

**Bellaire Village Council
Meeting Minutes
May 2, 2012**

1. **Call to Order:** President Schulz called the meeting to order at 7:00 PM.
2. **Roll Call Attendance:**
 - Present:** Officers Dave Schulz, Butch Dewey, Anne Wendling, Trish Drollinger & Helen Schuckel.
 - Absent:** Dennis Balon & Brent Nelson.
 - Staff Present:** Cathy Odom, Treasurer, Janet Koch, Clerk, Brad Rowe, Police Chief & Ken Stead, DPW Supervisor.
 - Also Present:** Colette Stanish, Brad Kik, Marguerite Karabin, Tom LaPointe, Art Trowbridge, Becky Folker, Chris Thompson, Ruth Basch, Jane MacKenzie & Cindy Hickman.
3. **Approval of Agenda:** The agenda was approved.
 - Motion by Schuckel, seconded by Dewey, to approve the agenda with the additions of old business item e, EVIP #3-Recertification, item i, Headstone Request-Cindy Hickman and item j, Water Testing. Motion carried by unanimous voice vote.**
4. **Conflict of Interest:** None presented.
5. **Consent Agenda:** The consent agenda was approved.
 - Motion by Dewey, seconded by Schuckel, to approve the consent agenda as presented. Motion carried by unanimous voice vote.**
6. **Public Comment on Agenda Items:** None presented.
7. **Old Business**
 - a) **Checking Account Signatures:** We require two signatures on all checks and banking transactions and we currently have two authorized signers on all accounts. Authorizing a third person to sign transactions in case one of the other signers were not available was discussed.
 - Motion by Schulz, seconded by Wendling, to prepare the appropriate resolution for the June Village Council meeting for the authorization of a third signature on accounts. Motion carried by voice vote.**
 - b) **Rules of Procedure:** The Village Council Rules of Procedure should be reviewed annually. Staff reviewed and presented some proposed changes. Council reviewed and discussed proposed changes.
 - Motion by Dewey, seconded by Schuckel, to approve the updated Village Council Rules of Procedure. Motion carried by voice vote.**
 - c) **Brush Pile:** The Property & Building Committee met to discuss the issues at the brush pile and is recommending to the Council that all brush dumping at the existing site cease and that it now only be used for the dumping of leaves and grass clippings. They also recommend that brush can be dumped near the wastewater treatment plant at the direction of DPW staff during business hours or by arrangement, the DPW gate would be locked outside of all business hours and no commercial dumping will be allowed. Dewey stated this will not allow any dumping on weekends which is when dumping is abused. Other options of control were discussed and included an electronic system with card readers which would have to be scanned for entrance into the area. Scanning could then be reviewed for excessiveness and action taken. Cost for this would be about \$5,000 for a used unit. Committee did not like this option. Having weekend hours was

discussed. Chief Rowe stated that during his shift on Sundays he would not object to opening the gate for two hours at a time chosen by Council.

Motion by Schulz, seconded by Dewey, to approve the recommendation from the Property & Building Committee with the addition of having the gate to the DPW open on Sunday from 2 pm to 4 pm. Motion carried by voice vote.

- d) **Lobby Paint Color:** At the last meeting we allowed Parkside to paint the lobby walls with the option that Council could revisit with their opinion once the painting was complete. Wendling stated that she liked it but would like to see the trim painted white. Postponed until the next meeting when all Council members could be present. PAC would like to use a different trim and asked if they could proceed with new trim. President Schulz suggested that they could provide a section of trim laid in front of the other so a comparison could be made.
- e) **EVIP #3-Recertify:** We passed a motion to be in compliance with the third phase of the EVIP program. This third phase requires new employees to pay 20% of their health care and we certified that we would follow this procedure. The governor, however, now has passed a bill that states as long as a municipality is in compliance with PA 152 of 2011, which we are, we can rethink the third phase of EVIP. New employees coming in would be included in our opt out choice from PA 152. Clerk Koch stated that it is unclear if we can recertify. Treasury has not given an indication one way or the other. MML thinks we can, but there is no positive confirmation. President Schulz stated that we could leave things as is or, if allowed by the Dept. of Treasury, rescind the previous motion and again, if allowed by the Dept. of Treasury, move to certify that we are in compliance with PA 152, which deals with health insurance, and therefore satisfies the requirement for EVIP #3. The way the motions are worded and if the Dept. of Treasury doesn't allow us to recertify then the original language from the previous motion would stand and these motions would not be valid. There was some discussion about losing some qualified new hires due to this portion of EVIP.

