

**VILLAGE OF BELLWOOD
BOARD MEETING MINUTES
December 20, 2023 – 6:00 p.m.
2nd Floor - Board Room**

Call to Order

The Board meeting of the Board of Trustees of the Village of Bellwood was called to order by Mayor Harvey at 6:00 p.m. on Wednesday, December 20, 2023.

Roll Call

Present: Mayor Andre Harvey, Village Clerk Janel Moreland, Trustees Ciavattone, Boston, Holman, Robinson, Delgado, and Nightengale.

Pledge of Allegiance

The Village Board and others in attendance recited the Pledge of Allegiance led by Mayor Harvey.

Approval of Agenda

Mayor Harvey requested a motion to approve the December 20, 2023, board meeting agenda. Trustee Delgado moved, seconded by Trustee Boston to approve the board meeting agenda. Upon a voice vote, the motion was carried unanimously to approve the December 20, 2023, Board Meeting Agenda.

Approval of Minutes:

Mayor Harvey requested a motion to approve the minutes of the last Special Board meeting (November 6, 2023). Trustee Nightengale moved, seconded by Trustee Delgado, to dispense with the reading of the minutes of the November 6, 2023, Special Board meeting and approve the minutes as presented. Upon a voice vote, the motion was carried unanimously.

Presentation:

Tisa Jones Administrator for the Village of Broadview. Presented Gay Chase with an award for joining her, Mayor Thompson, Mayor Harvey, about 15 students and the village of Maywood, on the trip to Atlanta for the National League of Cities Conference.

Mayor Harvey - Gay Chase took control of the situation of the children and planned different events for them. Mayor Harvey presented Gay Chase with a letter from himself and Mayor Thompson. **Mayor Harvey** - Thanks for all you do for the residents, the communities, and other municipalities. Mayor Harvey presented Gay Chase with an envelope from the Village of Bellwood, the Trustees, the Village of Broadview, all of us. **Mayor Harvey** – You can open it in front of all of us and show your gift. We thought we'd give you something that always goes and goes. Gay Chase opened the envelope to reveal a monetary gift.

Gay Chase – Thank you Mayor Katrina and Mayor Harvey because it's a pleasure. When you look at elected officials and the two of them, you find people who are truly genuine to serving the communities that they are sworn to represent, so it's a pleasure to have the opportunity to work with both of you. Anything I can do in the future, I'm more than happy to do because of the work that the both of you have done in the Proviso Township, so thank you both and trustees.

Committee Reports

A. Public Works Department

Trustee Ciavattone reported the following:

I have several items to report for the month of November 2023.

- Water main breaks - 3, Sewer mains jetted – 1, Street light head replaced 1, Street signs replaced – 21, Sidewalk inspections – 19, potholes filled throughout the village – 52.
- Tree maintenance: trees removed-4, trees trimmed – 98, stumps removed -1

We are recommending the following items on the consent agenda:

- Item G – Approves the agreement of demolition of the St. Charles Road properties.
- Item K – Approves the Resolution pertaining to IDOT Maintenance of the roads.
- Item M - Approves the engineering agreement for the Maywood Drive resurfacing project.

Merry Christmas and Happy New Year. Always remember our first responders, medical personnel, military personnel, active duty, veterans, and volunteers. Gave the meaning of Memorial Day.

B. Community Development

Trustee Boston reported the following:

There are several items to report from the Community Development Committee.

- The ribbon cutting for the new Dunkin Donuts located at 545 25th Avenue was held on Tuesday, December 12th. The new location is very modern and spacious.
- The ribbon cutting for the new senior's apartment located at 542 25th Avenue was held on Wednesday, December 13th. 60 of the 80 units are already occupied and several interviews are expected for the remainder. Tenants must be 62 years of age with a maximum yearly income of \$46,380 per person or \$52,980 per couple.

We are recommending the following items from the Consent Agenda:

- Item E – Approves an agreement with a real estate broker.
- Item H – Approves an agreement for an environmental study for the St. Charles Road properties.
- Item I – Approves the insurance of TIF Funds.
- Item J – Approves the insurance for Revenue Bonds.
- Item L – Establishes regulations pertaining to workforce housing.

C. Quality of Life

Trustee Holman reported the following:

- The committee of Quality of Life, Bellwood Community Resource Center monthly activity from November 1 – November 30, 2023, had 79 patrons.
- The Building Department approved 200 permits in the month of November and 180 permits were picked up.

We are recommending the following items from the Consent Agenda:

- Item D – Approves a conditional use for the property commonly referred to as 1002-1004 Bellwood Avenue.

D. Administration

Trustee Robinson reported the following:

We have one item on the Consent Agenda:

- Item C – Approves the meeting dates for next year.

