

**VILLAGE BOARD MEETING**  
**Bethalto, IL**  
**August 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, Keister, and Sontag. Trustee Mull was absent. Also present: Public Works Director Rod Cheatham, Police Chief Jason Lamb, Fire Chief Brian Buhs, Village Finance Administrator/Treasurer Aleisha Randolph, and Village Attorney Ken Balsters.

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

**REPORTS FROM DEPARTMENTAL SUPERVISORS:**

Chief Buhs presented the monthly Fire Department report. There were 134 calls for the month of July, bringing the year-to-date total to over 1000. There were two fires this month. The department participated in active shooter drills which were very helpful. The new rescue truck was painted but is now being repainted due to it being incorrect; we are hoping to have the new fire engine sometime in March. There were no further questions.

Chief Lamb presented the Police Department’s activity report for July. The department’s new applicants are completing online testing and then will be scheduled for in-person interviews. License plate readers have been installed at 140/255 along with a live camera of the intersection area. Chief Lamb thanked Public Works Director Cheatham and Mayor Bost for their help in getting this done. Officers Wofford and Lynn were recognized for their work in assisting East Alton PD with a shooting case back in May; Lamb stated both officers

were integral in handling the situation and keeping responding officers and residents safe. There were no questions.

Public Works Director Cheatham presented his departmental reports. The ARPA funded CIPP projects are nearing an end, and our system is now in much better shape than it was years prior. Code Blue emergency poles have been installed in the Arboretum and along the multi-use pathway; these should be functional later this week. There were no questions.

Mayor Bost presented the Building & Zoning department's monthly report, noting that there are a few new construction permits issued for the Villas at Richland Estates. There has been an issue with water quality at Neumann's Old Oak Ridge Trailer Park, due to unlicensed plumbers making repairs. Public Works Director Cheatham is working with the owner on getting licensed plumbers to repair the lines, then everything will be inspected and tested prior to signing off on it all. If the problems persist, water will be shut off to the park until the owner cooperates. There were no questions.

**GUESTS/PUBLIC COMMENT:**

Ben Ashby, 3 MacArthur Drive, Cottage Hills, was in attendance to appeal to the Board for some relief on tap-on costs for the building he recently purchased at that address. The building had previously been tapped onto a lateral line which is across adjacent property, and that line has since collapsed. The collapsed area is not accessible since it is not on his property, so Ashby is aware he needs to tap onto the main which is located on Williams St. Ashby pointed out that the Village has been receiving sewer revenue for the property, so is hoping to get some kind of relief for the new tap-on fee of \$2500. PW Director Cheatham stated that the tap-on to the lateral was done prior to Bethalto taking over that area, and that tap-on fees represent the cost of the infrastructure itself to cover our costs of materials and

labor, as our crews will do the actual tap-on to the system. Mayor Bost stated that the board will consider his request and that he would be in contact with Ashby.

Rose Bickmore, 203 W. Central St, was in attendance regarding the cleanliness of the Senior Citizens Building. Mayor Bost replied that the contract with the previous cleaner has expired, and the Village is in the process of finding a replacement. The first bid came in at three times the cost of the previous vendor, so the search continues.

Mona Dugger, 509 Stroheck St, was in attendance regarding the TIF area and requesting that much-needed repairs be done to Stroheck and West Drive as were “promised” to them when the TIF was initiated, adding that the area has seen no benefit at all from the TIF. Mayor Bost reminded everyone that the TIF was unsuccessful all-around, and the Village was forced to pay \$450,000 per year from the General Fund over the course of the TIF just to cover loan payments. The loan will not be paid off until December of this year. Dugger stated she will continue to ask for these improvements.

## **RESOLUTIONS**

**Resolution 2024-11 A Resolution Authorizing Application for Illinois Transportation Enhancement Program (ITEP) Funding for the Installation of a Multi-Use Path Along Erwin Plegge Expressway from Ashbrook St. to Rogers Lane** was presented. This authorizes the Village to apply for grant funding for this project, which will cover the “middle leg” of the pathway. Trustee Keister asked if there are any plans for the Prairie/Plegge t, as that is becoming a big traffic issue. Cheatham stated there are plans in the works, but nothing soon or set in stone. Trustee Sontag asked if this section of the pathway will follow the hill in that area; Cheatham stated some areas will be built up and some will have retaining walls, and a bridge across the creek. **Motion made by Keister, seconded by Sontag, to approve Resolution 2024-11 A Resolution Authorizing Application for**

**Illinois Transportation Enhancement Program (ITEP) Funding for the Installation of a Multi-Use Path Along Erwin Plegge Expressway from Ashbrook St. to Rogers Lane.**

Trustees Dugger, Perkhiser, Tweedy, Keister, and Sontag voted aye; nays none. Motion carried 5-0.

**ORDINANCES**

There were no ordinances presented for consideration.

**REPORTS FROM THE MAYOR:**

Mayor Bost presented a recommendation from the Planning & Zoning Board to approve the final plat of the Sports Complex 1 Minor Subdivision. **Motion made by Keister, seconded by Perkhiser, to accept the recommendation of the Planning & Zoning Board and approve the final plat of the Sports Complex 1 Minor Subdivision.** Trustees Dugger, Perkhiser, Tweedy, Keister, and Sontag voted aye; nays none. Motion carried 5-0.

There will be a public hearing and meeting of the Planning & Zoning Board on August 22 to discuss new business façade requirements in General Commercial districts. Trustees were encouraged to attend that meeting and expect the recommendations to be discussed at August committee meetings.

**MONTHLY TREASURER'S REPORT:**

The July Treasurer's Report was presented by Finance Administrator/Treasurer Aleisha Randolph. Revenue and notable expenses were reviewed, and the ending cash balance increased by approximately \$1,250,000 over the previous month. There were no questions. **Motion made by Keister, seconded by Sontag, to approve the Treasurer's Report for the month of July, 2024.** Trustees Dugger, Perkhiser, Tweedy, Keister, and Sontag voted aye, nays none. Motion carried 5-0.

**BILLS**

**GENERAL FUND**

**Motion by Tweedy, seconded by Perkhiser, authorizing payment of bills in the amount of \$423,506.69.** Trustees Dugger, Perkhiser, Tweedy, Keister, and Sontag voted aye, nays none. Motion carried 5-0.

**WATER & SEWER FUND**

**Motion by Keister, seconded by Dugger, authorizing payment of bills in the amount of \$400,538.62.** Trustees Dugger, Perkhiser, Tweedy, Keister, and Sontag voted aye, nays none. Motion carried 5-0.

**GARBAGE FUND**

**Motion by Tweedy, seconded by Keister, authorizing payment of bills in the amount of \$56,310.30.** Trustees Dugger, Perkhiser, Tweedy, Keister, and Sontag voted aye, nays none. Motion carried 5-0.

Monthly committees will meet on Monday, August 26, 2024, at 6pm. The next Village Board meeting is scheduled for September 9, 2024, at 7:00pm.

Having no further business, a **motion to adjourn the meeting was made by Keister, seconded by Perkhiser.** All voted aye viva voce. Meeting adjourned at 7:36pm.

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Sue Lowrance, Village Clerk

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Gary Bost, Mayor