

MINUTES OF THE REGULAR MEETING OF THE MAYOR AND BOARD OF TRUSTEES OF THE VILLAGE OF BOLINGBROOK – MARCH 12, 2024

CALL TO ORDER:

The Regular Meeting of the Mayor and Board of Trustees of the Village of Bolingbrook was called to order at the hour of 7:30 p.m. on March 12, 2024, in Bolingbrook, Illinois, by Mayor Mary S. Alexander-Basta.

PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE:

Mayor Mary S. Alexander-Basta requested Alexa Nieciag, Bolingbrook's first female Eagle Scout, to lead the pledge to the Flag.

ROLL CALL:

Village Clerk, Martha M. Barton, called the roll:

Present were: Mayor Mary S. Alexander-Basta, Trustees Maria A. Zarate, Michael T. Lawler, Michael J. Carpanzano, Troy J. Doris, Jose Quintero, and Jean M. Kelly

Absent: None

Also present were:

Village Clerk, Martha M. Barton; Village Attorney, Safaa Zarzour; Co-Administrators, Ken Teppel and Lucas Rickelman; Finance Director, Rosa Cojulun; Director of Public Works, Andres Orrego; Police Chief, Michael Rompa; Chief Information Officer, James Farrell; and Fire Chief, Jeff LaJoie.

Absent: Director of Community Development, Matt Eastman

JOURNAL OF PROCEEDINGS:

Motion Lawler, second Kelly to approve the minutes of the regular meeting of February 27, 2024, as submitted by the Village Clerk.

Voice vote. Motion carried.

APPROVAL OF AGENDA/ADDITIONS:

Village Attorney Zarzour indicated that there were no additions or corrections to the Agenda.

Motion Quintero, second Doris to approve the Agenda as presented.

Voice vote. Motion carried.

APPROVAL OF APPOINTMENTS – BOARDS AND COMMISSIONS:

None

SWEARING IN – BOARDS AND COMMISSIONS:

None

PROCLAMATIONS:

Ability Awareness Month - March 2024, accepted by Jill Kokur (STEP Teacher for Valley View School District) and seven present and former members of the STEP Program.

REPORTS OF OFFICERS:

Mayor:

Presentation to Alexa Nieciag, Bolingbrook’s first female Eagle Scout.

PUBLIC COMMENTS (AGENDA ITEMS ONLY):

None

BILL APPROVAL

Motion Doris, second Lawler to approve expenditures submitted as:

Bill Listing A – Payables in the amount of \$ 254,684.98

Bill Listing B – Prepays in the amount of \$ 1,466,210.73

Total: \$1,720,895.71

(Copies were made available in the Finance Department, Clerk’s Office, and on the Village website.)

ROLL CALL:	Yea	6	Carpanzano, Doris, Kelly, Lawler, Quintero, Zarate
	Nay	0	None
	Absent	0	None
	Abstentions	0	None

Motion carried.

RESOLUTIONS:

RESOLUTION 24R-012

APPROVING EMERGENCY REPAIR OF CLARIFIER NO. 1 AT SEWER TREATMENT PLANT (STP) NO. 2 (1000 W. BOUGHTON ROAD) BY WALKER PROCESS EQUIPMENT:

Motion Kelly, second Carpanzano to adopt a resolution approving emergency repair of Clarifier No. 1 at sewer treatment plant (STP) No.2 (1000 W. Boughton Road) by Walker Process Equipment:

Internal components have malfunctioned, and the clarifier is inoperable. The clarifier is a vital part of the plant’s process and capacity. Walker Process Equipment is rebuilding the unit. Cost \$45,975.00. Reviewed and approved by Public Services Committee.

ROLL CALL: Yea 6 Carpanzano, Doris, Kelly, Lawler, Quintero, Zarate
Nay 0 None
Absent 0 None
Abstentions 0 None

Motion carried.

RESOLUTION 24R-013

APPROVING PAYMENT FOR PROFESSIONAL ENGINEERING SERVICES FROM ROBINSON ENGINEERING RELATED TO DESIGN OF CHEMICAL FEED TREATMENT SYSTEM:

Motion Carpanzano, second Lawler to adopt a resolution approving payment for professional engineering services from Robinson Engineering related to design of chemical feed treatment system:

The Village needs to construct a chemical feed building to ensure compliance for mercury and phosphorus removal, which is an Illinois Environmental Protection Agency (IEPA) requirement. The location will be next to the Sewage Treatment Plant (STP) No. 2 at 1000 W. Boughton Road. Not to exceed \$99,750.00. Reviewed and approved by Public Services Committee

ROLL CALL: Yea 6 Carpanzano, Doris, Kelly, Lawler, Quintero, Zarate
Nay 0 None
Absent 0 None
Abstentions 0 None

Motion carried.

