

**VILLAGE OF BISMARCK**  
County of Vermilion, State of Illinois  
Minutes of Regular Board Meeting, September 26th, 2022

1. At 6:30 p.m. in the Village office located at 106 E. Holloway, Bismarck, Illinois, President Brown opened the meeting with the Pledge of Allegiance.
2. Clerk Brandye Kizer took roll call. Board members present were Trustees Terry Light, Kris Kizer, Sheila Switzer, Mary Potter, Karel Volpert and Jeff Beukelman and President Mike Brown. Treasurer Adam Muehl was also in attendance. A quorum was established. Guests present were Attorney Brian Lawlyes; Rick Kentner Planning Commission Committee Chairman; Kasey and Matt Creed; Dan Wright; Tim Landers; Sherri Conklin; Devin Pratt; Dalton Pratt; Tyler Lappin; Roger Owen; Robert Winkler; Terry Boyer; Tyler Hughes; McKenna Hughes; Kirby Reich; Tricia Hagley; Billy Hagley; Sherri Edwards; Dalton Hagley.
3. Approval of agenda was requested with a request to move the items under Public Works (b and c) to Tax increment Financing Section of the agenda as these items are being paid from the TIF funds and not MFT funds. Approval of agenda with requested change for September 26, 2022, was made on a motion by Trustee Karel Volpert and seconded by Trustee Sheila Switzer. The motion passed by acclamation.
4. Approval of the Minutes for Regular Board Meeting held on August 16th, 2022, and Special Meeting Minutes for dates August 23<sup>rd</sup>, 2022, September 7<sup>th</sup>, 2022, September 19<sup>th</sup>, 2022 and September 23<sup>rd</sup>, 2022 were made on a motion by Trustee Terry Light and seconded by Trustee Kris Kizer. Motion passed by acclamation.
5. Public Comments/Questions: Clerk Brandye Kizer announced that the public is allowed to make comments during the public comments section of the meeting but once there are no more comments to be made by the audience members and the Board has moved to the next item, then public comments are completed. Mr. Billy Hagley addressed the Village Board of Trustees regarding the possible rezoning of the property on 2550 North Road that Mr. Matt Creed has purchased and is requesting to rezone to commercial to move his automotive shop there. Mr. Hagley asked if he could go to the map on the board to address the board and was able to do so. Mr. Hagley inquired whether other properties were looked into for purchase along Bowman and within the commercial areas of Bismarck. Mr. Hagley stated that if properties were available for purchase, they should have been looked into. He inquired as to what will keep other individuals from expanding in the areas zoned for residential. Trustee Jeff Beukelman explained that in these cases, that is why the special use variances exist. He said, for instance, that there are areas along Holloway that have special use variances for commercial use that would not have been used initially for commercial use. Any requests in the future would have to go through the procedures as allocated by law.

Mr. Moore voiced concerns about the neighborhood and how the feelings of the neighbors were being listened too. He was concerned as to why so many special board meetings were held between regular meetings. He feels there is favoritism. He inquired why he was told that two lawyers from the same law firm was representing Mr. Creed and the Village. The village Board members could not comment as they are not aware of who the attorneys represent.

Mrs. Hagley stated she felt that everything has been handled very poorly and she read the first page of the Village of Bismarck Ordinance. She also mentioned that she is in an area where she is not able to vote for the Village of Bismarck Board members. Mrs. Hagley stated that the Village Board should have worked with land owners around the Village to find a property for Mr. Creed to purchase. Mrs. Hagley was asked by Mr. Reich if she had the opportunity to purchase the property. She stated she did have the option to purchase it but why would she purchase it to just hoard it. She stated that she felt like she was being attacked. President Brown had to intervene between Mrs. Hagley and Mr. Reich.

6. President's Comments: President Brown thanked everyone for being at the meeting. He asked the Village Attorney Mr. Brian Lawlyes if he had anything to say regarding any questions asked during public comments. He stated the statute states that the 250 feet does not apply to every situation. There are certain situations where that requirement falls into place. He also stated that he wanted to address the concern about the law firm representing the Village and possibly Mr. Creed. Mr. Lawlyes stated that he is there to represent the Village Board with respect to procedure and how to complete items in the right way according to the statute and

ordinance. He addressed that his office has several attorneys and that to his knowledge no one at his office has represented Mr. Creed regarding any re-zoning concerns or application within this particular situation.

- 7. Correspondence: Thank you card received and read to the board.
- 8. Treasurer Adam Muehl presented the Treasurer's report. Most of the bills paid out this month are for regular and recurring bills. There were two invoices for Berry's. Total for bills this month was \$3,669.31 plus the payroll for the Trustees, President, Clerk, Treasurer and Maintenance personnel.

Trustee Kris Kizer made a motion to approve treasurer's report and bills as presented, with a second by Trustee Mary Potter. The motion passed by roll call vote.

