

VILLAGE OF BISMARCK
County of Vermilion, State of Illinois
Minutes of Regular Board Meeting, December 19, 2024

1. At 6:34 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, Sheila Switzer, Mary Potter, Kris Kizer, Tyler Lappin and President Mike Brown. Treasurer Adam Muehl and Village Code Enforcement Officer Charles Stahl were also in attendance. Trustee Jeff Beukelman was absent. A quorum was established. Audience members in attendance were Rick Kentner, Cole Heidrick, Mitchell Harper, Tim and Patti Welker, Kari Hamilton, Kirby and Sierra Reich, Jerry Courson, Dan Wright, Julie Sheets, Janet Wright, Alex Kentner and Tom Kentner.
3. Approval of agenda was made on a motion by Trustee Sheila Switzer and second by Trustee Kris Kizer. The motion passed by acclamation.
4. Approval of the minutes for Regular Board Meeting held on November 21st, 2023, was made on a motion by Trustee Mary Potter and a second by Trustee Kris Kizer. Motion passed by acclamation.
5. Public Comments/Questions: Sierra Riech voiced concerns about who makes the decision to change an ordinance and if Planning Commission Committee Member Rick Kentner could be excused from participating in those discussions since his property may benefit from a Solar Farm. It was discussed that the chairman does not vote on matters unless there is a tie, but he should abstain from voting in that situation and ensure that all members of the planning commission committee are in attendance to vote. Mr. Dan Wright voiced concerns about traffic on Bowman and how the cars drive too fast, and he was almost rear ended. It is a safety concern, and he feels something needs to be done. It was recommended that village residents voice their concerns to the state representative Chapin Rose. The Village has been working with IDOT to obtain traffic studies to get the speed limit reduced or at least get flashing speed signs on the road. Ms. Julie Sheets asked if the flags at the Brewhouse could be moved back as they are a hazard and block the view of incoming vehicles.

Mr. Tom Kentner asked if the Village Board could elect to have residents in the buffer zone on the Village Board. Attorney Brian Lawlyes stated that is a law that the Village Board must be comprised of residents within the village proper. This is not something the Village can change as it is State law. The residents would have to be annexed into the Village proper in order to be able to be on the Village Board. Mr. Rick Kentner stated that the Village Board has agreed to have members within the buffer participate on the committees for this reason, so they have a voice. He stated that the Planning Commission is comprised of 4 members in the Village and 3 outside in the buffer. There is a seat open for the Planning Commission and they would prefer someone in the buffer. There is also a seat available on the Zoning Board of Appeals and would prefer someone in the Buffer. There was a discussion on whether the property could be rezoned without the Village's consent. It was stated that the County and State cannot overturn a zoning from the Village. Mr. Tom Kentner stated that this is why he wants to get things started with the ordinances as soon as possible and get ahead of things. He asked the Village to be proactive and protect the Village and the residents. Mr. Tom Kentner presented the signed petitions to the Village Board and stated they have more to get signed. The overall census of the Village residents appears to be against the issuance of a Solar Farm. Attorney Lawlyes discussed that the Village law firm can help with creating an ordinance for solar farms and wind farms. It is not a quick thing and will take time, but the process can be started to be proactive. It would have to cite statutory law, but Bismarck could tailor some things specifically for Bismarck. Ms. Kari Hamilton asked if anyone has come forward to request a zoning change or any information related to the solar farm. The Village Board has not been contacted. Mr. Kentner asked about a timeframe for the Ordinance completion. The Attorney stated that it would be possible to get one in place by March or April 2024.

6. President's Comments: President Brown welcomed everyone. No questions noted.
7. Correspondence: None
8. **Treasurer's Report**

Treasurer Adam Muehl presented the Treasurer's report. Most of the bills paid out this month are for regular and recurring bills, including monthly and quarterly payroll. Total bills this month were \$4,956.69. There was one case from the Vermilion County Animal Regulation for a cost of \$143.00. Trustee Kris Kizer made a motion to approve treasurer's report and bills as presented, with a second by Trustee Sheila Switzer. As Trustee Terry Light's business, Berry's Garden Center, had an invoice due this month, he abstained from voting. The motion passed by roll call vote.

