

**CITY OF BELLA VILLA**

**BOARD OF ALDERMEN July 25, 2024**

**CALL TO ORDER 7:05 p.m.**

**ROLL CALL**

- Mayor Donna Puleo Present
- Alderman John Franklin Present
- Alderwoman Mary Sikorski Present (via Phone)
- Alderwoman Alice Lotspeich Present
- Alderman Bill Hansen Present
- Alderwoman Meghan Dunn Present (excused)
- Alderman Paul Sharp Present

**QUORUM**

**PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE**

**OTHERS PRESENT**

- Rosie Hurley, City Clerk
- Andrew Kinghorn, City Attorney
- Mike Brackett, Police Chief
- Donna Franklin, Community Development Commissioner
- Ray Reeder, Park and Street Commissioner

**RESIDENTS/PUBLIC IN ATTENDANCE**

- Kathleen Counts
- Jim Gamache
- Kay Gamache

**Approval of Minutes from June 27, 2024 Board of Aldermen Meeting**

Motion: Alderman Sikorski  
Second: Alderman Lotspeich  
All in favor: 5  
Opposed: 0  
**Motion passed**

**Approval of Minutes from June 27, 2024 Board of Aldermen Closed Session**

Motion: Alderman Franklin  
Second: Alderman Sikorski  
All in favor: 5  
Opposed: 0  
**Motion passed**

**Approval of Financial Statements from June 2024:**

Motion: Alderman Sikorski  
Second: Alderman Lotspeich  
All in favor: 5  
Opposed: 0  
**Motion passed**

## **Approval of the bills from June 2024**

Motion: Alderman Sikorski  
Second: Alderman Lotspeich  
All in favor: 5  
Opposed: 0

**Motion passed**

## **MAYOR'S REPORT – Mayor Puleo**

- New City Clerk introduced, Rosie Hurley
- JoAnne Yates, former Mayor and former Alderman passed
- Mr. Beir passed, resident
- 2 homes on Dallas will need to be sold

## **POLICE REPORT – Chief Bracket**

- Several car break-ins. Chief believes West end of St Charles is being hit by same group
- Looking into Federal program to get Ring cameras for residents at no cost as long as resident agrees to turn over footage if requested by police

- **TREASURER REPORT: Vacant**

## **HEALTH AND SANITATION – Alice Lotspeich**

- Commissioner Lotspeich: Letters going out to renters and owners about trash cans being left on the streets Ruprecht and Dallas

## **BUILDING: John Franklin**

- Commissioner Franklin performed the following inspections and issued permits since the June 2024 Board meeting:
  - 0 mechanical/building permit issued
  - 2 mechanical/building inspection
  - 2 home inspections
  - 2 home re-inspection

## **PARKS – Ray Reeder**

- The new trash cans installed in the park June, 2024.
- Mulch is being priced for the playground.

## **STREET AND SEWER – Ray Reeder**

- Getting bids for pot holes on Ave H and Dallas for repair

## **COMMUNITY DEVELOPMENT – Donna Franklin**

- Applying for street light grants

## **WARD ONE: ALDERMAN FRANKLIN and ALDERMAN LOTSPEICH**

- Nothing to report

**WARD TWO: ALDERMAN SHARP and ALDERMAN HANSEN**

Alderman Sharp – Trees in park are dead and should be cut down. Per Mayor Puleo Current downed limbs will be burned in barrels when it cools.

**WARD THREE: ALDERMAN DUNN and ALDERMAN SIKORSKI**

- Speeders on Ave H
- People are running and not stop sign
- Ave H and Ave C weeds are growing on sidewalk and right of way

**UNFINISHED BUSINESS**

- No additional bids were received for pothole repair.
- Discussion was had regarding the bids received for the replacement of the City Hall front porch. Alderman Hanson feels the porch should be repaired versus replaced. Alderman Sikorski feels the entire porch needs to be replaced because the ramp is too steep for safe wheelchair usage and the steps are a trip hazard.
- Hole at the top of stairs to be fixed after the repair of the ramp by Alderman Hansen
- City clerk to call Ram Jack and schedule

**NEW BUSINESS**

- Alderman Hansen requests the Chief get bids for lights with and without modification on the new police cars
- Parson signed new Squatters Laws- Attorney Kinghorn will draft an ordinance for city of Bella Villa to prepare process for residents if this occurs

**Motion to accept Ram Jack to fix City Hall ramp.**

Motion: John Franklin

Second: Bill Hanson

A roll call vote was called:

Alderman Lotspeich: yes

Alderman Franklin: yes

Alderman Hanson: yes

Alderman: Sikorski: no

Alderman Sharp: yes

Alderman Dunn: absent

**Motion Passed**

**Motion made to read by title only Bill 565**

Motion: Alderman Lotspeich

Second: Alderman Franklin

All in favor: 5

Opposed: 0

**Motion Passed**

**Motion made to read by title only Ordinance 544**

Motion: Alderman Lotspeich

Second: Alderman Franklin

All in favor: 5

Opposed: 0

**Motion Passed**

**RESIDENT/PUBLIC PARTICIPATION** (two minutes each)

- Non-Resident Kathleen Counts has several concerns:
  - Influx of unhoused
  - Drug activity
  - Pot holes in City
  
- Resident thanked the Mayor Puleo for the calls warning people about break-ins
  
- Resident Gamache will deliver Residential Information to neighbors and have them returned
  
- A resident concerned about safety of Elvira Moll:
  - No mulch
  - Border is not stable
  - Roots sticking up
  - Proposed getting 10-12 residents to help with park clean up
  
- Resident was concerned about trash being burned and wants police to look into it.
  
- Resident asked wards and Alderman to be made known.

**Motion made to go into closed session**

Motion: Alderman Franklin

Second: Alderman Hansen

All in favor: 5

Opposed: 0

**Motion Passed**

**Motion to adjourn regular session**

Motion: Alderman Sharp

Second: Alderman Franklin

All in favor: 5

Opposed: 0

**Motion Passed**

Meeting adjourned at 8:05p.m.

Mayor Puleo\_\_\_\_\_

Date:

City Clerk Hurley\_\_\_\_\_

Date: