

**Bellaire Village Council
Meeting Minutes
May 1, 2013**

1. **Call to Order:** President Schulz called the meeting to order at 7:00 PM

2. **Roll Call Attendance:**

Present: Officers Dave Schulz, Council Trustees Trish Drollinger, Dan Bennett, Laura Sexton, Butch Dewey & Helen Schuckel.

Absent: N/A

Staff Present: Cathy Odom, Treasurer, Janet Koch, Clerk & Ken Stead, DPW Supervisor.

Also Present: Colette Stanish, Mike Smith, Tom Brown, PAC & Joe Variot, Antrim County Fair Board.

3. **Approval of Agenda:** The agenda was approved.

Motion by Dewey, seconded by Schuckel, to approve the agenda with the additions of new business item e, Destination Bellaire-flower barrels, item f, Antrim County Fair Board request and move this item to the beginning of the agenda, item g, Co-ed softball league and to remove new business item c, public safety consideration. Motion carried by unanimous voice vote.

4. **Conflict of Interest:** None presented.

5. **Consent Agenda:** The consent agenda was approved.

Motion by Schuckel, seconded by Drollinger, 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) **Municipal Bond Tax Exemption:** This was tabled from the last meeting. President Schulz explained that municipalities issue bonds for projects that are purchased by private individuals, corporations, etc. and the companies that purchase them are exempt from paying taxes on the interest that is realized. It allows the municipality to pay a lower interest rate. There is discussion at the federal level to eliminate the exemption. This would throw municipalities into the competitive market where they would lose the advantage of the lower interest rates causing the Village to pay more for any future projects where we would need to sell bonds to cover the cost. We are being asked to lend our support for leaving that federal exemption in place. There is a sample letter provided that we can send to our representative stating that our preference is to leave the exemption intact.

Motion by Dewey, seconded by Schulz, to send the letter to the federal government stating that our preference is to leave the tax exemption on the sale of bonds intact. Motion carried by unanimous voice.

b) **Lifeguard:** The lifeguard that was hired cannot provide lifeguarding services for us due to scheduling conflicts. Council was asked if they want to pursue another applicant. The lifeguarding certification classes have already begun and we aren't sure where or when another one will be held, but we could locate one if needed. Discussion occurred about the difficulty of finding a lifeguard and we have had summers where we have not had one on duty. Council agreed not to pursue finding one, to post the beaches with no lifeguard on duty signs and to let the townships know.

8. New Business

a) **Antrim County Fair Board Request:** Joe Variot from the Antrim County Fair Board informed the Council they were upgrading the electrical in the 4H section of Craven Park. He said they received a quote for placing the wires underground and then was informed by Consumers about the possibility of overhead lines. Overhead lines would be about \$3,000 cheaper but he would like the Council's blessing to continue and their recommendation of overhead or underground lines. President Schulz recommended placing the lines underground to eliminate future problems with downed wires and falling trees and the rest of the Council agreed. Mr. Variot said he was fine with that and would not pursue the overhead lines. He also thanked the Council for their time.

b) **Parkside Arts Council Raffle Request:** PAC is planning to hold a raffle as a fundraiser and to do so a resolution is required from the local municipality. It is planned from June 1 to the Harvest Festival and ticket costs are \$50.00. They are looking for funds to pay for a part time position, to provide fun classes kids and to do some work within the gallery.

Motion by Schulz, seconded by Bennett, to approve Resolution #08 of 2013, allowing Parkside Arts Council to hold a raffle and to authorize the President to sign it. Motion carried by unanimous roll call vote. Ayes: Bennett, Dewey, Drollinger, Schuckel, Sexton & Schulz

c) **Mason's Request, Richardi Park Use:** The Masons are requesting the use of the volleyball court for a horseshoe tournament fundraiser during the Rubber Ducky Festival.

Motion by Drollinger, seconded by Schulz, to allow the Mason's to use the volleyball court for a horseshoe tournament fundraiser. Motion carried by unanimous voice vote.

d) **Public Safety Consideration:** This item was removed the agenda.

e) **EVIP #3, Employee Compensation:** In December 2012, the Village Council decided to opt out of requiring either the 80/20 option or cap option of what the Village would pay for health insurance. Due to this we are required to file annually a Certification of Public Act 152 Compliance form as part of the Economic Vitality Incentive Program.

Motion by Dewey, seconded by Bennett, to approve the annual Certification of Public Act 152 Compliance for the 3rd portion of the EVIP program. Motion carried by unanimous voice vote.

f) **Destination Bellaire-Flower Barrels:** Destination Bellaire would like to place the flower barrels downtown again this year and a drawing of their location was presented. They would like to cluster several together in an area instead of placing them individually all over downtown. They would also like us to water them as we did last year. It was noted just to make sure they were not in the path of people walking on the sidewalk and it was stated they would not be.

Motion by Sexton, seconded by Schuckel, to approve Destination Bellaire's proposal to place flower barrel's downtown for the summer. Motion carried by unanimous voice vote.

g) **Co-Ed Softball League:** Mr. McMichael from the co-ed softball league would like to have permission to bring part of the co-ed league back to Bellaire. They would also like to keep the tournament going. Drollinger noted to let them know that while high school and little league are going those teams have the first rights to fields on days other than Sundays.

Motion by Sexton, seconded by Drollinger, to approve to graciously welcome back the co-ed teams that would like to make use of the ball fields on Sundays. Motion carried by unanimous voice vote.

9. Discussion Items:

- a. **Water/Sewer Rates:** Trustee Dewey stated the Public Works Committee met with a representative from MRWA to discuss a rate study that was completed and there may be some rate changes needed to offset rising costs to run the water and sewer systems. He would recommend that the entire Council make time to hear the presentation. Clerk Koch noted the meetings have already been scheduled for May 23, 2012 at 12:00 and 2:00 pm. Attending these meetings will help everyone better explain possible increases to the residents.
- b. **Board Vacancy:** There is a vacancy on the Board and Trustee Dewey stated that if anyone knows of anyone who might be interested in filling it, have them fill out an interest form and turn it in to the office. President Schulz did mention that we do have one interested as of now.

10. Department/Committee Reports

- a) **Committee Reports:** None presented.
- b) **Clerk/Planner:** Clerk Koch notified Council of changes to the Open Meetings Act and let everyone know that we are already complying, mostly dealing with the website. She also informed them that the walking path lease with the County is in front of the Commissioners to change it to a 50 year lease option. The Richardi Park lease was reviewed and the changes we want to make concerning the auto renewal was not well received. They would accept a 6 month notice to renew. As far as the mutual indemnification, it is being worked on. Clerk Koch also told Council that we received a Par Plan grant to purchase the in car camera for the new police vehicle and the presentation will be at 2:00 pm on May 7th for anyone who can make it.
- c) **Deputy Clerk/Treasurer:** None presented.
- d) **Department of Public Works:** A written report was presented and Trustee Schuckel stated the sign that was repainted was very nice.
- e) **Police Department:** None presented.
- f) **Planning Commission:** None presented.

11. Closing Member/Public Comment:

- **Dan Bennett:** stated that he is very impressed with the employees and President Schulz stated we are fortunate to have that level of dedication.

12. Adjourn: Meeting adjourned at 7:32 P.M.

Compiled by Cathy Odom
Minutes are subject to approval.

Approved: _____

Date: _____