

**VILLAGE OF BELLWOOD
COMMITTEE OF THE WHOLE MEETING MINUTES
June 13, 2022**

The Village of Bellwood conducted a Committee of the Whole meeting on Monday, June 13, 2022, 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 3:30 p.m. on Monday, June 13, 2022.

Roll Call

Those in attendance were Mayor Harvey, Clerk Janel Moreland, Trustees Ciavattone, Boston, Holman, Robinson, Delgado, Nightengale, Willie Norfleet (Finance), Peter Tsiolis (Economic Development), 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, removed from 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 June 13, 2022, COW meeting. Trustee Holman made a motion and Trustee Boston seconded to accept the agenda of the last regular COW meeting.

The result of the roll call vote is as follows:

Ayes: 6 Nays: 0 Abstain: 0 Absent: 0

Mayor Harvey requested a motion to approve the minutes of the May 9, 2022, COW meeting. Trustee Nightengale made a motion and Trustee Delgado seconded to accept the minutes of the last regular COW meeting.

The result of the roll call vote is as follows:

Ayes: 6 Nays: 0 Abstain: 0 Absent: 0

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

Peter Tsolis reported the following:

- i. Presentation later from the fine folks at CMAP regarding safety improvements on 25th and Madison and how we've been working with that closely for almost a year. Hopefully some improvements will be a part of the recommendations that are important to this village.
- ii. We are going to recommend at the board meeting that the village go forward with the land bank agreements that are presented in the board packet. Those are properties that the village acquired from the land bank to further redevelop the village. There will be more land bank properties coming to continue the single-family home initiatives that the mayor has been spearheading for five years adding more value to the tax base.
- iii. Two new homes on 49th and St. Charles are being bricked as we speak. Those are under a contract and should be done sometime in August. Number 24 and 25.
- iv. Pure's ribbon cutting ceremony for Duke Building. We don't know the details yet.
- v. There will be a groundbreaking on June 23rd for the seniors Building on Washington.
- vi. Mayor knows about all the other developments.

Finance Director/Comptroller

Willie Norfleet was absent, and no report was given for the Finance Department.

- i. My report is going to be very brief and very good. Utility billing, we are pretty much steady. Revenue is coming in billing is consistent. Everything is going pretty well with the utility.
- ii. The City of Chicago has increased water approximately 5%. The Village is in a position not to pass that cost onto the residents. We're doing very well in operations.
- iii. We have enough revenue to pay our bills. Sometimes people want to know about the extra million plus dollars that's in there. That's for the interest payment on our bonds which we pay twice a year and the principal once a year. This payment includes the interest amount that's on there.
- iv. Revenue is coming in steady and consistence. We're not recording any particular revenue items that are falling far behind. We do have two areas that are doing very well.
- v. Peter Tsiolis interjected and said, mayor to clarify one thing, that the bonds Mr. Norfleet is talking about are the bonds that predate your administration. I just wanted to make sure that everyone got that.

Police Department

Chief Allen was absent. Commander Goodrum reported the following in his absence:

- i. We currently have five new police officers in the academy. They are divided into two different police academies.
- ii. Our new radio system is up and running. We went live last Friday, June 10th. Everything running smooth so far.
- iii. Still interviewing for openings: records clerk position. Interviews will begin back up next week.
- iv. To continue recruitment, we participated in Speaker Welch's job fair.
- v. We have a softball game on June 25th. Bellwood versus village of Maywood.

Fire Department

Chief Dombek was absent. Lieutenant Ian Fitzgerald reported the following in his absence:

- i. No Report. Fire Department is doing great and I'm happy to be here.

Director of Public Works

Mary Walker reported the following:

- i. From the Consent Agenda, Item B reporting on the street resurfacing program phase two. Will be about fifteen to twenty streets to be resurfaced. We are reviewing the proposals right now. We will have a decision very soon.
- ii. Item J – A salt storage building. Our current salt storage maximum capacity to hold salt is about 400 tons. The new storage building will hold about a thousand tons of salt. Which will help us out because we won't have to rely on trucks to bring us salt if we have a really bad snowstorm.
- iii. Item L – Radar Feed Back signs. This item is to purchase ten radar feedback signs. They're used to calm traffic and for speed control. They will give us a lot of data on areas where people are speeding. They are moveable.
- iv. Item M – Asphalt reclaimer machine/Permanent Patch Matching. This item is used for permanent pavement patching, blacktop, covering potholes. We've had cold patch to cover potholes that comes out of the ground. This machine will allow us to permanent patch where we don't have to go back and revisit that same places.
- v. Item N – The Engineering Agreement with RJN Group and televising the sanitary sewers on the west end of town. It is required from the Water Reclamation District, every five years we have to do so much of our town; stone testing, sewer televising, manhole inspections, lift station inspections, and die water flood testing. The village is in compliance with those things because we've already done them. Televising is the final thing we have to do to be in compliance with water reclamation.
- vi. Item K – For new street signs throughout the village. We began this project last year, where we changed some of the street signs. This will complete the whole town with the new blue signs.

Village Engineer

No one was in attendance and there was no report.

Building Commissioner

Jim Stock reported the following:

- i. Several weeks ago, we issued a permit for the Quik Trip development that process is under way.
- ii. We issued last week the permit for the demolition of the old Walgreens, that's for the seniors building. Demolition should start very quickly here should be down by the 23rd for the groundbreaking.