RESOLUTION 24R-014

APPROVING PAYMENT TO ROBE INC., FOR CAPITAL IMPROVEMENTS AT SEWER TREATMENT PLANT (STP) NO. 1 (151 ROYCE ROAD), NO. 3 (2080 REAGAN BOULEVARD), AND MEYER PARK PUMP STATION (221 W. BRIARCLIFF ROAD):

Motion Carpanzano, second Kelly to adopt a resolution approving payment to Robe Inc., for capital improvements at sewer treatment plant (STP) No. 1 (151 Royce Road), No. 3 (2080 Reagan Boulevard), and Meyer Park pump Station (221 W. Briarcliff Road):

Door repair/replacement is needed due to age, condition, and security of current doors. Tuckpointing will prevent future damage to the buildings. Cost \$342,007.43 which is \$2,992.57 under budgeted amount. Reviewed and approved by Public Services Committee.

ROLL CALL: Yea 6 Carpanzano, Doris, Kelly, Lawler, Quintero, Zarate
Nay 0 None
Absent 0 None
Abstentions 0 None

Motion carried.

RESOLUTION 24R-015

APPROVING PURCHASE OF TWO (2) FORD INTERCEPTOR UTILITY VEHICLES FOR THE POLICE DEPARTMENT UNDER THE SUBURBAN PURCHASING COOPERATIVE:

Motion Quintero, second Lawler to adopt a resolution approving purchase of two (2) Ford Interceptor utility vehicles for the Police Department under the Suburban Purchasing Cooperative:

This Resolution will approve the purchase and replace two police vehicles that are total losses. The insurance company has reimbursed the Village, and the funding will be used for the purchase. Total cost of \$103,228.40 for vehicles, equipment, and installation. Reviewed and approved by Public Safety Committee.

ROLL CALL:	Yea	6	Carpanzano, Doris, Kelly, Lawler, Quintero, Zarate
	Nay	0	None
	Absent	0	None
	Abstentions	0	None

Motion carried.

ORDINANCES:

ORDINANCE 24-010

AMENDING CHAPTER 6 OF THE BOLINGBROOK VILLAGE CODE INCREASING CLASS "C-8" (BEER & WINE) FROM TWO (2) TO THREE (3) JONNY'S TACOS CORPORATION – 133 S. WEBER ROAD:

Motion Doris, second Kelly to pass an ordinance amending Chapter 6 of the Bolingbrook Village Code increasing class "C-8" (beer & wine) from two (2) to three (3) Jonny's Tacos Corporation, 133 S. Weber Road:

The owner has requested a liquor license and completed all required documents that are in our municipal code. Reviewed by all relevant personnel and officials.

ROLL CALL:	Yea	6	Carpanzano, Doris, Kelly, Lawler, Quintero, Zarate
	Nay	0	None
	Absent	0	None
	Abstentions	0	None

Motion carried.

ORDINANCE 24-011

APPROVING NEGOTIATED AGREEMENT BETWEEN THE METROPOLITAN ALLIANCE OF POLICE BOLINGBROOK COMMAND CHAPTER #4 AND THE VILLAGE OF BOLINGBROOK (MAY 1, 2023 – APRIL 30, 2026) - (SUBJECT TO ATTORNEY APPROVAL):

Motion Quintero, second Doris to pass an ordinance approving negotiated agreement between the Metropolitan Alliance of Police Bolingbrook Command Chapter #4 and the Village of Bolingbrook (May 1, 2023 – April 30, 2026) – (Subject to Attorney Approval):

This union agreement represents the police sergeants and lieutenants. It codifies and clarifies current internal administrative practices, including shift selection, body-worn cameras, and sick time usage; and codifies all officer involved shooting protocols according to Illinois Compiled Statutes. Reviewed by all relevant personnel and officials.

ROLL CALL:	Yea	6	Carpanzano, Doris, Kelly, Lawler, Quintero, Zarate
	Nay	0	None
	Absent	0	None
	Abstentions	0	None

Motion carried.

