

Village of Bellwood
Meeting Minutes ~ August 2nd, 2021

The Village of Bellwood Board of Trustees held its regular meeting on August 2nd, 2021, at the Village Auditorium. Chairwoman Joyce Napier, called the meeting to order at 7:04 P.M. with Co-Chair Scott Romshek, and Trustees Connie Scholz, Jeremy Junck, and Lee Nickolite in attendance. Village employees Jennifer Brown, Paul Nickolite, Ray Sueper were also present.

Chairwoman Napier stated that the open meetings law is in effect.

The Pledge of Allegiance was said.

The minutes of the July 6th, 2021 meeting were up for approval. Chairwoman Napier motioned to approve the minutes; Trustee Junck seconded. Motion passed all for none against.

Chairwoman Napier made note that the Clerks office computer has been out of commission and is undergoing repairs.

The July receipts and bills were read by Clerk Brown at 7:07. Trustee Scholz motioned to approve the bills as read, Co-Chair Romshek seconded. Motion passed all for none against.

21-Jul

Vendor	Amount	Check #
Ace Hardware	\$83.93	15418
Napa Auto Parts	\$287.20	15429
Butler County Landfill	\$300.00	15441
Egr, Birkel, & Wollmer PC	\$1,262.50	15444
Barcel Landscape	\$92.50	15439
Moravec & Associates	\$593.75	15428
Titan Machinery	\$248.48	15432
Aqua-Chem	\$2,040.17	15437
BJs Hardware	\$48.17	15440
Nebraska Public Health Env. Lab	\$15.00	15447
Butler County Public Power	\$2,568.17	15421
League of Municipalities	\$1,109.00	15446/15445
Dunker	\$280.00	15443
West Point Implement	\$62.00	15449
United States Treasury	\$2,849.84	E-Pay
Windstream	\$361.95	15450
City Truck Payment	\$525.93	E-Pay
Loan Transfer	\$696.95	E-Pay
Card Services	\$848.29	15442
NERWA	\$125.00	15391
Butler County Treasurer	\$1,000.00	15420
Federal 941	\$2,849.84	E-Pay
Principal Life Insurance	\$150.00	15431
	\$12,118.73	

Butler County Sheriff's Department:

Sheriff Dion was in attendance and reported that the Sheriffs Department has been on regular patrol throughout the Village in the last month. He noted that they had a few complaints over the Bellwood Daze weekend concerning 4-wheelers, he discussed the occurrence of an accident north of town during the weekend and that they had made contact with juveniles that were in the vicinity on the 4-wheelers. Sheriff Dion stated that the department had been lax, but said that they intend to tighten back up. Resident Brian Wilson asked if a dog who resides on Walnut St has been determined to be a Pitt Bull. The Sheriff and Zoning Administrator Ray Sueper replied that at this time it has not been determined as the Pitt Bull is not an AKC registered breed and the veterinarian refused to participate in the identification of breed for that reason. Both Sheriff Dion and Zoning Administrator Sueper said that they have not seen the dog in question recently.

Complaint Forms – None

Tree Board – No report

Planning and Zoning –

Zoning Administrator Ray Sueper read through his report for the month of July. It was noted that the Shuman Brothers are currently being prosecuted on 20 counts, in the amount of \$10,000 each and that the trial date is set for September 4th, 2021. Any further actions and communications will be held off until after the court hearing. Chairwoman Napier discussed that at the July 6th, 2021 meeting filing nuisance charges on the residents of 511 Walnut Street and asked how that was progressing. Zoning Administrator Sueper replied that he had not yet done that but had plans to work on the following day. Chairwoman Napier also asked if verbal warnings or correction orders had been given on violations of Village Code. Zoning Administrator Sueper said that last week he had given verbal warnings and that this week would come correction orders for those still not in compliance. Some violations included residences in excess of the 8in grass/weed height limit, and trees that need to be removed from fences in the Village. The board was in agreement for Ray to be firmer in his violation findings. Chairwoman Napier thanked Zoning Administrator Sueper for all of his work thus far in regards to the SENDD grant application and Zoning Administrator Sueper also stated that there continue to be grant opportunities for the Village via SENDD in other areas as well.

Water Treatment Center: All wells and water samples are good, and all is running well per Superintendent Nickolite.

Utilities Report: No Report

Planning Commission – Chairwoman Napier asked Zoning Administrator Sueper for Planning and Zoning Commission board appointments.

