

**VILLAGE BOARD MEETING**  
**Bethalto, IL**  
**January 13, 2025**  
**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, Mull and Sontag. Also present: Public Works Director Rod Cheatham, Police Chief Jason Lamb, Jeremiah Grant of the Fire Department, 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 December 9, 2024, as printed.** All members voted aye viva voce. Motion carried 6-0.

**REPORTS FROM DEPARTMENTAL SUPERVISORS:**

Acting Fire Chief Jeremiah Grant presented the monthly Fire Department report. There were 150 calls in December and 2 structure fires. The department ended 2024 with 1,770 calls, which is down 83 from 2023. Paperwork has started for the ISO audit which is due in March. The department is seeking grant funding for various projects, and a small \$200 grant has already been received. There were no questions.

Police Chief Lamb presented the Police Department’s activity report for December. He commended our Public Works crews for the outstanding job done on the roadways during the recent snow events, and stated we had zero traffic crashes related to road conditions. Our officers are covering animal control while Paul Hamby is out on medical leave. Annual training has been scheduled for firearms, CPR, and other requirements. Officer White is in his second week at the Academy and is enjoying it thus far. Trustee Tweedy asked if there

have been any issues or complaints regarding the Plegge/Ashbrook stoplights; there have been no accidents and no issues with traffic flow. There were no further questions.

Public Works Director Cheatham presented his departmental reports as provided, specifically noting no main breaks in December. There was a major snow event earlier this month and crews did an excellent job of maintaining roads and handling snow removal during that storm. Work is being done on the old water office and museum. There were no questions.

Mayor Bost presented the Building & Zoning department's monthly report, noting a very quiet month. Code enforcement is down, partly due to Paul Hamby being out of the office for medical reasons. Work is continuing at the South Prairie Senior Apartments and the Old Pizza Hut building, which is expected to house a restaurant. There were no questions.

**GUESTS/PUBLIC COMMENT:**

Angela Richards of E. Main Street addressed the board with concerns over water quality and frequent discolored water complaints she has and that several other residents have expressed on social media. Richards stated that it is a recurring problem at her home and that she finds it troublesome; she questioned the water's safety for cooking, cleaning, and bathing. Richards questioned if flushing lines, which she cited is the frequent reason given for the discolored water, is scheduled throughout the year. PW Director Cheatham addressed her concerns, stating that the most recent flushing was not scheduled, but necessary after the Village was made aware of and replaced two broken valves in a couple of lines. The hydraulics used in flushing the system will stir up any sediment, which is often found in dead-end areas of lines, and that sediment causes the discoloration. Cheatham stated the water "isn't pretty" but is safe, and that more recent, frequent reports of discoloration has led him to believe that our regular flushing schedule should be modified to flush in Spring, Summer, and Fall to help lower the sediment levels. Richards asked that notifications be

made to residents in these cases. Cheatham further stated that discolored water can also be caused by water main breaks, use of hydrants by the fire department in cases of fire, and even internally in a home due to clogged filtration systems. Running cold water into your bathtub for 5-10 minutes usually clears the lines of sediment and the water will run clean. Mayor stated that any time a resident has discolored water, they should notify the water office to report the issue; Richards stated when she has called in the past, she has been told there have been no other complaints. Cheatham stated that since there are a variety of reasons for discolored water, we may not realize there is an issue until we see a pattern of complaints and he agreed that any discolored water should be reported. Water quality is tested at random test sites twice monthly and these samples are submitted to the EPA. Richards questioned if all contaminants are tested for; Cheatham said not everything is checked with each test, but that anything that is required is tested at the appropriate frequency. Testing does not increase during times of flushing.

## **RESOLUTIONS**

**Resolution 2025-01 A Resolution to Accept All Subdivision Infrastructure Improvements in the Villas at Richland Estates Subdivision** was presented. This accepts ownership of the infrastructure of the subdivision for operational public maintenance. Some of the installed water intakes, etc. have degraded since installation, but have since been repaired. Cheatham has inspected all infrastructure and stated everything is now in good working order. A bond is in place for the remaining sidewalks, and the maintenance agreement in place would be assigned to any subsequent owner should the property be sold. **Motion made by Keister, seconded by Mull, to approve Resolution 2025-01 A Resolution to Accept All Subdivision Infrastructure Improvements in the Villas at Richland Estates Subdivision.** Trustees Dugger, Perkhiser, Tweedy, Keister, Mull and Sontag voted aye; nays none. Motion carried 6-0.

## **ORDINANCES**

There were no ordinances presented for consideration.

## **REPORTS FROM THE MAYOR:**

Village offices will be closed January 20, 2025, for Martin Luther King, Jr. Day.

## **MONTHLY TREASURER'S REPORT:**

The December Treasurer's Report was presented by Finance Administrator/Treasurer Aleisha Randolph. Revenue and notable expenses were reviewed; the ending cash balance increased from the previous month and stands at \$14,712,550. There were no questions. **Motion made by Mull, seconded by Keister, to approve the Treasurer's Report for the month of December, 2024.** Trustees Dugger, Perkhiser, Tweedy, Keister, Mull, and Sontag voted aye, nays none. Motion carried 6-0.

## **BILLS**

### **GENERAL FUND**

**Motion by Mull, seconded by Tweedy, authorizing payment of bills in the amount of \$189,471.51.** Trustees Dugger, Perkhiser, Tweedy, Keister, Mull and Sontag voted aye, nays none. Motion carried 6-0.

### **WATER & SEWER FUND**

**Motion by Keister, seconded by Dugger, authorizing payment of bills in the amount of \$972,321.24.** Trustees Dugger, Perkhiser, Tweedy, Keister, Mull and Sontag voted aye, nays none. Motion carried 6-0.

**AUDIT FUND**

**Motion by Keister, seconded by Mull, authorizing payment of bills in the amount of \$21,100.00.** Trustees Dugger, Perkhiser, Tweedy, Keister, Mull and Sontag voted aye; nays none. Motion carried 6-0.

**GARBAGE FUND**

**Motion by Mull, seconded by Tweedy, authorizing payment of bills in the amount of \$62,351.54.** Trustees Dugger, Perkhiser, Tweedy, Keister, Mull and Sontag voted aye, nays none. Motion carried 6-0.

**BUSINESS DISTRICT FUND**

**Motion by Perkhiser, seconded by Sontag, authorizing payment of bills in the amount of \$25,000.00.** Trustees Dugger, Perkhiser, Tweedy, Keister, Mull and Sontag voted aye, nays none. Motion carried 6-0.

**Mayor Bost announced the need to enter Executive Session per Chapter 5 ILCS Act 120 Section 2 (c) (2) Collective Bargaining.** Entered executive session at 7:24pm.

Reconvened into regular session at 7:59pm. **Motion made by Mull, seconded by Dugger, to approve Executive Session minutes from December 9, 2024, as presented.** Trustees Dugger, Perkhiser, Tweedy, Keister, Mull and Sontag voted aye, nays none. Motion carried 6-0.

Monthly committees, if necessary, will meet January 27, 2025, at 6pm. The next Village Board meeting is scheduled for February 10, 2025, 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 8:01pm.

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Sue Lowrance, Village Clerk

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Gary Bost, Mayor