ORDINANCE 24-012

AMENDING FEES, CHARGES, AND OTHER REGULATORY MEASURES (FEE SCHEDULE):

Motion Lawler, second Carpanzano to pass an ordinance amending fees, charges, and other regulatory measures (fee schedule):

Ordinance (22-037) streamlined our fee schedule by allowing for periodic updating of this schedule which is in our Municipal Code. Adjustments are based on relevant costs and much needed repairs and replacements in our Public Services and Development Department, Public Works Division. Reviewed by all relevant personnel and officials.

ROLL CALL:	Yea	6	Carpanzano, Doris, Kelly, Lawler, Quintero, Zarate
	Nay	0	None
	Absent	0	None
	Abstentions	0	None

Motion carried.

QUESTIONS/COMMENTS FROM THE AUDIENCE/PRESS:

One email message received from resident Robert Widuch requesting better communications to Village residents regarding Police and Fire incidents was read by Clerk Barton.

BOARD COMMENTS AND REPORTS:

MAYOR ALEXANDER-BASTA:

Commented that Officer Eberle who sustained an on-duty gunshot wound has returned to work.

She further commented that the Village does not have a dedicated full-time staff person monitoring social media, so reaching out to residents goes through our Bolingbrook Public Notice (BPN) system. Our police and fire staff are busy out on the street doing their jobs. However, in an effort to more effectively communicate with the residents, the Village has implemented a new communication platform called Everbridge, and encouraged residents to opt into that platform via the Village's website.

She further commented that our BPN system does provide notification of police/fire incidents as information becomes available. She cautioned that because initial information is not always accurate and incidents can evolve quickly, the BPN may not go out immediately. The notifications may also be delayed in an effort to keep both police/fire staff and residents (who tend to show up at incidents) safe until the incident is better under control. She commented that most incidents are, in fact, isolated and only affect those involved, and assured residents that if there is ever any threat to the public, they would be informed.

Mayor Alexander-Basta later announced that Early Voting for the primary election is currently available at the Fountaindale Public Library, and that registered voters can also vote at the library on Election Day instead of at their regular polling place.

CLERK BARTON:

Addressed the issue of the referendum question that is on the ballot for the March 19th primary ballot, providing background information and clarification as to the results/effects of voting "Yes" or "No" on the question. She also answered a question from the audience posed by Ruth Mitchell to clarify the part-time vs fulltime issue nature of the position.

TRUSTEE LAWLER:

- Echoed the Mayor's comments, suggesting that the opt-in Everbridge platform is the most effective means to get information, reminding residents to always go to the source by reaching out to the appropriate Village department or elected official.
- Gave a shout out to the STEP program and its teachers and students, mentioning that the Valley View Educational Enrichment Foundation (VVEEF) does support STEP and its transportation training.
- Commented that the VVEEF is holding its annual fundraiser on Friday, March 15th at the Bolingbrook Golf Club, and that the Lions Club and Knights of Columbus are holding their St. Patrick's Day Dinner/Dance with its "world's best corned beef and cabbage" at the Levy Center on Saturday, March 16th, offering both dine-in and carryout options.

TRUSTEE ZARATE:



Proclamation

ABILITY AWARENESS MONTH MARCH 2024

WHEREAS, Ability Awareness is an opportunity to Spread the Word about inclusion in the community and workplace for people with different abilities; and

WHEREAS, the Secondary Transition Experience Program (STEP) ensures that each student has the necessary knowledge, tools, and community supports to succeed in the future. We model and teach integrity, respect, creativity, and accountability to prepare students to reach their full potential; and

WHEREAS, in partnership with students and their families, bridges are built between school and the community that allow for smooth and successful transitions for students with disabilities; and

WHEREAS, disability is a natural part of the human experience and in no way diminishes the right of individuals with disabilities to live independently, enjoy self-determination, make choices, contribute to society, and fully experience the economic, political, social, cultural, and educational mainstream of American society; and

WHEREAS, we recognize that individuals with disabilities are capable, contributing members of society worthy of full access and inclusion in all facets of Bolingbrook community living; and

WHEREAS, we believe in a Bolingbrook which recognizes the unlimited potential for all our citizens including those with disabilities, to live, work, and thrive in our community and to create a seamless transition from school to post-secondary life.

NOW, THEREFORE, I, Mary Alexander-Basta, Mayor of the Board of Trustees of the Village of Bolingbrook, Will and DuPage Counties, Illinois, do hereby proclaim March 2024 as **Ability Awareness Month** and encourage all residents to recognize and support the Secondary Transition Experience Program this week and throughout the coming year.

