

**VILLAGE OF BELLWOOD  
COMMITTEE OF THE WHOLE MEETING MINUTES  
February 12, 2024**

The Village of Bellwood conducted a Committee of the Whole meeting on Monday, February 12, 2024, at 3:30p.m. in the Village Board Room at 3200 Washington Boulevard, Bellwood, IL. 60104-1984.

**Call to Order**

The Committee of the Whole meeting of the Board of Trustees of the Village of Bellwood was called to order by Mayor Harvey at 3:30p.m. on Monday, February 12, 2024.

**Roll Call**

Those in attendance were Mayor Harvey, Clerk Janel Moreland, Trustees Ciavattone, Boston, Holman, Robinson, Delgado, Nightengale, Willie Norfleet (Finance), Attorney Michael Castaldo.

1. Pledge of Allegiance
2. Approve Minutes of last Committee of a Whole Meeting
3. Approve Agenda for Committee of a Whole Meeting
4. Trustee Committee Reports
  - a. Public Works – Trustee Ciavattone, Chairman; Trustee Delgado, Member
  - b. Community Development – Trustee Boston, Chairman; Trustee Robinson, Member
  - c. Quality of Life - Trustee Holman, Chairman; Trustee Boston, Member
  - d. Administration – Trustee Robinson, Chairman; Trustee Ciavattone
  - e. Public Safety – Trustee Delgado, Chairman; Trustee Nightengale, Member
  - f. Finance – Trustee Nightengale, Chairman; Trustee Holman, Member
  - g. Ad Hoc Committees – Traffic Safety
5. Department Head Reports
  - a. Economic Development
    - i. Capital Project
    - ii. Developmental Projects
  - b. Finance Director/Comptroller
    - i. Utility Collection Billing and collection Status
    - ii. Payments of Bills
    - iii. Review of Revenue and Investments
    - iv. Inventory
    - v. Bidding
  - c. Police Department – Police Chief
  - d. Fire Department – Fire Chief
  - e. Director of Public Works
    - i. Street Department
    - ii. Water Department
  - f. Village Engineer
  - g. Building Commissioner
  - h. Director of Human Resources
  - i. Village Attorney/Corporation Counsel
    - i. Litigation (item to be reported on in executive session if required)
    - ii. Contract negotiations (item to be reported on in executive session if required), and
    - iii. Pending legal matters.
6. Clerk's Report – Per Mayor Harvey & Attorney Castaldo, the clerk will no longer give a report and Attorney Castaldo removed it from the agenda.
7. Mayor's Report
8. New Business – Discussion/Agenda Items for upcoming board meeting
9. Unfinished Business
10. Public Comment
11. Adjournment

Mayor Harvey requested a motion to approve the agenda for the February 12, 2024, COW meeting. Trustee Robinson made a motion and Trustee Delgado seconded to accept the agenda of the regular COW meeting. Upon a voice vote, the motion was carried unanimously to approve the February 12, 2024, COW Meeting Agenda.

Mayor Harvey requested a motion to approve the minutes of the January 8, 2024, COW meeting. Trustee Holman made a motion and Trustee Ciavattone seconded to accept the minutes of the last regular COW

meeting. Upon a voice vote, the motion was carried unanimously to approve the January 8, 2024, COW meeting minutes.

### **Committee Reports**

Trustee Ciavattone: regular report  
Trustee Boston: regular report  
Trustee Holman: regular report  
Trustee Robinson: regular report  
Trustee Delgado: regular report  
Trustee Nightengale: regular report  
Ad Hoc: no report

### **Department Head Reports**

#### **Economic Development**

In Economic Developer Peter Tsiolis absence, Asst. Aric Swaney reported the following:

- i. St. Charles development is coming along. Meeting tomorrow morning to go over the environmental and demolition to start on the south side of the street. The demolition to start by the end of this month.
- ii. Working on some stuff for 2615 Grant. The business next door wants to purchase that building and move in. That business will bring in more employees.

#### **Finance Director/Comptroller**

Willie Norfleet reported the following:

- i. Utility billing we've billed a little bit more than last year about \$34,000 in the bills. We have a total for this month, \$1,368,266. Utility billing is on target.
- ii. We have a collection of \$726,000 for the month of December, which is a little more than \$60,000 compared to a year ago at this same time.
- iii. Bill paying status, we are current with all bills and paid about \$1.8 million in bills for January. On target for having the revenues to pay for them. Closing the old year as far as revenue versus expenditure, we are approximately \$2 million ahead.
- iv. Interest earned for General Funds in the month of December was \$74,326. January's total is \$78,193 for the month.

#### **Police Department**

Chief Allen reported the following:

- i. Both new officers, Ashley Mendez and John Defenbar are doing well on the streets.
- ii. Completed 6 background checks for full time police officers. We have 4 slots in the academy in April of this year. The academy starts April 29, 2024. Hopefully, we can get more officers in the academy so they can hit the streets by summertime.
- iii. We are in the final stages of getting our flog camera installed on Eastern & Washington. I need to talk to you to see which direction you want them to face.
- iv. Attended the Lions Winterfest this past weekend. Thanks to all the Trustees for showing support.
- v. Triton College Career fair is March 6<sup>th</sup> we will have representation there.
- vi. ID Machine is back working. If anyone needs an ID come and see me so we can get you one.