Motion by Schulz, seconded by Dewey, if allowed by the Department of Treasury, to rescind the Village Council agenda item on EVIP #3 motion passed on April 2, 2012. Motion carried by voice vote.

Motion by Schulz, seconded by Dewey, if allowed by the State of Michigan Department of Treasury, to certify the Village of Bellaire's compliance with PA 152 of 2011 which deals with the publicly funded health insurance contribution act and will satisfy the third phase of EVIP certification of employee compensation under Section 402 (3)(c)(ii)(A) of PA 107 of 2012. Motion carried by voice vote.

8. New Business

- a) **Bridge Boxes-Garden Club:** The Garden Club would like to provide the bridge boxes again this year. They will plant, maintain and cover the cost for them as long as the Village will water them. According to Mr. Stead, DPW Supervisor, this should not be a problem for the DPW.

Motion by Schulz, seconded by Drollinger, to continue support of the bridge boxes by watering them. Motion carried by voice vote.

- b) **Downtown Flower Boxes-Becky Folker:** With the help from the Garden Club and Cyman Gardens, Destination Bellaire presented the idea of placing flower barrels on the downtown streets to make it look uniform and aesthetically pleasing. The Boy Scouts will help moving and placing the barrels downtown and will help to remove the barrels in the fall for the winter. Ms. Folker stated that barrels can be purchased by the businesses for a cost that would include the barrel, the flowers and the planting. They would like to know if the Village could help with watering them. The Garden Club will help maintain them and during the hot days, the businesses will help keep them watered. Drollinger noted a concern with the store fronts that stick out further into the sidewalk and if the barrels will block walking space. Ms. Folker stated that they will not interfere with walkers on the sidewalk. She also suggested placing sand in the

flower boxes previously used on the garbage can as a cigarette butt collector in hopes of keeping them off of the sidewalk.

Motion by Wendling, seconded by Schulz, to approve the flower barrel plan as long as DPW can help with the watering. Motion carried by voice vote.

- c) **Building Authority Appointment-D. Johnson:** Dean Johnson's appointment on the Building Authority is due to expire in June and he is interested in serving another term.

Motion by Dewey, seconded by Wendling, to approve President Schulz' appointment of Dean Johnson to the Building Authority with a term expiration of June 6, 2015. Motion carried by voice vote.

- d) **Letter of Support-Northern Homes CDC:** Northern Homes CDC works with low-moderate income families to offer assistance in purchasing an existing home. They have received a grant from the MSDHA that will help make this happen. Prior to releasing the funds a letter of support from local units is required.

Motion by Schulz, seconded by Schuckel, to have the Village Clerk draft a letter for the Village President to sign in support of Northern Homes Corporation grant project. The motion further states that they must comply with all local ordinances. Motion carried by voice vote.

- e) **Antrim County Fairgrounds Request:** The Fair Board has seen a steady increase in spectators and exhibitors and is running out of space. They are seeking permission to expand the current fairgrounds. There is a 144' X 75' space between the bathhouse and the livestock building that they would like to clear and grade, creating ¼ acre more room. They have met with the Soil Conservation District to deal with any potential wetland concerns and found that there were no issues. There is some value (\$400) in the timber that they would like to utilize to offset some of the cost of the project.

Motion by Drollinger, seconded Schuckel, to approve the Antrim County Fair Board request for clearing per their diagram, with the provision that the clearing is done by a licensed and insured contractor and with permission to remove a box elder tree located by one of their buildings. Motion carried by voice vote.

- f) **Batting Cage Repair:** The batting cage by the concession stand needs some fence repair due to the snow storm at a cost of approximately \$3,177.24. We have a \$250 insurance deductible and due to the storm we can file a claim.

Motion by Schuckel, seconded by Drollinger, to pursue the repair the batting cage, file a claim, and perform the work not to exceed \$4,000. Motion carried by voice vote.