Given under my hand and the Corporate Seal of the Village of Bolingbrook

this 12th day of March, 2024



Mary S. Alexander-Basta

----- Original message -----

From: Robert Widuch

Date: 2/28/24 11:12 PM (GMT-06:00)

To: Trustee Carpanzano VOBB <mcarpanzano@bolingbrook.com>

Subject: Bolingbrook PD crime blotter

I am writing this email to ask the village trustees to create a policy regarding the sharing of information to the public.

In this age of instant social media, residents have created multiple local groups posting pictures and comments regarding crime in our communities. Many will comment on what they have seen or heard. Others will simply post opinions on any police and/or fire related calls.

In years past, our local newspapers would print a summary of local police/fire actions (arrests, break-ins, accidents, fires, etc.) that had taken place over the past week. The nature of newspaper reporting allowed our police/ fire departments to do their jobs without residents generally getting involved during said events.

Social media now allows anyone to insert themselves into any current police/ fire activity. Increases in gun violence and crime throughout the Chicagoland area have made people more concerned and more interested in what's really going on in their neighborhoods.

We currently have a patchwork of public reporting means for the police/ fire department. Email blasts and some Facebook posts are occasionally published. But, honestly, it isn't enough. In order to have a community willing to report crime, there needs to be a better way of sharing information regarding crime in our neighborhoods. I realize not every action police/ fire call needs to have a public release. Our residents are looking for answers when many see a multitude of police responding to an area. They may be responding to an accident, a domestic, a fire, or other event.

There was an incident this past weekend in a neighborhood near Schmidt and Lily Cache. Many residents reported hearing gunfire and many many police responding to the area. Others reported a car being chased from that area. We residents really don't know what happened. But many will post, others will read the post, and most will believe most of what is said.

When we don't receive any form of public response from the police/ fire, during these events, the residents are left to believe what they see on social media. I am encouraging the village, police department, and fire department to create a better means of communicating with residents regarding some of these events. A simple email blast stating, "This is an isolated incident," isn't good enough anymore. This line has become a running joke on many local group pages.

I am asking the village trustees to draft a new public information policy to help our residents understand some of the challenges our police/ fire departments deal with daily. I would like to see a dedicated social media department for the police/ fire department so information gets to the residents in a timely fashion. A brief summary would satisfy most residents. I would also like to see a weekly published crime or arrest list that would be publicly available on social media. Finally, I would also like to see updates on first responders who have been injured during calls. We heard about an officer shot last year. Many wonder how he/she is doing.

If most of these ideas could be implemented, I believe you would see a positive response from our residents. We all have a shared responsibility to keep our town safe. Sharing information will help to create a better relationship with our residents and police/fire departments.

Sincerely,

Robert Widuch
(Bolingbrook resident since 1978)

Announced the Bolingbrook Police Department's annual Polar Plunge event on the hill and Village Hall on Saturday, March 16th, supporting the Special Olympics. Congratulated Alexa Nieciag on her achievement of being Bolingbrook's first female Eagle Scout. Commented about the Ability Awareness proclamation and thanked all of the sponsors and donors to the STEP program.

TRUSTEE CARPANZANO:

- Extended his congratulations to Alexa Nieciag on her Eagle Scout achievement.
- Commented on how amazing the STEP program is and how it benefits its students.
- Announced the Bolingbrook Historic Preservation Commission's spring event with the Easter Bunny on March 23rd at the Historic Museum.

TRUSTEE DORIS:

- Congratulated Alexa Nieciag on her Eagle achievement.
- Gave a shout out to the STEP program
- Announced the 10th anniversary of the Juneteenth celebration, with an event kick-off and planning/collaboration meeting being held on March 23rd at the Star Cinema Grill, inviting all interested parties to attend.

TRUSTEE KELLY:


- Congratulated Alexa Nieciag on her Eagle Scout achievement.
- Commended the STEP program and all it does for its students.
- Announced the Red Cross's Blood Drive on March 14th at the Community Center.

TRUSTEE QUINTERO:

- Announced the Village's Spring Cleanup week March 25th - 29th. Unlimited trash will be picked up on the residents' regular trash pickup day, with specific limitations related to construction/landscape waste and electronic items. Landscape waste pickup will begin on April 1st.


ADJOURNMENT:

Motion Doris, second Quintero to adjourn the meeting.
Voice Vote. Motion carried and meeting adjourned at 8:32 p.m.



Mary S. Alexander-Basta
MAYOR

ATTEST:



Martha M. Barton
VILLAGE CLERK