VILLAGE BOARD MEETING
Bethalto, IL
October 12, 2026
Council Chambers, Village Hall
213 N. Prairie Street, Bethalto, Illinois

The Village Board of Trustees held its regular meeting on the above date in the Village Hall Council Chambers. Mayor Gary Bost called the meeting to order at 7:00 p.m., followed by the Pledge of Allegiance. Village Clerk Sue Lowrance called the roll. Present were Trustees Dugger, Perkhiser, Keister, Mull, Sontag, and Wright. Also present were Police Chief Ryan Dugger, Public Works Director Rod Cheatham, Finance Administrator Aleisha Randolph, Assistant Fire Chief Dan Bartels, and Village Attorney Amy Gabriel.

A motion was made by Wright, seconded by Mull, to approve the village board meeting minutes of September 14, 2026, as printed. All members voted aye viva voce. Motion carried 6-0.

REPORTS FROM DEPARTMENTAL SUPERVISORS:

Assistant Fire Chief Dan Bartels reviewed the fire department's September statistical report, which recorded 162 calls for service. The department remains on pace to match last year's run total. The StarComm radio system is operational, with a few pager issues still being resolved. Truck 2250 remains out of service with a blown pump and is awaiting repairs from Banner Fire. The department is applying for a $50,000 small equipment grant and recently received a $10,000 donation from Phillips 66 for AEDs. There were no questions.

Police Chief Ryan Dugger presented the department's monthly activity report, noting 652 calls for service. He reported that the CM Homecoming parade and pictures went well and thanked the Public Works Department for its assistance with both events. Central Street was temporarily converted to one-way traffic during pictures at the Arboretum and Central Park, which received positive feedback. There were no questions.

Public Works Director Cheatham presented his departmental reports and summarized recently completed work. Four water main breaks occurred this month. Fall flushing is underway, with few, if any, complaints received. Mill and overlay work on Whispering Oaks Drive is scheduled within the next two weeks. There were no questions.

The monthly Building & Zoning report reviewed permits, provided updates on commercial projects, and noted current property violations. Violations have decreased as tall grass complaints have declined. There were no questions.

GUESTS/PUBLIC COMMENT:

Rusty Wheat of the local "Chain Gang" roadside cleanup crew asked the Village to consider banning the sale of miniature alcohol bottles, which he said are the most common items he collects during cleanups. Over the past three years, Wheat has collected more than 3,000 bags of trash and said the small bottles have become a significant problem. He noted that other municipalities have enacted similar bans and plans to seek support for such a law from additional communities.

Marc Bargiel, 7 Oak Crest Drive, expressed support for the Chain Gang, Mr. Wheat's work with the crew, and the proposed ordinance.

Mayor Bost informed the guests that we would discuss this in committee meetings and investigate the legalities as well, then thanked both gentlemen for attending and voicing their concerns.

RESOLUTIONS

Resolution 2026-07 A Resolution Authorizing Request to Intervene to the Board of Review was presented. This authorizes the Village Attorney to act on behalf of the Village

in the matter of Excel BT vs the Madison County Board of Review for their property tax assessment appeal. Attorney Gabriel noted there has already been a meeting regarding this appeal, and the petitioner did not appear so this will likely be withdrawn; however, this authorizes Gabriel to intervene on behalf of the Village. **Motion made by Mull, seconded by Keister, to approve Resolution 2026-07 A Resolution Authorizing Request to Intervene to the Board of Review.** Trustees Dugger, Perkhiser, Keister, Mull, Sontag and Wright voted aye, nays none. Motion carried 6-0.

ORDINANCES

There were no ordinances presented for consideration.

REPORTS FROM THE MAYOR:

The Fall round of Business District Façade Grants was announced as discussed in committee meetings. This round of awards totaled $165,000.

The Planning & Zoning board will be holding a public hearing and meeting on November 19th due to the Thanksgiving holiday.

MONTHLY TREASURER'S REPORT:

The September Treasurer's Report was presented by Finance Administrator Randolph. Our cash balance increased from the previous month and stands at $18,074,122. There were no questions. **Motion made by Perkhiser, seconded by Dugger, to approve the Treasurer's Report for the month of September 2026.** Trustees Dugger, Perkhiser, Keister, Mull, Sontag and Wright voted aye, nays none. Motion carried 6-0.

BILLS

GENERAL FUND

Motion by Keister, seconded by Wright, authorizing payment of bills in the amount of $169,059.65. Trustees Dugger, Perkhiser, Keister, Mull, Sontag and Wright voted aye, nays none. Motion carried 6-0.

WATER & SEWER FUND

Motion by Mull, seconded by Sontag, authorizing payment of bills in the amount of $182,449.75. Trustees Dugger, Perkhiser, Keister, Mull, Sontag and Wright voted aye, nays none. Motion carried 6-0.

INSURANCE FUND

Motion by Perkhiser, seconded by Mull, authorizing payment of bills in the amount of $184,376.71. Trustees Dugger, Perkhiser, Keister, Mull, Sontag and Wright voted aye, nays none. Motion carried 6-0.

GARBAGE FUND

Motion by Mull, seconded by Wright, authorizing payment of bills in the amount of $60,845.16. Trustees Dugger, Perkhiser, Keister, Mull, Sontag and Wright voted aye, nays none. Motion carried 6-0.

BUSINESS DISTRICT

Motion by Mull, seconded by Keister, authorizing payment of bills in the amount of $37,500.00. Trustees Dugger, Perkhiser, Keister, Mull, Sontag and Wright voted aye, nays none. Motion carried 6-0.

The October committee meeting will be held on October 26, 2026, beginning at 6pm; the next regularly scheduled Village Board meeting will be held on November 9, 2026, at 7:00pm.

Having no further business, a **motion to adjourn the meeting was made by Dugger, seconded by Perkhiser.** All voted aye viva voce. Meeting adjourned at 7:18pm.

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Sue Lowrance, Village Clerk Gary Bost, Mayor