F. Public Safety

Trustee Delgado reported the following:

We are recommending the following items from the Consent Agenda:

- Item F – Approves an ordinance pertaining to the paid leave for all workers.

D. Finance Committee

Trustee Nightengale reported the following:

I would like a motion to pay bills in the amount of \$9,287,497.12 when funds become available.

Trustee Ciavattone moved, seconded by Trustee Holman, to pay the bills when funds become available.

The results of the roll call vote are as follows:

Ayes:	6	Trustees Ciavattone, Boston, Holman, Robinson, Delgado, and Nightengale
Nays:	0	
Abstain:	0	
Absent:	0	

We are recommending the following items from the Consent Agenda:

- Item A – Adopts the real estate tax levy.
- Item B – Abates the collection of the bond payments.

Ad Hoc Committees: Nothing to report.

Ordinance 23-15

- A. An Ordinance Levying Taxes for the Corporate Purposes and Special Funds for the Fiscal Period Commencing on the First Day of January 2024 and Ending on the Thirty-First Day of December 2024 for the Village of Bellwood and the Bellwood Public Library, Illinois – 2023 Real Estate Tax Levy.

Ordinance 23-16

- B. An Ordinance Abating Taxes Levied for Levy Year 2023, by Ordinance Adopted by the Board of Trustees of the Village of Bellwood, Cook County, Illinois, providing for the Issuance of General Obligation Refunding Bonds, Series 2014, General Obligation Refunding Bonds, Series 2015, General Obligation Refunding Bonds, Series 2016B, and General Obligation Refunding Bonds, Series 2021 of the Village of Bellwood and providing for the Levy and Collection of a Direct Annual Tax for the Payment of the Principal of and Interest on the Bonds.

Resolution 23-68

- C. A Resolution Establishing Regular Board Meeting Dates and Times for Calendar Year 2024.

Ordinance 23-17

- D. An Ordinance Granting a Conditional Use for the Property Commonly referred to as 1002-1004 Bellwood Avenue, Bellwood, Illinois 60104.

Resolution 23-69

- E. A Resolution Approving and Authorizing the Execution of an Agreement by and between the Village of Bellwood and Angela Walker Homes Real Estate Group.

Ordinance 23-18

- F. An Ordinance Excluding the Village of Bellwood, Cook County, Illinois, as a Municipal Employer from Coverage under the Paid Leave for All Workers Act.

Resolution 23-70

- G. A Resolution Approving and Authorizing the Execution of an Agreement by and between the Village of Bellwood and Green Demolition Contractors, Inc.

Resolution 23-71

- H. A Resolution Approving and Authorizing the Execution of an Agreement by and between the Village of Bellwood and Pioneer Engineering & Environmental Services, LLC.

Ordinance 23-19

- I. An Ordinance providing for the Issuance of not to exceed \$25,000,000 Tax Increment Revenue Bonds, Series 2024 (Bellwood Workforce Housing Project), of the Village of Bellwood, Cook County, Illinois and providing for the Execution of a Trust Indenture in Connection Therewith.

Ordinance 23-20

- J. An Ordinance Authorizing the Issuance of not to exceed \$35,000,000 Workforce Housing Revenue Bonds, Series 2024, of the Village of Bellwood, Cook County, Illinois, and related matters in connection therewith.

Resolution 23-72

- K. Resolution for Maintenance Under the Illinois Highway Code.

Ordinance 23-21

- L. An Ordinance Establishing the need for Affordable, Decent, Safe and Sanitary Rental Housing available in the Village of Bellwood for Persons in the Workforce who may not Qualify for Subsidized Housing and Determining certain Parameters for the Village of Bellwood in Connection therewith, and related matters.

Resolution 23-73

- M. A Resolution Approving and Authorizing the Execution of an Agreement by and between the Village of Bellwood and Edwin Hancock Engineering, Co.

Mayor Harvey requested a motion to place the items on the Consent Agenda as presented. Trustee Holman moved, seconded by Trustee Boston.

The results of the roll call vote are as follows:

Ayes:	6	Trustees Ciavattone, Boston, Holman, Robinson, Delgado, and Nightengale
Nays:	0	
Abstain:	0	
Absent:	0	

Mayor Harvey requested a motion to approve the Consent Agenda as presented. Ciavattone, seconded by Trustee Delgado.

The results of the roll call vote are as follows:

Ayes:	6	Trustees Ciavattone, Boston, Holman, Robinson, Delgado, and Nightengale
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Nays: 0
Abstain: 0
Absent: 0

Village Clerk's Report

The Village Clerk no longer gives a report, and it has been removed from the Board Meeting Agenda at the request of Mayor Harvey.