Jeff Beukelman- Yea	Terry Light- Yea	Kris Kizer-Yea
Mary Potter- Yea	Karel Volpert- Yea	Sheila Switzer-Yea

Treasurer Adam Muehl's report presented, reported that the account balances as of 08/31/2022 are as follows:

New General Fund	\$340,708.15
Old General Fund	\$8,601.05
TIF	\$96,529.33
MFT	\$82,529.70

Treasurer Adam Muehl requested approval to transfer \$8,501.05 from Old General Fund to the New General Fund. Trustee Kris Kizer made a motion to approve, with a second by Trustee Terry Light, to approve the transfer of funds as presented. The motion passed by roll call vote.

Jeff Beukelman- Yea	Terry Light- Yea	Kris Kizer-Yea
Mary Potter- Yea	Karel Volpert- Yea	Sheila Switzer-Yea

9. Reports of committees and assignments

a. Permits/Zoning

- i. Planning Commission Chairman, Rick Kentner, addressed the Board of Trustees and stated that after the Public Hearing held on September 20<sup>th</sup>, 2022 at 6:30pm, the planning commission committee convened and discussed the public hearing concerns and comments. They also looked over the packet that was given to them that included required documents requesting the rezoning of the property at 17085 E. 2550 N. Rd. Danville, IL. It was the planning commission committee's recommendation for the Village Board of Trustees to rezone the property from Residential to Commercial.
- ii. The Village Board of Trustees entertained the motion to approve the rezoning request for the property located at 17085 E. 2550 N. Rd Danville, IL from residential to commercial. Trustee Mary Potter made a motion to approve, with a second by Trustee Kris Kizer, to approve the rezoning request as presented. The motion passed by roll call vote.

Jeff Beukelman- Yea	Terry Light- Yea	Kris Kizer-Yea
Mary Potter- Yea	Karel Volpert- Yea	Sheila Switzer-Yea

b. Budget and Finance

- i. Clerk Brandye Kizer, presented an invoice from Acton ad Snyder for \$2500.00 for services. Trustee Karel Volpert made a motion to approve, with a second by Trustee Terry Light, to approve the invoice as presented. The motion passed by roll call vote.

Jeff Beukelman- Yea	Terry Light- Yea	Kris Kizer-Yea
Mary Potter- Yea	Karel Volpert- Yea	Sheila Switzer-Yea

- ii. Clerk Brandye Kizer, presented two options for a new office printer to the board at the recommendation of an IT professional. Trustee Terry Light made a motion to approve the purchase of the Xerox 405 C, with a second by Trustee Mary Potter. The motion passed by roll call vote.

Jeff Beukelman- Yea	Terry Light- Yea	Kris Kizer-Yea
Mary Potter- Yea	Karel Volpert- Yea	Sheila Switzer-Yea

**c. Tax Increment Financing (TIF)**

- i. Clerk Brandye Kizer presented an invoice from Schomburg Construction for the completed handicapped ramp on Holloway for approval. Trustee Terry Light made a motion to approve the invoice from Schomburg, with a second by Trustee Jeff Beukelman. The motion passed by roll call vote.

Jeff Beukelman- Yea	Terry Light- Yea	Kris Kizer-Yea
Mary Potter- Yea	Karel Volpert- Yea	Sheila Switzer-Yea

- ii. President Brown presented a quote from Jameson Fabrication for manufacture of a handrail for the handicap ramp along Holloway. This is just for the handrail and not installation. Trustee Kris Kizer made a motion to approve having Jameson Fabrication manufacture the handrail, with a second by Trustee Sheila Switzer. The motion passed by roll call vote.

Jeff Beukelman- Yea	Terry Light- Yea	Kris Kizer-Yea
Mary Potter- Yea	Karel Volpert- Yea	Sheila Switzer-Yea

**d. Public Works/Municipal Projects (Roads, Drainage, other improvements)**

**i. MFT Funded Projects**

- i. a. President Brown presented Donohue contract for unsewered communities grant preparation for a total of \$4,800.00. Mr. Boyer from Donohue was in the audience to answer any questions the board may have. There are funds through the grant that the Village can use to help with the sewer system that the board is trying to get started for the village. The details of the grant are not known in its entirety but the Village will have to prepare a grant request and apply to see what funds would be allotted. President Brown is asking that the Village Board approve the request to have Donohue assist in completing the grant application and submit the grant for the total of the allotted amount listed above. The Board of trustees would not have to accept the funds if the requirements would be unable to be filled after receiving the details of the grant stipulations, but it would allow a start to what the Village is trying to get started. Trustee Jeff Beukelman made a motion to approve the request to Donohue to prepare the grant, with a second by Trustee Kris Kizer. The motion passed by roll call vote.

Jeff Beukelman- Yea	Terry Light- Yea	Kris Kizer-Yea
Mary Potter- Yea	Karel Volpert- Yea	Sheila Switzer-Yea

**e. Public Works (non-MFT Funds)**

- i. President Brown stated that he has no concerns at this time with the culverts or the drains. Things are flowing well for now, especially with all the rain we have received.
- ii. President brown discussed that the sidewalks along Holloway are all broke up and are in need of repair. Trustee Sheila Switzer also stated that Mrs. Freedland asked about a sink hole in front of her home. Mr. Dan Wright, Maintenance personnel, stated there are a few around the Village that need tended too. He asked the board if they wanted to pursue getting a quote for the repair of the sidewalk work. It would be from Small Town Famous to the old alley. It was

asked if President Brown could possibly get two quotes. One for the entire project and one for the part of the sidewalk that is the worst.

