

**VILLAGE OF BELLFLOWER
McLEAN COUNTY, ILLINOIS**

**BOARD OF TRUSTEES
MINUTES
NOVEMBER 13, 2024**

CALL TO ORDER

President Allen Grussing called the meeting to order at 7:05 p.m. in the village office located at the Bellflower Community Center, 104 W Center Street, Bellflower.

The Meeting Notice and Agenda (copy attached) was posted on the Bellflower Community Center exterior bulletin board on November 11, 2024, at 5:00 p.m.

BOARD ATTENDANCE

Present: President Allen Grussing; Trustees Skee Aldrich, Teresa Drinkwater, Bart Lytel, Steve Weiss, and Shane Zimmerman

Absent: None

Six of six board members were present, which formed a quorum.

VILLAGE OFFICIALS PRESENT – Clerk Herb Youngblood

PUBLIC ATTENDANCE – None

PUBLIC COMMENT

None.

CONSENT AGENDA

a. Approve minutes of the regular meeting held on October 9, 2024.

b. Approve expenditures during the period of October 10, 2024 through November 11, 2024.

MOTION by Trustee Weiss to approve the foregoing consent agenda items. Seconded by Trustee Aldrich. Voice vote: 5 yes; -0- no. Motion passed.

POLICE ACTIVITIES

- October 2024 – 4 citations.

UNFINISHED BUSINESS

a. Community Center

- 1) Replace cafeteria exterior entrance doors – materials on order.
- 2) Install video surveillance signs – to be installed by Trustee Aldrich.

b. Don Harden Field

- 1) Replace home plate – defer until spring.
- 2) Repair scoreboard – defer until spring.

c. Grounds

- 1) Level ground/seed behind backstop at S Vine St/Hinshaw St – COMPLETE.
- 2) Repair pull-behind mower – to be repaired by Trustee Aldrich.
- 3) 2025 Mowing – Jeff Harper estimate received; awaiting estimate from Brian Benjamin.

d. Streets

- 1) Hydro-jetting stormwater drains – awaiting intergovernmental agreement to rent Village of Downs equipment and use Downs employees.
- 2) MFT gravel for rights-of-way and alleys – will contact Steven Sprau.

- 3) MFT street sign replacement – awaiting intergovernmental agreement to use Village of Downs personnel to install. Trustees Aldrich and Weiss indicated they would be available to assist if needed.
 - 4) Tree trimming for winter – awaiting Steven Sprau estimate.
- e. Water system
- 1) Fire hydrant flushing posting – no response to job posting.
 - 2) Level ground/seed at W South St/State Highway 54 fire hydrant – COMPLETE.
 - 3) Stress test emergency well #3 – no further updates from Mitch Yeadon after he was to discuss with IEPA. Called Champaign IEPA and Gibson City, but no response.
- f. HVAC annual maintenance – COMPLETE. JCs estimates \$780 for repairs needed plus oversized gym filters; verbal approval given by President Grussing.
- g. Emergency siren remote activation – vendor ordered parts. Also received reports that the clock, on the unit that activates the noon whistle, is not working.

NEW BUSINESS

- a. Action
- 1) MOTION by Trustee Zimmerman to adopt Ordinance 2024-07 “Tax Levy Ordinance for Fiscal Year 2024-2025” (copy attached). Seconded by Trustee Aldrich. Roll call vote: Yes-Trustees Aldrich, Drinkwater, Lytel, Weiss, and Zimmerman. No-None. Absent-None. Vote summary: Yes (5), No (-0-), Absent (-0-). Motion passed.
 - 2) President Grussing announced his appointment of Beth Ellis to fill part of Andrew Ellis’ unexpired Trustee term effective December 1, 2024 and ending April 30, 2024. The remainder of the unexpired term, from May 1, 2025 through April 30, 2027, will be filled at the Consolidated election to be held April 1, 2025. MOTION by Trustee Drinkwater to consent to the appointment of Beth Ellis as village trustee for the period December 1, 2024 through April 30, 2025. Seconded by Trustee Weiss. Roll call vote: Yes-Trustees Aldrich, Drinkwater, Lytel, Weiss, and Zimmerman. No-None. Absent-None. Vote summary: Yes (5), No (-0-), Absent (-0-). Motion passed.
 - 3) President Grussing removed item #3 from the agenda.
 - 4) Service village trucks – Trustee Zimmerman has the Ford 8000 truck in for service. The pickup truck needs full tire replacement. MOTION by Trustee Aldrich to replace the tires on the Ford F-250 for approximately \$1,100. Seconded by Trustee Weiss. Voice vote: 5 yes; -0- no. Motion passed.
 - 5) Surplus Property Sale of 201 W South St – no offers to purchase received.