#### **Fire Department**

Fire Chief Reitz reported the following:

- i. On the 7<sup>th</sup> of this month, we had a firefighter at Lincoln Elementary to do a Read Aloud Day.
- ii. On the 21<sup>st</sup> of January we had a garage fire at 544 46<sup>th</sup> Avenue. Our firefighters successfully saved 3 cats.

### **Director of Public Works**

In Superintendent Marty Walker absence, Asst. Superintendent Arnie Brown reported the following:

- i. Street Dept. pavement patching, our crews are out feeling potholes with our hotbox paving machine.
- ii. Tree crews are removing trees and trimming low branches on the west end side of town. Stump crews are removing stumps and we're restoring the parkways as we remove them.
- iii. Panels on Frederick and Washington that were hit, we are waiting for them to come in.
- iv. Water main breaks are up this year because of the cold weather.
- v. On Mannheim Road the LED signs are being reinstalled.
- vi. The garage doors at the water department were replaced last week. This week they should be starting on the fire department garage doors.

### **Village Engineer**

Chuck Hodges from Hancock Engineering reported the following:

- i. We have an amendment to the agreement for the traffic signal at Maywood Drive and 25<sup>th</sup> Ave. This will address the delays as far as time for the eastbound traffic.
- ii. Engineering agreement for the engineering design of the alley reconstruction, which will be a part of the CDBG program. Those alleys are located between Bellwood Avenue and 31<sup>st</sup> Avenue, Addison Creek to Jackson Street.

### **Building Commissioner**

Jim Stock reported the following:

The Building Department has 2 items on the agenda for the board meeting.

- i. Cook County intergovernmental agreement for the health inspections.
- ii. 2418 St. Charles Road for a conditional use of signage.

### **Director of Human Resources**

Tonita LeShore reported the following:

- i. Village of Bellwood and District 88 will host its Black History Program this coming Saturday from 2-5pm at Roosevelt Middle.

### **BOEM/Homeland Security –**

Mike Sabel reported the following:

- i. We assisted Proviso West with the basketball tournament for 4 days.
- ii. For the year 2023 Homeland Security Department did 107 calls.

**Village Clerk** – At Mayor Harvey's request the clerk will no longer give a report and Attorney Castaldo removed it from the agenda. The Clerk is no longer asked to report.

### **Mayor**

Mayor Harvey reported the following:

- i. Passing of Charles Dukes, Gay Chase husband. Keep Marty Walker's mother-in-law passed last week.
- ii. We raised the Pan American Flag on February 1<sup>st</sup> for Black History Month.
- iii. Tonita reported on the Black History Event.
- iv. Calendars should be out.
- v. This past weekend we had our senior's dance. We had over 175 seniors and young people at the event.

### **New Businesses**

Attorney Castaldo reported the following:

Two items to appear on the agenda at the Special Board Meeting, have already been reported on.

- i. Item B – Pending litigation report summary. Periodically we update the board on pending litigations and provide that report to you, which gives a summary of everything.
- ii. Item C - The fire department is amending the ambulance billing ordinances.
- iii. Item D - The Police Department will be purchasing some new squad cars.
- iv. Item E - Updating the adjudication software.
- v. Item F – Comes from the administration department, there is an updated T-Mobile update agreement providing upgrades and data equipment.
- vi. Item G - We are also working on an amendment to the liquor code for the classifications and numbers of licenses that exist within the code.

- vii. The next few items (H-L) are all from the development department relating to the development on St. Charles Road. Looking at 2 environmental reports coordinating with the utilities.
- viii. We are looking at some village policies. Will be presenting a Whistle Blower Policy to the board for approval and considering updating the conflict of interest and benefits policy.

Most of the items are available. There are 1 or 2 items not in Dropbox at this point today but will be within the next couple of days for your review.

**Unfinished Business**

None.

**Public Comment**

Mayor Harvey requested a motion to open the floor for Public Comment. Trustee Delgado made a motion and Trustee Ciavattone seconded to open the floor for public comment.

All Trustees were in favor of opening the floor for public comment. Upon a voice vote, the motion was carried unanimously. Mayor Harvey declared the floor for public comment open.

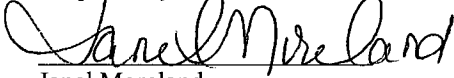
Hearing no Public Comment; there was no public. Mayor Harvey asked for a motion to close the floor for Public Comment.

Trustee Boston made a motion and Trustee Holman seconded to close the floor for public comment. All Trustees were in favor of closing the floor. Upon a voice vote, the motion was carried unanimously. Mayor Harvey declared the floor for public comment closed.

**Adjournment**

Mayor Harvey requested a motion to adjourn the Committee of The Whole. Motion made by Trustee Delgado seconded by Trustee Holman 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 3:45p.m.

Respectfully submitted,



Janel Moreland  
Village Clerk