- g) **ISLAND Request:** Council approved a request from ISLAND to show movies in the council chambers. To be able to show the movies they need to add a screen to the north end of the council chambers. Brad Kik presented a drawing showing how it will look when complete. They would also like to hang up curtain rods and curtains to block the light coming in from the windows. There will be minimal holes and work done to complete and when they leave they will remove and repair any holes left by screws. They would also like to build a small stage 8 or 10 feet long and 3 or 4 feet wide, ½ circle shape, to be able to have a performance or presentation stage which will be removable to store on the stage. President Schulz asked if ISLAND will allow others to use the screen and stage for their programs also. Mr. Kik stated that would not be a problem. He stated they will, however, rent the projector they use if needed by others.

Motion by Dewey, seconded by Schulz, to permit ISLAND to proceed, as per the diagram that was provided, with their requests. Motion carried by voice vote.

Mr. Kik also discussed the plan for the bike rack. They will bolt it in for easy removal. The Village would like to use mulch for the ground cover.

- h) **MML Grant Application:** Clerk Koch presented the MML Let's Save Michigan grant application for Council's review. If the grant is awarded, we will develop a walking tour route and signs showcasing the historical places and events in Bellaire. The grant process is done in rounds, with the first round taking the top 10 vote getters to the next round. Once the grant is on the website and available to accept votes she will get it out there for all to vote.

Motion by Wendling, seconded by Schuckel, to approve and submit the MML grant application. Motion carried by voice vote.

- i) **Headstone Request-Cindy Hickman:** Mrs. Hickman would like permission for a 6" larger headstone than the cemetery ordinance permits. Clerk Koch and Chief Rowe noted there is no process for requesting changes to ordinances, but ordinances can be amended by a vote of the Council. This was sent to the Cemetery Committee for their review and recommendation.
- j) **Water Testing:** The Department of Health no longer provides testing for water on our beaches. Last year Council discussed the possibility of doing the testing ourselves. Three samples are taken and tested for levels of ecoli and the cost is about \$42. The Parks Committee is recommending that we allow for the testing about 5 times during the summer at a cost not to exceed \$250. We should provide a safe environment for those that swim. Clerk Koch stated that she is not aware if this testing can be fit into the health department schedule, but that we could do the testing ourselves. President Schulz stated that if that is the case they can address that at a later meeting.

Motion by Drollinger, seconded by Schulz, to approve the Parks Committee recommendation to provide testing on the water at the beach in Richardi Park about 5 times this summer at a cost not to exceed \$250. Motion carried by voice vote.

9. **Discussion Items:** None presented.

10. Department/Committee Reports

- a) *President Schulz:* informed Council that East Jordan Family Health Center (EJFHC) received a \$2.48 million grant to expand the Bellaire Family Health Center. The village voiced their support at a previous meeting and they have entered into a contract with Antrim County for property by the ambulance authority. He would like to send a letter of congratulations and informing them that the Village looks forward to working with them.

He also informed Council that the Seniors have agreed to pay for the other half of the walking path project to the new veteran's memorial.

He reminded everyone about the place making seminar if anyone is interested in attending. Janet Koch will attend.

- b) *Committee Reports:* None presented.
- c) *Clerk/Planner:* None presented.
- d) *Deputy Clerk/Treasurer:* The audit is May 8, 2012.
- e) *Department of Public Works:* None presented.
- f) *Police Department:* Written report presented. It's been quiet but he will be doing some chicken permit inspections. He also asked Council that if they see things that need to be addressed, let him know.

- g) *Planning Commission:* Planning Commission will be doing some amendments to the zoning ordinance and if Council has anything they would like addressed let them know.

11. Closing Member/Public Comment:

- a) *Trish Drollinger:* discussed the aroma that is used during open hours at the gallery. She informed them that it is very strong and doesn't feel that its use is in the best interest of some. President Schulz said that he will talk to them about it.
- b) *Don Lukins:* represents the Relay for Life in Bellaire, which is being held July 22-23 from 6 pm to 6 pm. and asked if they could place the banner across the road for more than the allowed week. Council did support the extension.

12. Adjourn: Meeting adjourned at 8:26 P.M.

Compiled by Cathy Odom
Minutes are subject to approval.

Approved: _____

Date: _____