BOARD REPORTS

President Grussing

- Citizens Party Caucus will be held Monday, December 2, 2024, at 7pm in the cafeteria. Candidates will selected for positions to be voted on at the Consolidated election to be held April 1, 2025, which include: Village President (currently Grussing) and three Village Trustees (currently Aldrich, Drinkwater, and Weiss), all with four year terms from May 1, 2025 through April 30, 2029, and one Village Trustee (currently Beth Ellis) to fill Andrew Ellis’ unexpired term from May 1, 2025 through April 30, 2027.
- Former Matt Bennett house at 110 N Vine St sold to Michael Ray Bonds of Mansfield, who plans to renovate and flip the house.
- Library attic access stairs need replacement. Will get estimate.

- The “Welcome to Bellflower” sign located at the Township garage on Route 54 was destroyed. The offender has committed to paying for a new sign. We probably should replace the other sign located on Route 54 near W South St.
- Community Center generator installation continues to be extended. Troy Henery at Midwest Equipment has been notified by Generac that shipment is now estimated for January 2025. Will get a second opinion from Yeagle Electric.
- Illinois will require building codes statewide effective January 1, 2025. Attorney Mahrt is working on possible ordinance(s) for December adoption.
- Code violation letters mailed to 11 residents with a 30-day cure date.
- Pre-tow notice mailed for the vehicle located at the corner of W Center and School streets.
- Senator Turner grant still awaiting approval within DCEO, now estimated in early 2025.
- Parks – contacted McLean County Soil and Water Conservation District about the N Latcha St park. They do not do any planning/design but would donate trees for organizations like 4.H to plant. Trustee Drinkwater said Bloomington received park assistance from Pheasants Forever and Ducks Unlimited.

Trustee Drinkwater

- Thanksgiving Feast – 338 attendees. Financials will be available at the December meeting.
- Breakfast with Santa – the historical society will conduct a “Cookies & Cocoa with Santa” event on December 7, 2024 from 4pm to 6pm at Rick Bedford’s red shed located near the corner of N Latcha St and E Melvin St. Village events will provide a mailbox and “letters to Santa” stationery.

Trustee Zimmerman – observed recent articles about municipalities receiving negative publicity about their credit card usage policies. Clerk Youngblood will forward a copy of our credit card policy documents for review and possible update.

ADJOURN

President Grussing adjourned the meeting at 8:26 p.m.

VILLAGE OF BELLFLOWER
McLEAN COUNTY, ILLINOIS

BOARD OF TRUSTEES
MEETING NOTICE AND AGENDA
NOVEMBER 13, 2024

The next regular meeting of the Village of Bellflower Board of Trustees will be held Wednesday, November 13, 2024, 7:00 p.m., in the Village Office at the Bellflower Community Center, 104 W Center Street, Bellflower.

