

**Bellaire Village Council
Special Meeting Minutes
May 21, 2026**

1). Call to Order: President Bennett called the meeting to order at 6:00 PM.

2). Roll Call Attendance:

Present: President Dan Bennett, Council Trustees Patrick Boyd, Eldon McPherson, Helen Schuckel, and Andrew Turner.

Absent: Stacy Maza

Staff Present: Angela St. Pierre, Clerk

Staff Absent: Bill Drollinger, Chief of Police; Aaron Kirt, DPW Director; Nora Stead, Treasurer

3). Approval of Agenda: The agenda was approved as presented.

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

Prior to the vote Trustee Turner requested the following comment to be added to the minutes "This council voted to hold this special meeting for the sole benefit of one business. The second agenda item was added later. Both items should have been discussed and decided upon at the regular June meeting. This unnecessary special meeting comes at a cost to the taxpayers. Village residents will pay at least \$300 for the trustees and staff in attendance here today. We were told the business' permit request would take 60-120 days for processing. Financial burden is now placed on taxpayers to expedite the process two weeks earlier."

4). Conflict of Interest: None presented.

5). Public Comment on Agenda Items: None Presented.

6). Unfinished Business

a) Resolution #12 of 2026: Bee Well On-Premises Tasting Room Permit

Motion by Bennett, seconded by Boyd, for a roll call vote on Resolution #12 of 2026. Yes- Bennett, Boyd, McPherson, Schuckel, Turner.

Prior to the vote Trustee Turner requested the following comment to be added to the minutes "My postponement of this resolution on May 6th was not an indication of my lack of support for our businesses. Postponing the vote would not have caused any business to fail. The postponement of the vote regarding Bee Well serving beer and liquor was meant to gather additional facts and information to make a sound decision. Even more importantly following concerns being raised by a constituent. We have council rules of procedure and this document prevents being forced to vote on a matter without adequate time to prepare. I would have been negligent in my duty if I didn't ask for additional time. Based on publicity available documents the initial application for Bee Well to be licensed as a Micro Brewer and to obtain a permit for a Tasting Room for Beer and Wine was received by the Michigan Liquor Control Commission on 4/27/2026, just nine days prior to our last council meeting. This is the same date of their application to become a Small Distiller. It was not at all unreasonable to research these changes further. I do have a question: How many horn club members does Bee Well currently have? Just to put that out there, maybe we can find out later. I was the 30th person to join the Horn Club in support, renewed multiple times, and then became a lifetime member. The business spokesperson indicated that Bee Well is not doing well financially, so I would like to suggest everyone on this council and anyone in our community who is not already a horn club member to stop in and join. This supports the Bee Well employees and their families.

7). New Business

a) 207 N Genessee Payment Plan Request: The request for a payment plan due to a high water usage bill was discussed and indicated that approving a payment plan goes against our codebook.

No action was taken.

8). Discussion Items: None presented.

10). Department/Committee Reports: None presented.

11. Closing Member/Public Comment:

- a) **Ben Dominguez-Benner** was present to speak on behalf of his application to the open trustee position.
- b) **Trustee Turner** requested the following comment to be added to the minutes “I want to draw attention to the Council Rules of Procedure section 5.E. This section reads: “Option to Postpone. If a Village Council member has not had at least 20 days to research an item on the agenda scheduled for a possible vote, that member may ask that the item be postponed until the next Council meeting only. This request for postponement will need no support and item will be immediately postponed without further discussion.” On May 6th I requested postponement of a vote having only had six days to review an item. Further discussion was allowed to continue and appeared to be encouraged. The Village President allowed council members, staff, and members of the public to harass me and question my respectful postponement. This dysfunctional discussion was also in violation of our rules which require the Village President to acknowledge those who would like to speak. I would really like to know if those who acted outside our rules of procedure were contacted for reprimand or if that is reserved only for myself?”
- c) **President Bennett** spoke about the referenced section of the Rules of Procedure and how they conflict with another section and that the rules of procedure are on the agenda for the next meeting to discuss.
- d) **Trustee Boyd** personally apologized to Bee Well for the delay and hoped it did not cost them too much and look forward to seeing their changes.

12. Adjourn: Meeting adjourned at 6:09 P.M.

Compiled by Angela St. Pierre.

Minutes are subject to approval.

Approved: _____

Date: _____