

VILLAGE OF BELLEVUE
414 S. Main Street
Bellevue, IL 61604
Village Board Meeting
January 23, 2024

OFFICIAL MINUTES

I. CALL TO ORDER

The Village of Bellevue Mayor called the Village of Bellevue meeting to order at the Village Hall. He indicated that an audio tape recording was made of all discussions during the Regular Session.

The Meeting was called to order at 6:00 p.m.

II. ROLL CALL

Mayor Merriman asked for Roll Call Attendance to be taken by the Village Clerk.

Present: Mayor Dean Merriman, Trustee Aaron Lannert, Trustee Sandra Cooper, Trustee Paul Eichhorn, Trustee Judith Wight, Trustee Leroy Wiseman, Trustee Ross Pesch

Absent:

Also in Attendance: Attorney Lane Alster; Steve Wilson, Village Maintenance; Matthew Raible, Village Zoning Officer; Susan Pesch, Village Clerk; Theresa Johanson; Derek Roemer, Limestone Township Supervisor

III. ACTION ITEMS

- A.** Trustee Eichhorn moved to approve the amended regular session minutes held on January 09, 2024. Trustee Wight seconded the motion. Trustee Lannert stated that he wanted the minutes to be amended to include more of the discussion, his comments, and to include the comment from Trustee Pesch that he wanted to raise the gaming fee to \$300. Trustee Pesch responded that he stated that the Board could raise it.

Voice Vote: All Ayes
Motion Passed

- B.** Trustee Wight moved to approve the bills for January 23, 2024. Trustee Eichhorn seconded the motion.

Roll Call Vote: Ayes: 6
Nays: 0
Motion Passed

IV. PRESENTATION FROM THE AUDIENCE

*All public comments are limited to 3 minutes per person

VILLAGE OF BELLEVUE
414 S. Main Street
Bellevue, IL 61604
Village Board Meeting
January 23, 2024

V. NON-AGENDA BUSINESS BY BOARD MEMBERS AND VILLAGE EMPLOYEES

Mr. Wilson stated that he thought the franchise fee documents had been completed for I-3 Broadband. Attorney Alster said that he thought they did a resolution and would check into it.

Trustee Lannert discussed looking into the businesses that pay sales tax within the Village of Bellevue. He asked if there was a way to gather this information. Mayor Merriman stated that he was able to look up a spreadsheet with information. Mrs. Johanson responded that the Illinois Department of Revenue has language that reflects the information is confidential. Attorney Alster commented that he could check into pulling the information.

Attorney Alster informed Board members that he would check into a Business District for the Village and what businesses they could bring in.

Trustee Cooper asked if the solar permits had been changed. Attorney Alster responded that the Board approved the change at the last meeting.

Trustee Eichhorn thanked the maintenance crew for clearing the roads during the snow.

Trustee Wight inquired about a list of businesses in the Village to make sure they are registered. Mayor Merriman stated that they will get a list.

Trustee Wight stated that she wanted to add the newsletter information for the next Board meeting. She commented that there are individuals that do not receive the newsletter in the mail. Mrs. Merriman stated that the newsletter is addressed to the resident. Mayor Merriman said that the Village typically receives roughly 30 returned newsletters each year. Trustee Eichhorn asked if the newsletter is posted online. Mayor Merriman stated that it is on the front page of the Village's website.

Trustee Wight inquired about having the Village Open House. Mayor Merriman responded that he would like to wait until the building is completely finished.

Trustee Pesch stated that there has been public comment regarding the Board not doing anything. He gave a list of the Board's accomplishments since May 2023. Trustee Pesch passed out Business District literature to each Board member and mentioned the positive impact for Bellevue. Board members discussed the benefits of having a Village Business District and the revenue that it would generate. Attorney Alster stated that there are a lot of ways that the Village can use the income from the Business District. There are studies that need to be completed. The Business District would be done by an ordinance not referendum. There are opportunities. Attorney Alster said that they started a Business District for Tremont. The cost was approximately \$10,000-\$12,000 for planning and legal fees. The Business District could help with lowering the appropriations. Mr. Roemer stated that he could assist the Board with information regarding the Business District. He gave his contact information to Board members.

Trustee Lannert stated that he would like the discussion of square footage added to the next Board meeting. The permit schedule can also be added to the next meeting.

VILLAGE OF BELLEVUE
414 S. Main Street
Bellevue, IL 61604
Village Board Meeting
January 23, 2024

Mr. Wilson informed the Board members that the TIF 2 funds needed to be spent by the end of 2026. If funds are not spent, the money needs to be given back.

Trustee Wight asked if the Village could lease or sell the old hall. Mayor Merriman stated that the property needs to be appraised.

Mrs. Johanson informed the Board members that the 2023 audit is close to being completed. Susan and I are working on the GATA Reports and getting SAM.gov registered. Attorney Alster said to continue with the SAM.gov registration each year.

Trustee Lannert asked Mrs. Johanson if the social security issue was figured out. Mr. Wilson commented that he was working on it with Theresa.

Trustee Lannert inquired about the money in accounts for this building and has it been put back into the general account from the rental account. Mr. Wilson stated that the auditor said the Village still has funds. Mrs. Johanson responded that the rental account was closed. Mr. Wilson commented that if the Village still has the insurance money, they need to use it. Mrs. Johanson said that she does not know anything about the insurance money. Trustee Lannert said it was for the roof claim. Use the funds and reimburse the general funds. Mr. Wilson said he was not sure what account it was in. Mayor Merriman stated that he thought it was placed in the rental escrow account. If it has been already moved to the general funds, there is nothing left to do. Attorney Alster informed Board members that the accounts need to be verified. Trustee Lannert stated that he wanted to make sure that all of the funds for the new building were put back to general because general has taken a hit.

VI. ACTION ITEMS

- A.** Trustee Pesch moved to approve the decal purchase for 414 S. Main St. Trustee Wight seconded the motion.

Roll Call Vote: Ayes: 6
Nays: 0
Motion Passed

VII. INFORMATION/DISCUSSION ITEMS

- A.** Next Village of Bellevue Meeting - February 13, 2024

VILLAGE OF BELLEVUE
414 S. Main Street
Bellevue, IL 61604
Village Board Meeting
January 23, 2024

VIII. ADJOURNMENT

Mayor Merriman asked for a motion to adjourn. Trustee Lannert moved to adjourn the meeting. Trustee Pesch seconded the motion.

Voice Vote: All Ayes
Motion Passed
Meeting Adjourned @ 6:40 p.m.