER'S REPORT:

The January Treasurer's Report was presented by Finance Administrator/Treasurer Aleisha Randolph. Revenue and notable expenses were reviewed, and the ending cash balance increased by \$350,000 over the previous month. There were no questions. **Motion made by**

Tweedy, seconded by Mull, to approve the Treasurer's Report for the month of January, 2024. Trustees Dugger, Perkhiser, Tweedy, Mull and Sontag voted aye, nays none.
Motion carried 5-0.

BILLS

GENERAL FUND

Motion by Mull, seconded by Dugger, authorizing payment of bills in the amount of \$406,286.26. Trustees Dugger, Perkhiser, Tweedy, Mull and Sontag voted aye, nays none.
Motion carried 5-0.

WATER & SEWER FUND

Motion by Perkhiser, seconded by Mull, authorizing payment of bills in the amount of \$759,182.99. Trustees Dugger, Perkhiser, Tweedy, Mull and Sontag voted aye, nays none.
Motion carried 5-0.

AUDIT FUND

Motion by Mull, seconded by Dugger, authorizing payment of bills in the amount of \$17,925.00. Trustees Dugger, Perkhiser, Tweedy, Mull and Sontag voted aye, nays none.
Motion carried 5-0.

GARBAGE FUND

Motion by Mull, seconded by Tweedy, authorizing payment of bills in the amount of \$60,440.03. Trustees Dugger, Perkhiser, Tweedy, Mull and Sontag voted aye, nays none.
Motion carried 5-0.

BUSINESS DISTRICT FUND

Motion by Perkhiser, seconded by Sontag, authorizing payment of bills in the amount \$11,025.46. Trustees Dugger, Perkhiser, Tweedy, Mull and Sontag voted aye, nays none. Motion carried 5-0.

Monthly committees will meet this month on February 26 at 6pm. The next Village Board meeting is scheduled for March 11, 2024, at 7:00pm.

Having no further business, a **motion to adjourn the meeting was made by Perkhiser, seconded by Sontag.** All voted aye viva voce. Meeting adjourned at 7:26pm.

Sue Lowrance, Village Clerk

Gary Bost, Mayor