

**Bellaire Village Council  
Meeting Minutes  
December 3, 2025**

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

2). **Roll Call Attendance:**

**Present:** President Dan Bennett, Council Trustees Patrick Boyd, Trish Drollinger, Stacy Maza, Eldon McPherson, Helen Schuckel, and Andrew Turner.

**Absent:**

**Staff Present:** Bill Drollinger, Chief of Police; Aaron Kirt, DPW Supervisor; Nora Stead, Treasurer; Angela St. Pierre, Clerk

**Staff Absent:**

**Also Present:** Terry VanAlstine, Margie Boyd, Paul Sak, Chrissy Langdon, Jennifer Todd, Adrienne Wolff, Tammy Dewulf, Melissa Zelenak, Kristin Bunte, Leslie Meyers, Diane Bennett, Jill Barnard, and three other unidentified.

3). **Approval of Agenda:** The agenda was approved as amended with the additions of #4 “Attorney Representative” under new business item D) Administration and Personnel Committee Recommendations.

**Motion by Boyd, seconded by McPherson, to approve the agenda as amended. Motion carried by voice vote.**

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

5). **Consent Agenda:** The consent agenda was approved as presented.

**Motion by Boyd, seconded by Schuckel, to approve the consent agenda as presented. Motion carried by voice vote.**

6). **Public Comment on Agenda Items:** None Presented.

7). **Old Business**

a) **County Update:** Terry VanAlstine was present to give an update on the County. The Health Department is trying to add clarification to the septic tank ordinance for enforcement. All of the new windows are installed at the County Building. They are working on hiring architects and construction management firms to start moving forward on the public safety center.

b) **DDA Update:** Margie Boyd was present to give an update on the DDA. Courtney Bittner was elected as Treasurer for the DDA. The art from the exhibit is for sale online. They have started the budgeting process and are basing their priorities off of a community survey that was sent out to dda members. They discussed hiring a part-time director to help with the organization of the DDA and grant writing efforts. At their recent meeting they met with DPW Supervisor to collaborate and coordinate better and understand priorities.

8). **New Business**

a) **Resolution #19 of 2025: PA 152 Opt Out:** Resolution to opt out of Public Act 152 pertaining to the decision making of employee healthcare.

**Motion by Boyd, seconded by Turner for a roll call vote on Resolution #19 of 2025.**

**Yes: Boyd, Turner, Drollinger, Maza, McPherson, Schuckel, Bennett**

**No:**

**Motion Carried.**

b) **Resolution #18 of 2025: Detachment Denial 6685 Bellaire Highway:** A resolution denying the detachment request for 6685 Bellaire Highway. A general discussion was held on if this would be “good” for the Village.

**Motion by McPherson, seconded by Boyd for a roll call vote on Resolution #18 of 2025.**

**Yes: McPherson, Boyd, Drollinger, Maza, Schuckel, Turner, Bennett**

No:

**Motion Carried.**

- c) **Craven Park Campground Rate Increase:** Recommended by the Parks Committee is raising the reservable sites rates by \$5.00 and removing the reservation fee.

**Motion by Drollinger, seconded by the Parks Committee, that all of the reservable site's rates be raised by \$5.00 and removing the "reservation fee". Motion carried by voice vote.**

**d) Administration and Personnel Committee Recommendations:**

1. **Cost of Living:** The Administration and Personnel Committee are recommending approval of the 3% cost of living increase.

**Motion by Bennett, seconded by Turner, to accept the 3% cost of living increase. Yes- Bennett, Turner, Boyd, Maza, McPherson, Schuckel. Abstain- Drollinger. Motion carried.**

2. **Jason Alspaugh Wage Step:** The Administration and Personnel Committee are recommending moving Mr. Alspaugh to wage step #3 DPW Worker \$25.08 per hour effective March 1<sup>st</sup>, 2026. There was a general discussion held concerning how the review process should be handled.

**Motion by Boyd, seconded by McPherson to move Jason Alspaugh to wage step #3 DPW worker \$25.08 per hour effective March 1<sup>st</sup>, 2026. Motion carried by voice vote.**

3. **Jesse Fisher Review:** The Administration and Personnel Committee are recommending accepting Chief Drollinger's review of Officer Fisher. Chief Drollinger provided a brief review of Officer Fisher.