Other business –**Public Hearing for Consideration of Master Sidewalk Plan; Grants, Funding, & Layout:**

Public Hearing called to order at 7:13

Chairwoman Napier asked that the floor be given to the presenters and that all comments and questions be kept to 3-5 minutes, and that everyone be respectful of one another

Zoning Administrator Ray Sueper and Southeast Nebraska Development District (SEND) representative Kelly Gentrup presented information on the application, grant, estimates, and general processes involved. The information provided was as follows; JEO provided a cost estimate of

\$427,500 cost estimate which includes sidewalks, fire hydrants, and administrative fees. The estimate for the 10% that would be the Village of Bellwood's responsibility and would be split 50/50 with residents is \$42,500. Zoning Administrator Sueper said that residents would be assessed 5% cost of the sidewalk. Average frontage would be 250-300 feet per household. Ms. Gentrup explained that Butler County joined SENDD which allowed the Village of Bellwood to obtain membership and apply for this grant and that is also what allows Ms. Gentrup to apply for the grant on the Village's behalf. She also discussed that SENDD membership opens many opportunities for other grants and programs as SENDD members. Co-Chair Romshek noted that the proposed map is not set in stone and that the final determination of areas will be met by the amount of funds that are acquired upon grant approval. It was stated that a future meeting between Board Members and the Planning and Zoning Commission will be needed in the future to determine the final plans, contingent on grant approval. Chairwoman Napier asked when we would know if the grant was approved and when the project would begin. Ms. Gentrup answered that notifications to grant winners would be made at the beginning of 2022, and that the project could begin in Spring 2022.

Comments and questions from residents and property owners were as follows;

Tom Forre asked what the notification process was for property owners. Zoning Administrator Sueper answered that the Public hearing notice was posted in the Village office, the Bellwood Post Office and published in the Banner Press. Mr. Forre expressed concern that as a property owner who does not reside in Bellwood, what steps would be taken to notify those individuals as the notice was not put on the website. It was stated that property owners will be notified by mail if the grant is approved and that project moves forward.

Resident Bill Macoubrie stated that he thinks the sidewalk project is a great idea, but that he has concerns in regards to existing sidewalks needing rehabilitation. He discussed the areas around the school and East of Esplanade and other areas of the Village of Bellwood. Co-Chair Romshek stated that the proposed plan can be adjusted and which sidewalks will be completed will be dependent on the amount of funds secured by the grant. Zoning Administrator Sueper added that there will be a certain percentage of the sidewalk plan that will be shunted from one area to another and that they will consider a secondary list for sidewalks.

Trustee Nickolite asked how the fire hydrants that need to be replaced play into the quote for the sidewalk project. Ms. Gentrup explained that the hydrants are a part of the grant proposal and that they are figured into the cost estimate. Zoning Administrator Ray Sueper stated that at this point we are in the proposal stage of the application process and that the grant must be submitted by August 15th, 2021.

Resident Brian Wilson asked that the projected price per block is? Zoning Administrator Sueper said that the estimate per block is \$16,000 per Jason Campbell, and that the Planning Commission tried to add in costs for tree removal, sprinkler system replacements, grass seed etc.. Brian also asked if there was more than one estimate and if there is a plan to advertise more. Co-Chair Romshek stated that JEO will put it out for bids as that is part of their role in the project.

After no further comments or questions, Chairwoman Napier concluded by reading the resolution for the CDBG funds at 7:35 p.m. Motion accept made by Co-Chair Romshek, 2nd by Trustee Nickolite. All in favor, none against.

Motion to approve membership fee of \$275.00 per year made by Trustee Nickolite, 2nd by Chairwoman Napier. All in favor, none against.

Public Hearing exited at 7:38 p.m.

Chairwoman Napier thanked residents in attendance on the successful completion of Bellwood Daze 2021. Dave Hough, Bellwood Daze Committee Chair, commented that the street dance was down in numbers, but still saw 400-500 people in attendance. The cornhole tournament went over well, and due to losing a volleyball court the sand volleyball tournament hosted 18 teams this year and began around 8:00 a.m. and went all day. Mr. Hough encouraged anyone who would like to be on the committee to reach out to him. Bellwood Daze Committee member Jeff Romshek also thanked Village Utilities Supervisor, Paul Nickolite, for his help throughout the busy weekend as well.

Consideration of 3rd Reading of Ordinance 2020-01 – Co-op Annexation

Chairwoman Napier read the ordinance for the 3rd time in accordance with law. After reading the motion to approve Ordinance 2020-01 was made by Chairwoman Napier, 2nd by Co-Chair Romshek. Motion passed; All for, None against.

Chairwoman Napier read a letter sent by the Keystone Pipeline project terminating their contract with the Village of Bellwood. Termination is effective October 20th, 2021.

Chairwoman Napier discussed LB-26. LB-26 would exempt residential water consumption from sales and use tax. The effective date of LB-26 is October 1, 2021.

Motion to adjourn from General Session to Executive Session to discuss temporary office assistance made by Chairwoman Napier, 2nd by Co-Chair Romshek. All in favor none against.

General Session adjourned at 8:06

Executive Session called to order at 8:11

Adjourned from Executive Session and return to General Session at 8:34

Motion to adjourn General Session made by Chairwoman Napier, 2nd by Co-Chair Romshek

Motion passed all in favor none against.

Next Meeting will be Tuesday, September 14th 2021.

Village Clerk,
Jennifer Brown