CALL TO ORDER

PUBLIC COMMENT

CONSENT AGENDA

- Approve minutes of the regular meeting held October 9, 2024
- Approve expenditures during the period October 10, 2024 through November 13, 2024

POLICE ACTIVITIES

UNFINISHED BUSINESS

- a. Community Center
 - 1) Replace cafeteria exterior entrance doors
 - 2) Install video surveillance signs
- b. Don Harden Field
 - 1) Replace home plate
 - 2) Repair scoreboard
- c. Grounds
 - 1) S Vine St/W Hinshaw St – level/seed ground
 - 2) Repair pull-behind mower
 - 3) 2025 mowing
- d. Streets
 - 1) Hydro-jetting stormwater drains
 - 2) Gravel – spread on rights-of-ways and alleys
 - 3) Street signs - install
 - 4) Tree trimming for winter
- e. Water system
 - 1) Job opening – fire hydrant flushing
 - 2) Level ground/seed at W South St/State Highway 54 fire hydrant
 - 3) Stress test emergency well #3
- f. HVAC annual maintenance
- g. Emergency siren remote activation

NEW BUSINESS

- a. Action
 - 1) Ordinance 2024-07 “Tax Levy Ordinance for Fiscal Year 2024-2025”
 - 2) Appoint and fill trustee vacancy
 - 3) EMA Coordinator
 - 4) Service village trucks
 - 5) Surplus Property Sale – open bids, if any, for 201 W South St

BOARD REPORTS

ADJOURN


VILLAGE OF BELLFLOWER
McLEAN COUNTY, ILLINOIS

BOARD OF TRUSTEES

FINANCIAL REPORT ACKNOWLEDGMENT
FOR
NOVEMBER 13, 2024

I acknowledge that I have reviewed the following financial reports:

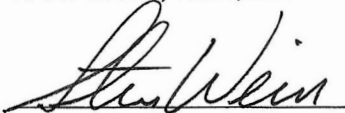
- Heartland Bank Account Reconciliations – 10/31/2024
- Illinois Funds Account Reconciliations – 10/31/2024
- Invoices paid 10/2024 GF and WF
- Invoices paid 10/2024 MFT
- Invoices paid 11/2024 GF and WF
- QuickBooks Account Register (Heartland Bank and IL Funds) – 10/2024
- QuickBooks Balance Sheet – 11/13/2024
- QuickBooks Expenditures 10/10/2024 – 11/13/2024
- QuickBooks Fund Reports 5/1/2024-11/13/2024



ALLEN GRUSSING, PRESIDENT


SKEE ALDRICH, TRUSTEE


TERESA DRINKWATER, TRUSTEE


BART LYTEL, TRUSTEE


STEVE WEISS, TRUSTEE


SHANE ZIMMERMAN, TRUSTEE

VILLAGE OF BELLFLOWER
McLEAN COUNTY, ILLINOIS

ORDINANCE NUMBER 2024-07

TAX LEVY ORDINANCE FOR FISCAL YEAR 2024-2025

Allen Grussing, Village President

Village Trustees
Skee Aldrich
Teresa Drinkwater
Bart Lytel
Steve Weiss
Shane Zimmerman

Herbert Youngblood, Village Clerk

FILED
McLEAN COUNTY, ILLINOIS

DEC 23 2024

Kathy Michael
COUNTY CLERK

Published in pamphlet form by authority of the
President and Trustees of the Village of Bellflower on November 13, 2024

**VILLAGE OF BELLFLOWER
McLEAN COUNTY, ILLINOIS**

**ORDINANCE NO. 2024-07
TAX LEVY ORDINANCE FOR FISCAL YEAR 2024-2025**

An ordinance levying taxes for all corporate purposes of the Village of Bellflower, McLean County, Illinois, for the fiscal year beginning May 1, 2024, and ending April 30, 2025.

WHEREAS, the President and Board of Trustees of the Village of Bellflower, McLean County, Illinois, have heretofore regularly and legally passed Ordinance No. 2024-05 entitled "Appropriation Ordinance for 2024-2025," the annual appropriation ordinance for said Village for the fiscal year ending April 30, 2025, and which annual appropriation ordinance was legally and duly published as provided by law more than ten (10) days prior hereto, and which appropriation ordinance is by reference made a part of this ordinance,

BE IT ORDAINED by the President and Board of Trustees of the Village of Bellflower, McLean County, Illinois:

SECTION 1: That the amounts hereinafter set forth, so much thereof as may be authorized by law, and the same are hereby levied for the following specific purposes of the Village of Bellflower, McLean County, Illinois, for the fiscal year beginning May 1, 2024, and ending April 30, 2025.

