

**Bellaire Village Council
Special Meeting Minutes
August 9, 2023**

1. **Call to Order:** President Bennett called the meeting to order at 3:00 PM.
2. **Roll Call Attendance:**
 - Present:** President Dan Bennett, Trustees David Ciganick, Pat Boyd, Bryan Hardy, Trish Drollinger, Helen Schuckel & Eldon McPherson.
 - Absent:** N/A
 - Staff Present:** Cathy Odom, Treasurer, Nicole Essad, Clerk, & Bill Drollinger, Police Chief
 - Also Present:** Terry McBee.
3. **Agenda:** New business item a, current employee wages, was added to the agenda.

Motion by Schuckel, seconded by Boyd, to approve the agenda as amended. Motion carried by voice vote.
4. **Conflict of Interest:** None presented.
5. **Public Comment:** None presented.
6. **Old Business**
 - a) **Union Contract:** Council was informed of minor changes made to the contract. One was a word change on page 1, bargaining unit was changed to bargaining agent. On page 6, the word calendar was added to read “30 calendar days.” The margins were justified, and the union changed the title page of the contract to include the FOP. The FOP has agreed to the contract and has already signed it.

Motion by Boyd, seconded by Hardy, to have a roll call vote to accept the union contract retroactive to August 3, 2023. Motion carried by roll call vote. Ayes: Boyd, Hardy, Ciganick, Drollinger, McPherson, Schuckel & Bennett. Nays: None.
7. **New Business:**
 - a) **Current Employee Wages:** Trustee Boyd asked how the budget will be affected if we give the rest of the employees the same 3.5% increase. It was noted that the effect on the budget would be approximately \$9,104. This includes fringe benefits. Also noted was that much of the increase would come from other funds, not the general fund, due to wages being accrued from the department where work is completed. The DPW works many hours in water, sewer major streets & local streets. Trustee Boyd noted if the millage doesn't pass, Council may have to decide if the number of officers we have on staff has to change. Treasurer Odom noted that the Council does not have to consider this wage increase for the other employees. They are not under contract and we are already using the fund balance for the current budget. It was also stated that if we don't, we could lose employees and we don't want that to happen. Trustee Ciganick reminded everyone that we continue to spend in the wrong direction and cannot continue doing this. There was a concern among several members about losing employees if we don't provide for the increase.

Motion by Boyd, seconded by McPherson, to give the remaining employees a 3.5% increase effective August 3, 2023. Motion carried by voice vote with one nay vote from Trustee Ciganick.
8. **Discussion Items:**
 - **President Bennett:** President Bennett explained that all members were given the brochures about the millage. When to begin distributing them out and promoting the millage was discussed. The election is scheduled for November 7. Also discussed was what is and is not legal as far as campaigning.

- **Trustee McPherson:** Mr. McPherson said we need to make sure we are keeping up with the number of lead line replacements we are required to do each year. He also questioned how many times we are using the boring machine.
- **Trustee Boyd:** Trustee Boyd explained that some new information came to light and apologized to Officer McBee.

9. Closing Member/Public Comment:

- **Trustee Drollinger:** noted that she has not received any word on how the ballpark fundraiser is coming and hopes to have more information at the next meeting.
- **Trustee Ciganick:** asked when the employee wage increase will begin, and it was noted that it starts August 3, 2023.
- **Terry McBee:** asked if anything can be done about comments made about an employee that aren't correct. This prompted a conversation about complaint forms or that we develop something so that complaints can be in writing. Trustee Ciganick suggested that a formal procedure be put in place. Chief Drollinger also suggested that it must be signed, or it is disregarded.

Adjourn: Meeting adjourned at 3:25 pm.

Respectfully submitted:
Cathy Odom, Deputy Clerk
Minutes are subject to approval.

Approved: _____

Date: _____