Jeff Beukelman- absent	Terry Light- Abstain	Kris Kizer-Yea
Mary Potter- Yea	Tyler Lappin- Yea	Sheila Switzer-Yea

Treasurer Adam Muehl's report presented, reported that the account balances as of 11/30/2023 are as follows:

New General Fund	\$413,836.54
Old General Fund	\$12,925.37
TIF	\$149,286.83
MFT	\$119,547.31

Treasurer Adam Muehl requested approval to transfer \$12,825.37 from the Old General Fund to the New General Fund. Trustee Kris Kizer made a motion to approve, with a second by Trustee Mary Potter, to approve the transfer of funds as presented. The motion passed by roll call vote.

Jeff Beukelman- absent	Terry Light- Yea	Kris Kizer-Yea
Mary Potter- Yea	Tyler Lappin- Yea	Sheila Switzer-Yea

9. Reports of committees and assignments

a. Keep Bismarck Beautiful

- i. Trustee Sheila Switzer announced the Holiday Trim and Lighting Winners: Julie Sheets for the Brown Brothers Store front on Holloway; Sheri and Stacy Pickett on Prairie Lane; and Bryon Denton and Jason Jeffries on Crystal Lane. Congratulations to these winners for fabulous decorating for the Holiday Spirit.
- ii. Clerk Brandye Kizer recognized the Key Club at the High School for volunteering their time to help with planting greenery in the Village pots.

The students who took time out of their busy schedules and that the Village is grateful for their assistance are Mattilynn Harper, Emily Key, Krislynn Kizer, Addie Kruse, Maci Long, Charlotte Lyman, Ella Smalley, Kadynce Sullivan, and Ella Tutwiler. These students are the future of our village, and we want to acknowledge their participation and involvement in our Village. The Village thanks you all for your invaluable volunteerism.

The Village would also like to thank Trustees Terry Light, Mary Potter, Sheila Switzer, Jeff Beukelman and Mr. Dave Switzer for helping out to make the Village beautiful and festive.

b. Liquor Commission Committee

- i. President Brown, Trustees Terry Light and Kris Kizer discussed the renewal application received from the Brew House, LTD for renewal of their Class D and Class K liquor license. The Brew House also submitted their renewal application for the Gaming Terminal. President Brown stated that everything was completed and received in order to renew their request for the next year. No questions by the board. They have been pleased with the Brew House and it is really nice and a nice addition to the Village of Bismarck.

c. Planning Commission Committee/Zoning Board of Appeals-

- i. Planning Commission Chairman Mr. Rick Kentner presented the building permit request for Mrs. Patricia Evans at 16859 E. 2550 North Road. She is requesting to build an outbuilding on her current property. The Planning Commission Committee is recommending

the Village Board approve the building permit request as presented. The Village Board members reviewed the information received and were given the opportunity to ask questions.

- ii. Planning Commission Chairman Mr. Rick Kentner presented the building permit request for Mr. and Mrs. Gary and Cynthia Jaeger at 548 S. Chicago Ave. They are requesting to build a new garage on their current property and remove an old existing shed. The Planning Commission Committee is recommending to the Village Board to approve the building permit request as presented. The Village Board members reviewed the information received and were given the opportunity to ask questions.