- iii. President brown stated that with the state coming in to replace the state road in 2023, he would like to meet with Mr. Rutan and discuss if the Village could have a pipe put in through his property so that the rain water could run through it and into Painter’s Creek. At this time the pipe has been filled in and the water is not able to run through to Painter’s Creek. This is why Holloway holds so much rain when we get a bad rain storm. This was something done when the road was repaired in the past from the State. President Brown would like to get it done properly this time since the State will be here working on the road. If it is not fixed, then the street will deteriorate over time again due to the rain. President Brown spoke to Sam Claypool and he sated the pipe itself would be \$16,000-\$17,000. The total cost with labor may be around \$25,000-\$30,000. IDOT will take out old basins and repair them.
- iv. President Brown stated he has not heard anything back about the sidewalk from Shake Rag to the Junior High, but he is trying to reach out and get a return call from Larry Baum and Representative Bennett.

**f. Health and Safety**

- i. New Health and Safety Ordinance Complaints- None

**g. Ordinance-None**

**h. Keep Bismarck Beautiful (KBB)**

- i. Trustee Karel Volpert and Trustee Sheila Switzer stated they are winding down the selection of properties for the Summer Keep Bismarck Beautiful. They had the Village residents vote for the last few homes to win. They will be getting ready for the Holiday Trim and Lighting Contest soon.

- 10. Old Business
- 11. New Business

- i. President Brown informed the board he was approached to go to the Lions Club meeting and to see if he should provide a pitch for the Village to take over the park. The concern of the Village of Trustees is that the Village does not have the staff to handle the maintenance of the park or the equipment to take care of it. There is concern that it needs some updates and new playground equipment. The Village Board does not want to see the park go away and Trustee Terry Light stated that it wouldn’t hurt to see what they have to say and if there are any suggestions. The village may be able to apply for more grants to help with updating the playground equipment if they were in charge of it. Trustee Karel Volpert stated she heard that they are talking about putting cameras the park for safety reasons. The Women’s Club of Bismarck is helping with the cameras and mulch. It was appreciated that the Lions Club has been open and initiated the conversation. It was said that the park has great volunteers that have helped keep the park looking as nice as it has, especially in the baseball, softball and football seasons due to the sporting teams volunteers.
- ii. The Village Board set the Halloween Hours to Monday October 31<sup>st</sup>, 2022 from 5pm-7pm. Trustee Mary Potter made a motion to approve the date and time for Halloween for the Village of Bismarck, with a second by Trustee Sheila Switzer. The motion passed by roll call vote.

Jeff Beukelman- Yea	Terry Light- Yea	Kris Kizer-Yea
Mary Potter- Yea	Karel Volpert- Yea	Sheila Switzer-Yea

- iii. The Annual Village Burn is set for October 22<sup>nd</sup>. Mr. Dan Wright is taking charge of this event, as he has in the past. He has done a fantastic job of finding places to burn the brush in a safe manner, and he is willing to help any residents get the brush from their yards for the burn that day. This event would not be as successful as it is without Mr. Wright’s dedication and assistance each year. The Board would like to thank Mr. Wright for taking the time to organize and monitor this event each year. President Brown would like to purchase food for the volunteers that day with Board approval. The Board agreed that President Brown could purchase food for the event that day for the volunteers using his discretionary funds.

- iv. President Brown discussed that he would like to entertain a donation to Landon Potter as he faces a personal health challenge. Trustee Kris Kizer made a motion to approve a donation to Landon Potter, with a second by Trustee Karel Volpert. The motion passed by roll call vote, with Trustee Jeff Beukelman abstaining because he is too close to the situation as a teacher at the high school.

Jeff Beukelman- Abstain	Terry Light- Yea	Kris Kizer-Yea
Mary Potter- Yea	Karel Volpert- Yea	Sheila Switzer-Yea

- v. Clerk Brandye Kizer announced that the packets for the 2023 Consolidated Election have been received and they are now available for pickup. The offices open are for President and (3) Trustee seats. The filing period will be December 12<sup>th</sup>, 2022-December 19<sup>th</sup>, 2022. The Trustee seats that will be open are Trustee Kris Kizer, Trustee Karel Volpert and Trustee Sheila Switzer. President Mike Brown seat is also open. Current Trustees who want to re-run will need to get a packet. Election is set for April 4<sup>th</sup>, 2023.

- 12. **Date and Time of Next Meeting** –The next regular meeting will be held at the Village Office in Bismarck, Illinois, at 6:30 p.m. on October 18th, 2022. Bills to be considered for payment and items for the agenda are to be submitted by October 11th, 2022, to Village Clerk and Village Treasurer.
- 13. **Adjournment** – With no further business to come before the Board at this time, upon motion by Trustee Jeff Beukelman, with a second by Trustee Sheila Switzer, the meeting was adjourned at 7:32 p.m. The motion passed by acclamation.

Respectfully Submitted,

Brandye Kizer, Clerk

**APPROVED 10/18/2022**