SECTION 2: That the amount levied for each object or purpose is as shown beginning on the following page:

	2024-2025 APPROPRIATION	TO BE PAID BY SOURCES OTHER THAN TAXATION	TO BE PAID BY TAXATION
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GENERAL FUND

<i>Personnel Services</i>				
Wages-Officials	13,800.00	13,800.00	-	
Wages-Hourly Employees	6,000.00	6,000.00	-	
Wages-Salaried Employees	900.00	900.00	-	
Payroll Fees	900.00	900.00	-	
Payroll Taxes-Employer Medicare	300.00	50.00	250.00	⑤
Payroll Taxes-Employer Social Security	1,300.00	-	1,300.00	⑥
Payroll Taxes-State Unemployment	200.00	100.00	100.00	⑧
<i>Total Personnel Services</i>	23,400.00	21,750.00	1,650.00	
<i>Operations and Maintenance</i>				
Accounting and Audit Services	9,000.00	1,500.00	7,500.00	③
Bank Service Charges	28.00	28.00	-	
Dues and Memberships	250.00	250.00	-	
Engineering-Streets (non-MFT)	10,000.00	10,000.00	-	
Equipment Rental	200.00	200.00	-	
Events	17,850.00	17,850.00	-	
Insurance	13,000.00	-	13,000.00	②
Legal Fees	5,000.00	4,000.00	1,000.00	①
Library Operations	2,500.00	2,500.00	-	
Miscellaneous	100.00	100.00	-	
Non-Employee Labor	500.00	500.00	-	
Office Expense	1,500.00	1,500.00	-	
Public Safety	21,000.00	17,900.00	3,100.00	④
Repairs and Maintenance-Buildings	83,000.00	77,500.00	5,500.00	①
Repairs and Maintenance-Equipment	10,200.00	8,200.00	2,000.00	①
Repairs and Maintenance-Grounds	5,500.00	4,500.00	1,000.00	①
Repairs and Maintenance-Streets (no MFT)	28,122.00	24,122.00	4,000.00	①
Taxes-Drainage District	100.00	100.00	-	
Technology	5,150.00	5,150.00	-	
Trash Disposal	1,100.00	1,100.00	-	
Utilities-Electricity	16,000.00	14,500.00	1,500.00	⑦
Utilities-Natural Gas	6,000.00	6,000.00	-	
Utilities-Telephone	650.00	650.00	-	
<i>Total Operations and Maintenance</i>	236,750.00	198,150.00	38,600.00	
TOTAL GENERAL FUND	260,150.00	219,900.00	40,250.00	

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	2024-2025 APPROPRIATION	TO BE PAID BY SOURCES OTHER THAN TAXATION	TO BE PAID BY TAXATION
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MOTOR FUEL TAX FUND

<i>Operations and Maintenance</i>			
Engineering Services	1,935.00	1,935.00	-
Repairs and Maintenance-Streets	36,065.00	36,065.00	-
<i>Total Operations and Maintenance</i>	38,000.00	38,000.00	-
TOTAL MOTOR FUEL TAX FUND	38,000.00	38,000.00	-