**Motion by Boyd, seconded by Turner to table until reviews are completed for all employees.**

4. **Attorney Representative:** The Administration and Personnel Committee is recommending requesting a change in the assigned attorney to represent the Village as the current individual assigned was a previous employee for the Village and are concerned with possible conflicts from this previous employment.

**Motion by McPherson, seconded by Maza, to have the Clerk formally request another representative attorney to handle the Village business. Motion carried by voice vote.**

- e) **ZBA and Planning Commission Appointments:** Margie Boyd, Tammy Dewulf, and David Drummond of the ZBA and Chrissy Langdon of the Planning Commission terms have expired and are requesting reappointment. New term expirations for Margie Boyd, Tammy Dewulf, and David Drummond would be November 15, 2028. New term expirations for Chrissy Langdon would be November 20, 2028.

**Motion by Boyd, and seconded by McPherson, to reappoint Margie Boyd, Tammy Dewulf, and David Drummond to the ZBA. Motion carried by voice vote.**

**Motion by Boyd, and seconded by McPherson, to reappoint Chrissy Langdon to the Planning Commission. Motion carried by voice vote.**

- f) **JSI Engineering: Peninsula Fiber Network (PFN) Agreement Request:** PFN is requesting approval to place fiber optic along village roads to service a large project from Charlevoix to Gaylord. The project would not begin until March of 2026. It was discussed that the Village Attorney should review the agreement request and Village Codes to make sure the process is handled properly.

**Motion by McPherson, seconded by Drollinger, to refer this to the attorney. Motion carried by voice vote.**

- g) **Lions Club Parade Request:** The Lions Club would like to hold a parade downtown in the early afternoon of May 16<sup>th</sup>, 2026. It was discussed the benefits the Lions Club provides to the community such as donations to the food pantries. It was also discussed the staff's time involved for the permitting process and for overseeing the parade. Concerns with debris and garbage from parades were discussed and if there were any standards set for the clean up after parades.

**Motion by Turner, seconded by Boyd to table until the next meeting to allow staff to obtain more facts. Motion carried by voice vote.**

- h) **Friends of Richardi Park: Overview and Coordination Initiative:** Kristin Bunte and Jennifer Todd, members of the Friends of Richardi Park group, were present to introduce themselves and give an update on their efforts in assisting the Village in cleaning up Richardi Park. They provided a letter of support stating their intentions and requesting support from the Village.

**Motioned by Boyd, seconded by Drollinger, to accept their letter of support. Motion carried by voice vote.**

9). **Discussion Items:** None.

**10). Department/Committee Reports:**

- a) **Committee Reports:** None Presented.
- b) **Clerk/Zoning Administrator:** None Presented.
- c) **Treasurer/Deputy Clerk:** Nora Stead provided a written report.
- d) **Department of Public Works:** Aaron Kirt reported that the sewer pond project is completed. They have been busy plowing snow and with general maintenance of the Village. One of the employees is set to take their ~~CLD~~ CDL test in the following week.
- e) **Police Department:** Bill Drollinger reported that the attorneys have not reported anything back about the bow hunting ordinance. Officer Fisher should be back on patrol sometime the following week but has been using his light duty to complete online training. Mr. Drollinger has been selected to be the new Fire Chief with the loss of Chuck Shumaker.
- f) **Planning Commission:** None Presented.

**11. Closing Member/Public Comment:**

- a) **Leslie Meyers** gave a brief update on the dams and stated that she will be in attendance at the February 2026 meeting to give a short presentation on the dam project.
- b) **Jill Barnard** spoke about Semrau Estates and their name change to Bella Vista Estates. She also spoke about the road names and wanted to follow up on the road adoption process in making their roads public.

**12. Adjourn:** Meeting adjourned at 8:11 P.M.

Compiled by Angela St. Pierre.

Minutes are subject to approval.

Approved: \_\_\_\_\_

Date: \_\_\_\_\_