d. Ordinance

- i. Clerk Brandye Kizer had Ty Eshleman from Chamlin and Associates join by Zoom to present his information on the Village Mapping. Mr. Eshleman discussed that he has recently changed companies and wanted to know if the Village wanted to have him transfer the Village to someone else at Chamlin and Associates or did they want to continue to have Mr. Eshleman work with the Village at his new company. The Village Board stated that they would like to move with Mr. Eshleman to his new company. Mr. Eshleman will drop off larger maps for review this coming Thursday at the office.
- ii. President Brown discussed that the Village Board will get a committee together to review the Solar Ordinances and with the committee and the attorney will get a draft going and some provisions. President Brown asked Mr. Tom Kentner if he would be willing to head the committee. Trustee Terry Light stated that he would like to see no ground mounted Solar Panels in the ordinance.
- iii. Code Enforcement Officer Charles Stahl discussed whether the Village wanted to have a garbage ordinance in place. The Village currently does have a small ordinance regarding lids on trash cans to keep animals and rodents out of the trash. He stated that residents are leaving trash out along the roadway for days and the garbage cans are being blown into the road and trash is being thrown around. He stated that we would identify the size of the containers and certain times trash cans be placed for pickup. Trustee Sheila Switzer stated that she understands the lids and that trash cans should only be placed out at a certain time, but size may be too “picky”. She doesn’t feel like that is a priority. Trustee Terry Light stated that he doesn’t feel this is a priority right now, with other issues that have been raised. The Village Board agreed to not move further with this at this time.
- iv. Village Clerk presented the Annual Tax Levy and Supplemental Annual Budget and Appropriation Ordinance for review and adoption. This is something that is required every year and has to be filed with the County by the 4th Tuesday of December. Trustee Kris Kizer made a motion, with a second by Trustee Tyler Lappin, to approve the Tax Levy and Supplemental Annual Budget and Appropriation Ordinance. The motion passed by roll call vote.

Jeff Beukelman- absent	Terry Light- Yea	Kris Kizer-Yea
Mary Potter- Yea	Tyler Lappin- Yea	Sheila Switzer-Yea

e. Health and Safety

- i. New Health and Safety Ordinance Complaints
 - a. Code Enforcement Officer Stahl discussed 8 new violation letters will be sent to residents.
 - b. Code Enforcement Officer Stahl discussed the previous violation letters sent to residents. He reviewed the current status of the existing letters mailed. He reported that of the previous violations sent out the status is as follows:
 - (19) Violations have been completed and are no longer in violation
 - (5) Violations set for Tilton Court Status Hearing (2/6/2024)
 - (3) Violations sent to Tilton for FIRST appearance Notice (TBD)
 - (5) Violations with extensions, in process or repairs scheduled.

f. Budget and Finance

- i. Village Clerk presented the invoice for Chamlin and Associates for mapping services for a total of \$2,773.15. Trustee Kris Kizer made a motion, with a second by Trustee Terry Light, to approve the invoice as presented. The motion passed by roll call vote.

Jeff Beukelman- absent	Terry Light- Yea	Kris Kizer-Yea
Mary Potter- Yea	Tyler Lappin- Yea	Sheila Switzer-Yea

- ii. Village Clerk presented the RMA Annual Liability Insurance Invoice for \$5,986.79. Trustee Kris Kizer made a motion, with a second by Trustee Mary Potter, to approve the invoice. The motion passed by roll call vote.

Jeff Beukelman- absent	Terry Light- Yea	Kris Kizer-Yea
Mary Potter- Yea	Tyler Lappin- Yea	Sheila Switzer-Yea

g. Tax Increment Financing (TIF)

It was discussed whether TIF funds could be used to help businesses, such as Hagley’s Lawnmower shop, with roofing expenses. President brown will look into that process.

h. Public Works/Municipal Projects (Roads, Drainage, other improvements)-MFT Funded Projects-

i. Public Works (non-MFT Funds)

- i. President Brown reported that everything is on track to be submitted for the grant. We will be ready to submit when grant opens.

- ii. Village Clerk presented the Donohue Invoice for completion of Task Order No. 1 for the unsewered grant for \$1,320.00. Trustee Terry Light made a motion, with a second by Trustee Sheila Switzer, to approve the invoice. The motion passed by roll call vote.

Jeff Beukelman- absent	Terry Light- Yea	Kris Kizer-Yea
Mary Potter- Yea	Tyler Lappin- Yea	Sheila Switzer-Yea

- iii. President Brown discussed that he continues to try and reach out to residents along 2750 that would be impacted by the proposed sidewalk from Shake Rag to the High School. The roadway is so narrow that the sidewalk would have to cut into the homeowners’ properties along that road. Every homeowner in that area that would be impacted would have to agree to allow the sidewalk to be placed. He has spoken to several homeowners, but he has not contacted all of them. He will continue to try and reach them.