WATER FUND

<i>Personnel Services</i>			
Wages-Hourly Employees	1,440.00	1,440.00	-
Wages-Salaried Employees	12,000.00	12,000.00	-
Payroll Fees	200.00	200.00	-
Payroll Taxes-Employer Medicare	200.00	200.00	-
Payroll Taxes-Employer Social Security	835.00	835.00	-
Payroll Taxes-State Unemployment	115.00	115.00	-
<i>Total Personnel Services</i>	14,790.00	14,790.00	-
<i>Operations and Maintenance</i>			
Chemicals and Supplies	3,000.00	3,000.00	-
Dues and Memberships	400.00	400.00	-
Engineering Services	5,000.00	5,000.00	-
IEPA Testing	5,000.00	5,000.00	-
JULIE Utility Locating	150.00	150.00	-
Legal Fees	500.00	500.00	-
Loan Repayment-Interest	2,800.00	2,800.00	-
Loan Repayment-Principal	11,600.00	11,600.00	-
Office Expense	1,500.00	1,500.00	-
Repairs and Maintenance-Water System	54,910.00	54,910.00	-
Technology	1,850.00	1,850.00	-
Utilities-Electricity	4,000.00	4,000.00	-
Utilities-Natural Gas	1,500.00	1,500.00	-
<i>Total Operations and Maintenance</i>	92,210.00	92,210.00	-
TOTAL WATER FUND	107,000.00	107,000.00	-

GRAND TOTAL ALL FUNDS

	405,150.00	364,900.00	40,250.00
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RECAPITULATION

The following are total taxes to be levied:

GENERAL CORPORATE	\$13,500.00 ①
TORT JUDGMENTS, LIABILITY INSURANCE	13,000.00 ②
AUDIT	7,500.00 ③
POLICE PROTECTION	3,100.00 ④
MEDICARE	250.00 ⑤
SOCIAL SECURITY	1,300.00 ⑥
STREET LIGHTING	1,500.00 ⑦
UNEMPLOYMENT TAX	100.00 ⑧
TOTAL TAX LEVY	\$40,250.00

SECTION 3: That the Village Clerk shall make and file with the McLean County Clerk a duly certified copy of this ordinance, and that the **\$40,250.00** levied under Section 2 of this ordinance is required by said Village of Bellflower as aforesaid to be extended upon the appropriate tax books for the fiscal year of said Village of Bellflower beginning May 1, 2024, and ending April 30, 2025.

SECTION 4: That it is hereby certified to the McLean County Clerk the several sums aforesaid, constituting said total amount of Forty Thousand Two Hundred Fifty Dollars and No Cents (**\$40,250.00**), represent said total amount the Village of Bellflower requires to be raised by taxation for the current fiscal year of said Village.

SECTION 5: That if any section, subdivision, sentence, or clause of this ordinance is for any reason held invalid or to be unconstitutional, such decision shall not affect the validity of the remaining portion of this ordinance.

SECTION 6: That this ordinance shall be in full force and effect from and after its adoption, approval, and recording, according to law.

ADOPTED this 13th day of November 2024, pursuant to a roll call vote by the Board of Trustees

of the Village of Bellflower, McLean County, Illinois.

	YES	NO	ABSENT	PRESENT
Aldrich	X			
Drinkwater	X			
Lytel	X			
Weiss	X			
Zimmerman	X			
Grussing (to the extent that the President's vote may be needed)				
TOTAL	5			

APPROVED this 13th day of November 2024.

Allen D. Grussing
 ALLEN D. GRUSSING
 President, Board of Trustees

ATTEST:

Herbert L. Youngblood
 HERBERT L. YOUNGBLOOD
 Village Clerk



VILLAGE OF BELLFLOWER
McLEAN COUNTY, ILLINOIS

ORDINANCE NO. 2024-07
TAX LEVY ORDINANCE FOR FISCAL YEAR 2024-2025

TRUTH IN TAXATION
CERTIFICATE OF COMPLIANCE

STATE OF ILLINOIS)
) ss:
COUNTY OF MCLEAN)

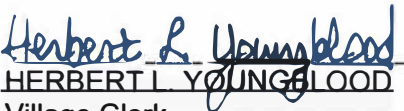
I, Allen D. Grussing, hereby certify that I am President of the Board of Trustees of the Village of Bellflower, McLean County, Illinois. As such presiding officer, I certify that the foregoing Ordinance No. 2024-07 entitled "Tax Levy Ordinance for Fiscal Year 2024-2025," and the tax so ordained, were adopted pursuant to, and in all respects in compliance with, the provisions of the "Truth in Taxation" law (35 ILCS 200/18-60 through 18-85).

