

**VILLAGE OF BETHALTO
COMMITTEE MEETING MINUTES
JULY 27, 2026, 6:00PM
VILLAGE HALL COUNCIL CHAMBERS**

Members Present:

Gary Bost	Brady Dugger	Maria Perkhiser	Terri Keister
Jeff Mull	Rachel Sontag	Jay Wright	

Also Present:

Village Clerk Sue Lowrance	Public Works Director Rod Cheatham
Police Chief Ryan Dugger	

The meeting was called to order by Mayor Gary Bost at 6:00pm in the Council Chambers of Village Hall.

Park Hours Discussion

There have been a few resident concerns about Village park hours, loitering in the parks, and traffic issues surrounding Central Park, the Splash Pad, tennis courts, pickleball courts, etc. and Mayor would like to discuss whether our park hours ordinance should be amended. Whereas we don't want to discourage use of any of our parks, we do need to have enforceable rules and hours set so that the police have a leg to stand on when following up on complaints. There was discussion of setting hours to "close at dusk" except for lighted park areas as well as discussion of setting a closing time of midnight rather than 10pm. Everyone agreed that loitering concerns need to be addressed, and we are hoping that installation of cameras at the Splash Pad and courts will help alleviate some of these issues. Bost added that no changes will be made immediately, but that he wanted this discussion started so that we can tweak anything necessary and welcomes input from trustees. We will revisit the topic at a future committee meeting prior to making any changes.

Zoning Change Request

There is a Planning & Zoning Board meeting later this month to consider the request of the new owners of the old Methodist Church property on N. Prairie to rezone the parcels from RS8 to AG. The change will allow them to construct a home and hobby farm on the site. If zoned AG, our requirements must be met but Madison County rules will dictate the type and number of farm animals allowed. Mayor encouraged trustees to attend the public hearing and meeting to hear the proposal and discussion first-hand.

Neighbor Dispute-discussion

Mayor Bost informed the board about an ongoing property line and water run-off dispute between two neighbors, in case any of the trustees get phone calls over the situation. Two neighbors are arguing over the location of their property line (which has since been surveyed) and about water run-off issues during heavy rains. There are currently no ordinance violations

involved so the Village has no authority to handle any of the concerns, so it is entirely a civil matter at this point, but Bost wanted everyone informed in case either resident decides to address the board.

Kratom

Mayor updated the board that Hit n Run had been selling Kratom products under their new ownership. Our PD went in and confiscated those products this past month. The new owners stated they were unaware that they were violating Village ordinances and stated they will not bring such products in for sale in the future.

Towing MOU

There have been some issues with inconsistency in towing bills recently and Chief Dugger would like to incorporate a memo of understanding with our local towing companies so that charges are in writing and consistent. Dugger stated there was a recent complaint from a resident that they were charged too much and that “gate fees” were being charged as well. Dugger will do further investigation and return with a suggested course of action that will include a rotation of local towing companies and written, reasonable fees.

Having no further items for discussion, the meeting was adjourned at 6:27pm.

Sue Lowrance, Village Clerk