- iv. President Brown discussed an invoice received by Mr. Ryan Mullins for \$700.00 for the tree stump removed in front of the Sims home on Chicago Ave. A quote was received by Simmons Tree Service for \$500 each for the tree stumps on South ST (Pundt) and on Chicago (Stimac). Trustee Tyler Lappin asked if the \$700 was a quote or an invoice. President Brown stated that he already had Mullins remove the tree stump. Trustee Terry Light made a motion, with a second by Trustee Kris Kizer, to approve quotes from Simmons Tree Service for stump removal and to pay the invoice for Mullins for the tree stump removed, as presented. Trustee Tyler Lappin stated that although we have no choice but to pay an invoice for work that was completed, we need to be mindful of not having work completed before it is approved by the Village Board. The stumps were not supposed to be removed yet, but only quotes received. The motion passed by roll call vote. Trustee Tyler Lappin Abstained from voting.

Jeff Beukelman- Absent	Terry Light- Yea	Kris Kizer-Yea
Mary Potter- Yea	Tyler Lappin- Abstain	Sheila Switzer-Yea

v. President Brown discussed that when the tree was removed in Chicago in front of Sims house, the tile was broke underneath. It was repaired for a cost of \$225.00 by Ryan Mullins. Trustee Kris Kizer made a motion, with a second by Trustee Sheila Switzer, to pay the invoice, as presented. The motion passed by roll call vote. Trustee Tyler Lappin abstained from voting.

Jeff Beukelman- absent	Terry Light- Yea	Kris Kizer-Yea
Mary Potter- Yea	Tyler Lappin- Abstain	Sheila Switzer-Yea

vi. President Brown discussed that a quote was received by Ryan Mullins for \$2100.00 to remove the sidewalk from Sim's house to the corner of South St on Chicago Ave. Trustee Tyler Lappin asked if we had received any other quotes. President Brown stated no. Trustee Tyler Lappin asked if we could table it until next month and see if we could obtain at least another quote or two. Motion to table until another quote was received was made by Trustee Tyler Lappin, with a second by Trustee Terry Light. Motion passed by acclamation.

j. Permits/Zoning/Liquor Applications

i. Trustee Kris Kizer made a motion, with a second by Trustee Tyler Lappin, to approve renewal of Liquor Licenses for the Brew House, LTD for Class D and Class K license, and approval to renew Gaming Terminal application, as presented. The motion passed by roll call vote.

Jeff Beukelman- absent	Terry Light- Yea	Kris Kizer-Yea
Mary Potter- Yea	Tyler Lappin- Yea	Sheila Switzer-Yea

ii. Trustee Terry Light made a motion, with a second by Trustee Sheila Switzer, to approve building permit for Mrs. Patricia Evans, as presented. The motion passed by roll call vote.

Jeff Beukelman- absent	Terry Light- Yea	Kris Kizer-Yea
Mary Potter- Yea	Tyler Lappin- Yea	Sheila Switzer-Yea

iii. Trustee Kris Kizer made a motion, with a second by Trustee Sheila Switzer, to approve a building permit for Mr. and Mrs. Gary and Cynthia Jaeger, as presented. The motion passed by roll call vote.

Jeff Beukelman- absent	Terry Light- Yea	Kris Kizer-Yea
Mary Potter- Yea	Tyler Lappin- Yea	Sheila Switzer-Yea

10. Old Business

11. New Business

Discussed Annual Meeting Dates for 2024 for Regular Village of Bismarck Board Meetings. Village Board of Trustees agreed to keep the dates for the 3rd Tuesday of each month.

12. Consideration of such matters as may lawfully come before the Board, or which are a result of public comments or questions. And/or are the result of an executive/closed session.
13. **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 January 16, 2024. Bills to be considered for payment and items for the agenda are to be submitted by January 9, 2023, to the Village Clerk and Village Treasurer.
14. **Adjournment** – With no further business to come before the current Board at this time, upon motion by Trustee Kris Kizer with a second by Trustee Sheila Switzer, the meeting was adjourned at 8:17pm. The motion passed by acclamation.

APPROVED 1-16-24

Respectfully Submitted,

Brandye Kizer, Clerk