

VILLAGE BOARD MEETING
Bethalto, IL
October 14, 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, Keister, Mull and Sontag. Trustee Tweedy 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 Keister, seconded by Mull, to approve village board meeting minutes of September 9, 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 161 calls for the month of September, bringing the year-to-date total to 1399. Buhs updated the board on the two new trucks: the rescue truck is waiting for parts and the pumper truck is on track to be delivered in March. There were no questions.

Chief Lamb presented the Police Department’s activity report for September. The new taser equipment has arrived and four of our officers were trained by the company; those officers will in turn train the remainder of our personnel. The Fire & Police Commission has completed all but one oral interview; an updated hire list is expected by the end of next week. CMHS Homecoming week was successful, with minimal incidents. Lamb thanked public works for their assistance with parade prep. There were no questions.

Public Works Director Cheatham presented his departmental reports, noting 7 main breaks due to dry conditions. Fall flushing is being completed now and expected to last through October. Our CIPP project is completed, coming in under budget at \$8.2 million; Cheatham noted we have seen a vast improvement in our system with these linings in place. New benches have been installed along the Plegge pathway, and traffic signal work has started at Ashbrook & Plegge. Engineering work is completed for the resurfacing of Plegge and is expected to be put out for bid in January. There were no questions.

Mayor Bost presented the Building & Zoning department's monthly report, noting that occupancy permits are down, likely due to fewer people moving. Commercial work is progressing on the Cedarhurst expansion and the Senior Living Apartments on South Prairie. Bonar Boutique has relocated to Airline Drive, and a new café will be occupying the basement of that building soon. Mayor announced that the old Pizza Hut was not purchased by Mac's as rumors have stated, but that a local family purchased it with plans to open a business there. Bost said he will let the business owner make any announcements when he is ready. There were no questions.

GUESTS/PUBLIC COMMENT:

There were no guests or public comments.

RESOLUTIONS

Resolution 2024-12 A Resolution Authorizing Execution of Fourth Amendment to Lease Agreement was presented. This authorizes an extension of our agreement with Verizon for the cell tower equipment on the Fifth Street water tower, as discussed in committee meetings. This agreement allows for up to a 20-year renewal, in 4 5-year options, starting in March, 2027. The annual rent will be \$22k annually, increasing by 4% each year. **Motion made by Mull, seconded by Keister, to approve Resolution 2024-12 A Resolution Authorizing**

Execution of Fourth Amendment to Lease Agreement. Trustees Dugger, Perkhiser, Keister, Mull and Sontag voted aye; nays none. Motion carried 5-0.

ORDINANCES

Ordinance 2024-16 An Ordinance Amending Chapter 6-Building Code was presented. This updates our building code as it relates to Orangeburg pipe, as it was previously not addressed. **Motion made by Mull, seconded by Sontag, to approve Ordinance 2024-16 An Ordinance Amending Chapter 6-Building Code.** Trustees Dugger, Perkhiser, Keister, Mull and Sontag voted aye; nays none. Motion carried 5-0.

Ordinance 2024-17 An Ordinance Amending Bethalto Ordinance 2014-29 To Amend Territory of the Riverbend Enterprise Zone was presented. This amends the zone to include a small parcel of land that houses a tank washing company at the request of the Village of Roxana. Bethalto does not give up anything to approve this, it is just a requirement of all municipalities in the zone to approve any amendments. **Motion made by Keister, seconded by Dugger, to approve Ordinance 2024-17 An Ordinance Amending Bethalto Ordinance 2014-29 To Amend Territory of the Riverbend Enterprise Zone.** Trustees Dugger, Perkhiser, Keister, Mull and Sontag voted aye; nays none. Motion carried 5-0.

REPORTS FROM THE MAYOR:

Mayor Bost stated that the Village's medical insurance is set for renewal on November 1st. As discussed in committee, a renewal with United Health Care is recommended for the term of one year. UHC's renewal came in with an increase in premiums of 19.9%; the only other bid received was from Blue Cross, at a 28.23% increase. Finance Administrator Randolph reviewed the estimated new costs based on current employee signups and noted that expenses would be approximately \$1,012,397.80, which is under our budgeted amount of

\$1,020,000.00. Bost noted that medical insurance is our second biggest expense, but that we anticipated this and had budgeted for an increase. There were no questions. **Motion made by Mull, seconded by Keister, to accept the bid of United Health Care for the 2024-2025 medical insurance renewal.** Trustees Dugger, Perkhiser, Keister, Mull and Sontag voted aye; nays none. Motion carried 5-0.

Façade grants have been awarded to Bethalto American Legion, Creative Flooring, Farm Fresh, and Rose Lawn Cemetery. Early voting will be held at Village Hall October 21-25 and October 28-November 1, with Election Day being November 5. Polling places are open on Election Day from 6am – 7pm. The Halloween Parade and Trunk or Treat is set for October 28 at 6:30, and per Village Code, Trick or Treating is October 30 & 31 from 6-8pm. Village offices will be closed November 11 for Veterans Day; therefore, the November board meeting will be held Tuesday, November 12th.

MONTHLY TREASURER’S REPORT:

The September Treasurer’s Report was presented by Finance Administrator/Treasurer Aleisha Randolph. Revenue and notable expenses were reviewed, and the ending cash balance increased by nearly \$780,000 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 September, 2024.** Trustees Dugger, Perkhiser, Keister, Mull and Sontag voted aye, nays none. Motion carried 5-0.

BILLS

GENERAL FUND

Motion by Perkhiser, seconded by Mull, authorizing payment of bills in the amount of \$358,443.91. Trustees Dugger, Perkhiser, Keister, Mull and Sontag voted aye, nays none. Motion carried 5-0.

WATER & SEWER FUND

Motion by Keister, seconded by Mull, authorizing payment of bills in the amount of \$636,553.88. Trustees Dugger, Perkhiser, Keister, Mull and Sontag voted aye, nays none.
Motion carried 5-0.

LIABILITY FUND

Motion by Mull, seconded by Dugger, authorizing payment of bills in the amount of \$172,257.13. Trustees Dugger, Perkhiser, Keister, Mull and Sontag voted aye, nays none.
Motion carried 5-0.

GARBAGE FUND

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

Monthly committees will meet on Monday, October 28, 2024, at 6pm. The next Village Board meeting is scheduled for Tuesday, November 12, 2024, at 7:00pm.

Having no further business, a **motion to adjourn the meeting was made by Keister, seconded by Mull.** All voted aye viva voce. Meeting adjourned at 7:17pm.

Sue Lowrance, Village Clerk

Gary Bost, Mayor