Director of Human Resources

Tonita LeShore reported the following:

- i. The intern program started officially on June 6th. We have a total of fourteen interns with us that will be in various departments. Phase 1 orientation will be held this week Friday on the 17th. That's for the 14–16-year-olds. We're going to have a phase 1 and phase 2. We have a total of about forty students that will be a part of that work program.
- ii. We're completing the cops hiring program grant application in addition to bullet proof vest.

Homeland Security

Mike Sabel reported the following:

- i. On the 21st of May, we did some assistance with the shredding.
- ii. The antennas are suppose to be here any day, the coax. Hopefully, that will be sometime next month.
- iii. The four new members seems to be working out. I have one more I'm trying to get into the department.

Village Clerk - The Village Clerk Report has been removed from the COW Agenda and the Clerk was not asked to report.

Mayor

Mayor Harvey reported the following:

- i. Last month we had the board review here for our Bellwood residents and guest to explain about our taxes and how to fill out our taxes. The board of review has been coming a lot of years to talk about taxes and how they're done and how properties are assessed. This was the best ever because they had a detailed presentation on every aspect of why your tax bill looks like it looks, how many bodies are

on the bill and taxing entities, how it's assessed and who assesses your property. The residents walked out the room with a clear understanding of their tax bill and how the assessor assesses taxes. Proviso Township Assessors were here as well and gave out information on how people can come to the township to appeal their taxes and learn more about their property taxes. Thanks, Ms. LeShore, for putting that together it was a great event.

- ii. Bellwood Police and Fire Department participated in the torch run for special Olympic. Started in Bellwood. The Police Dept. carried the torch to Broadview from Broadview to Maywood, from Maywood into Forest Park. Every step of the torch run an officer of that municipality carried the torch through their community. Special Olympics has started and it's growing to be a big event. The Fire and Police Department in our areas are able to donate. There are thirty to forty athletes that came out and the smiles on their faces were priceless.
- iii. Next week, Juneteenth is approaching. There are multiple events going on. Forest Park will be having a three-day event. We will participate in their parade. Broadview will be having a three-day event. Operation Uplift is having an event as well. We have vowed to not have an event in Bellwood but to be a part of the Broadview and Forest Park event because we don't want to take from these events and keep watering them down. So, we will help and contribute. The Village of Broadview has made that same consensus for the Taste of Bellwood. They won't do a Taste, so we won't have multiple events going on at the same time. Our police, fire department and myself will be collaborating with Broadview and Forest Park.

New Business

Attorney Castaldo reported the following:

- i. Several Items on the Agenda for Wednesday night. I have already placed in dropbox a copy of the agenda finished it today and forwarded it on to the clerk who will get it published before 5pm today. I'll follow up on some of the items that were not reported on.
- ii. Marty mentioned the street repaving project. If you recall about three or four months ago you already authorized expenditures, staff and proposals. This second proposal is for the second phase are coming in and we should get those agreements in dropbox for you prior to Wednesday.
- iii. The Planning Commission did submit to you a text amendment for restaurants in a B2 Zoning area. The Zoning board which meets tomorrow asks if you consider their recommendation for a variation for a backyard patio within the normal course of business and meeting the previous precedents.
- iv. The sale of surplus properties: two vehicles that will be sold by Emergency Services. There is an ordinance that authorizes those vehicles to be sold as surplus property.
- v. We will be introducing a redevelopment agreement regarding 2501 Madison. The developer is looking to put a restaurant at that location.
- vi. The purchase sale agreements, you can see those, I put those in dropbox for those properties. Peter Tsiolis reported on those. The Cook County Land Bank.
- vii. Annually we are required with the Pace Program to approve certifications and assurances. We are scheduled to do that now. I think that is Item B in your dropbox.
- viii. We have been successful in negotiating and extending the collective bargaining agreement with the police department. I'm not sure if the contract was approved by the police department patrol officers. Before we fully anticipate that agreement is scheduled for Wednesday to be approved as well.
- ix. The roof replacement will be put off until July.
- x. Every couple of years the street department remove the spoils of contaminated/non contaminated dirt. When doing water and sewer digs, they take the dirt and store it in the village's construction yard. Every couple of years they clean the yard and remove those spoils and put them in a dump. They've received proposals for that. The lowest proposal \$350 per load. Razynga Brothers Proposal.

Presentation

CMAA presented on the safety action plan for the prairie path at 25th and Madison. This project is part of a new program that our agency is working on to improve safety in our region (see attached power point presentation). Peter Tsiolis stated that it has been a pleasure working with them, Tonita, Aric, and myself. There's a lot to discuss. We took them on a wonderful tour of Bellwood today. We will build that bridge in a shorter period of time than most projects. Tonita – We definitely thank CMAA. We called and asked what could be done and they were right with us. We look forward to that bridge.

Unfinished Business

None.

Public Comment

Madeline McGhee – That is a great idea to have a bridge go across 25th Avenue because the prairie path is about twenty feet from the cross intersection, if we could get that bridge. Wanted to compliment on that (referring to the presentation by CMAP).

Adjournment

Mayor Harvey requested a motion to adjourn the Committee of The Whole. Motion made by Trustee Delgado seconded by Trustee Boston to adjourn the meeting. Upon a voice vote, the motion carried unanimously. Mayor Harvey declared the meeting adjourned, with no further business to come before this Board, this meeting stands adjourned at 4:13p.m. We're going to get that bridge sooner than later.

Respectfully submitted,

Janel Moreland
Village Clerk