The aggregate levy for the Village of Bellflower **did not** exceed a 5% increase over the prior year's extension. Therefore, a notice and a hearing were not necessary.

IN WITNESS WHEREOF, I have hereunto set my hand this 13th day of November 2024.


ALLEN D. GRUSSING
President, Board of Trustees

ATTEST:


HERBERT L. YOUNGBLOOD
Village Clerk



**VILLAGE OF BELLFLOWER
McLEAN COUNTY, ILLINOIS**

**ORDINANCE NO. 2024-07
TAX LEVY ORDINANCE FOR FISCAL YEAR 2024-2025**

CERTIFICATION OF TAX LEVY

STATE OF ILLINOIS)
) ss:
COUNTY OF MCLEAN)

I, Herbert L. Youngblood, certify that I am the duly appointed Village Clerk of the Village of Bellflower, McLean County, Illinois.

I further certify that on November 13, 2024, the Corporate Authorities of such municipality adopted and approved the foregoing Ordinance No. 2024-07 entitled "Tax Levy Ordinance for Fiscal Year 2024-2025."

The pamphlet form of the ordinance was prepared on November 13, 2024.

A "Notice of Ordinance Publication" was posted beginning November 14, 2024, and continuing for at least ten days thereafter, on the exterior bulletin board of the Bellflower Community Center, where the village office is located, on bulletin boards located in the Bellflower Post Office and the Bellflower Community Library, and on the village website. The notice, a copy of which is attached hereto, announced the availability of the ordinance for public inspection, upon request, in the village office.

DATED this 25TH day of November 2024.

Herbert L. Youngblood
HERBERT L. YOUNGBLOOD
Village Clerk



NOTICE OF ORDINANCE PUBLICATION

I, Herbert L. Youngblood, certify that I am the duly appointed village clerk of the Village of Bellflower, McLean County, Illinois.

I further certify that on November 13, 2024, the Corporate Authorities of such municipality passed and approved the following ordinance:

ORDINANCE NO. 2024-07
TAX LEVY ORDINANCE FOR FISCAL YEAR 2024-2025

which is now available for public inspection, upon request, at the village office. Please contact the village clerk at 309-929-9059 to schedule an appointment to review the ordinance.

This notice shall be posted beginning November 14, 2024, and shall remain posted for at least 10 days thereafter, on the exterior bulletin board of the Bellflower Community Center, where the village office is located, on bulletin boards located in the Bellflower Post Office and the Bellflower Community Library, and on the village website.

/s/ Herbert L. Youngblood, Village Clerk

POST BEGINNING 11/14/2024
POST ENDING 11/25/2024

**VILLAGE OF BELLFLOWER
McLEAN COUNTY, ILLINOIS**

**ORDINANCE NO. 2024-07
TAX LEVY ORDINANCE FOR FISCAL YEAR 2024-2025**

CERTIFICATE OF FILING

STATE OF ILLINOIS)
) ss:
COUNTY OF MCLEAN)

I, Herbert L. Youngblood, do hereby certify that I am the duly appointed Village Clerk of the Village of Bellflower, McLean County, Illinois. As such Village Clerk, I am the keeper of the records and files of the President and the Board of Trustees of said village.

I further certify that the foregoing document is a true, correct, and complete copy of Ordinance No. 2024-07 entitled "Tax Levy Ordinance for Fiscal Year 2024-2025" which consists of the ordinance, a Truth in Taxation Certificate of Compliance, a Certification of Tax Levy, a Notice of Ordinance Publication, and this Certificate of Filing.

Said ordinance was adopted and approved by the President and Board of Trustees of the Village of Bellflower at a meeting on November 13, 2024, and a faithful record of said ordinance has been made in the record books of the village.

DATED this 25TH day of November 2024.


HERBERT L. YOUNGBLOOD
Village Clerk



FILING RECEIPT:

FILED
McLEAN COUNTY, ILLINOIS

DEC 23 2024


COUNTY CLERK