Mayor's Report

Mayor Harvey reported the following:

- i. Thanks to Judge Gay Chase and all these department heads and volunteers. We had Christmas in Proviso at Proviso West HS. It was a phenomenal event. So many people to come together for a great cause to spread peace, love, and joy to the less fortunate families. We purchased gifts and food for the families. We had over 400 people in attendance. Thanks to the department heads for decorating the field house. Thanks to the village of Broadview for always being our partner in everything that we do.
- ii. We had our 1st annual Christmas parade and tree lighting ceremony in the village of Bellwood. We had about 750 people or more that came out. We had residents from Woodridge, Lombard and Naperville that came to this event.
- iii. Senior Bldg. is open and the new Dunkin Donuts ribbon cutting.
- iv. Had the breakfast with Santa over 250 attendees.
- v. Tomorrow, from 3-5pm in the community room, District 88 will have a Fireside chat with the superintendent to talk to residents. To talk about the future of District 88 and our village in partnership and collaboration with District 88 will be moving our community forward.
- vi. Last Saturday, we gave out food bags to our seniors and needy residents. We gave 250 to our seniors. We will give out more turkeys within the next couple of days for anyone that is needy or for a Christmas dinner.

New Business:

None.

Unfinished Business:

None.

Public Comment:

Mayor Harvey requested a motion to open the floor for Public Comment.

Trustee Delgado made a motion and Trustee Boston seconded to open the floor for public comment.

All Trustees were in favor of opening the floor. Upon a voice vote, the motion was carried unanimously.

Mayor Harvey declared the floor for public comment open.

Amy Crump Bellwood Director gave the library report –

Thanks for the holiday light parade and Christmas in Proviso. Amy Crump read her director's report and the Bellwood Banned Book Club that was initiated by library board member Felecia Chase.

A copy of both reports is provided within your minutes.

Mayor Harvey requested a motion to close the floor for Public Comment.

Trustee Delgado made a motion and Trustee Boston seconded to open the floor for public comment.

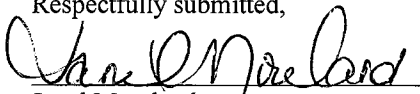
All Trustees were in favor of opening the floor. Upon a voice vote, the motion was carried unanimously.

Mayor Harvey declared the floor for public comment open.

Adjournment:

Mayor Harvey requested a motion to adjourn the Board meeting. Trustee Ciavattone moved, seconded by Trustee Boston, to adjourn the meeting. Upon a voice vote, the motion was carried unanimously. Mayor Harvey declared the meeting adjourned, with no further business to come before this Board, this meeting stands adjourned at 6:23p.m.

Respectfully submitted,



Janel Moreland

Village Clerk

**Director's Report to Village
December 2023**

In November, the Bellwood Library had 3,613 visitors.

Our newest Trustee, Felicia Chase has initiated the Bellwood Banned Book Club with the Grand Kickoff Meeting on January 17, 2024 at 7:00 pm. (note to self – read announcement.)

The Library will be closed on Saturday December 23, as our observed Christmas Eve holiday, on Monday December 25, Saturday December 30 as our observed New Year's Eve holiday and Monday, January 1, 2024.



BELLWOOD BANNED BOOK CLUB

GRAND KICKOFF MEETING

The Bellwood Public Library's Bellwood Banned Book Club Program (the BBB) core objective is to promulgate the "Anti- Book Banning" Illinois State Law (HB2789) effective January 1, 2024 and 5.5.1. Policy Statement for the Bellwood Public Library against banning books or other materials adopted by the Bellwood Board of Library Trustees June 13, 2023. The BBB Program will read and discuss one of the current nationally challenged books monthly in a group forum that is safe, respectful, and open to all Bellwood Public Library Patrons 14 years of age and older. Open Forum Discussion will be held monthly, Third Wednesday (7- 9 PM), in the Bellwood Library's Meeting Room, with Special Invited Guest(s).

WHERE:

Bellwood Public Library's Meeting Room

Bellwood Public Library, 600 Bohland Ave, Bellwood, IL 60104

WHEN:

Wednesday, January 17, 2024, at 7:00 PM

All Open Forum Discussion will take place on the Third Wednesday of the Month (7- 9 PM)

BOOK:

All Boys Aren't Blue Author: George M. Johnson Library has copies of said book available now for check out. *Kindly inquiry with staff.*

Number of challenges: 86

Challenged for: LGBTQIA+ content, claimed to be sexually explicit.

A "young adult non-fiction ["memoir-manifesto"](#) by journalist and activist [George M. Johnson](#),^[1] published April 28, 2020, by [Farrar, Straus and Giroux](#).

The book consists of a series of essays following Johnson's journey growing up as a queer Black man in [Plainfield, New Jersey](#),^[2] and Virginia. In addition to describing Johnson's own experience, it directly addresses Black queer boys who may not have someone in their life with similar experiences.^[3]



¹ https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/All_Boys_Aren't_Blue