



Village of Bellevue

May 2011

E-mail Newsletter

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Village of Bellevue Governmental Meetings:

Village Council: Tuesday, May 10, 2011 7:00 p.m.
Bellevue Village Hall
Tuesday, May 24, 2011 7:00 p.m.
Bellevue Village Hall



Bellevue Joint Planning Commission: Tuesday, May 17, 2011 7:00 p.m.
Bellevue Township Hall

Holidays:

The Village of Bellevue offices will be closed on the following days in May:

Memorial Day Monday, May 30, 2011

Council Meeting Synopsis:

April 12, 2011: An update on the grant the Village received for the infrastructure improvements to Washington Park was given. The Village is currently in a waiting period for comments following the completion of an environmental review. This project is still on schedule to be completed this year. The council reviewed five chapters of the Village code of ordinances. These chapters were Chapter 48-Elections, Chapter 53-Fees, Chapter 56-Fire Charges, Chapter 60-Fire Prevention, and Chapter 64-Floodplain Management. This review is part of a systematic review of the entire code.

The 2010 Census results were shared with the council. The Village population has fallen from 1,365 in 2000 to 1,282 in 2010. A overview of the recent 2011 MML Capital Conference was also shared with the council. President Poyer and Village Manager Brininstool attended the conference and gained a better understanding of Governor Snyder's proposed budget and what the Village would need to do to be in compliance and receive funding. The stipulations as they were presented should not be burdensome on the Village and we should easily be able to comply. In most cases we are already meeting if not exceeding the requirements.

The council passed a resolution naming Gracie Bellevue's Trumpeter Swan. She was a Trumpeter Swan that called Bellevue home from 1991-2011. She was instrumental and helping to reestablish a highly endangered species.



Gracie was the most prolific breeding Trumpeter Swan in the State of Michigan, raising more cygnets to fledglings than any other Trumpeter Swan.

April 20, 2011: The Bellevue Village Council met with the Bellevue Community Schools Board of Education in a joint governmental meeting. The boards discussed recent activities, future projects that they will be undertaking, and points of pride.

April 26, 2011: This was a quick meeting with a tornado warning for the area bringing an end to it. The council was given updates on the lift station repairs and Washington Park project. Both projects are moving forward and the lift station repairs should be completed any day. The Village engineers are currently working on plans for Washington Park. Comments that had been received regarding the ordinance review were also shared. These comments were regarding the Animal Ordinance. Final plans for Pride Day, on May 6, and the Spring Clean Up Event, on May 7, were discussed. Both events will be very similar to past years.

Memorial Day Parade:

American Legion Post 280, our local post, will be holding the annual Memorial Day Parade. Memorial Day this year is on Monday, May 30. The parade line up will begin at 9:30 a.m. and the parade will begin at 10:00 a.m.



A short memorial will be at the Bridge for our salute to The Navy, Coast Guard and Merchant seaman. The parade will then go on to the cemetery for other memorial presentations

If your group is interested in participating in the parade, please contact Michael Cassens, 269-763-3186.

Picnic in the Park

The Bellevue Church of Christ hosts an annual "Picnic in the Park" on Memorial Day following the parade and service at the cemetery. This picnic will be in Washington Park. For more information please phone 269-763-2028.

Bellevue Farmer's Market:

The farmer's market will be returning to Bellevue in 2011. The Village of Bellevue is working with the Battle Creek Farmer's Market Association to again have a local farmer's market. You can find the association online at <http://www.battlecreekfarmersmarket.com> or its Facebook page.

The market will be held on Thursday's at Washington Park. Its hours of operation will be from 4:00 p.m. to 7:00 p.m. Opening day for the market will be Thursday, June 2. It will run every Thursday through October 27.



The market participates with Project FRESH and Senior Project FRESH. It can accept Bridge Cards, Double Up Bucks, and credit cards.

Local Vendors are encouraged to participate with the market. The farmer's market is an excellent means for local growers and producers to reach new customers. Qualified vendors who wish to become part of the market should contact Brigette Leach, 269-746-4648.

Community members are encouraged to visit the market. Visiting the market is not just about the shopping, but it is an experience. While browsing the many varied stalls you will meet vendors with a wide spectrum of fresh fruits and vegetables, meats, baked goods, garden plants, flowers, and even some high quality, locally produced crafts. The vendors are friendly and full of advice and good ideas on how to prepare or use the many products you will find. You will also run across your friends and neighbors. It is not uncommon to see an old friend that you may not have seen in years. When you do stop, chat a bit, enjoy the Michigan outdoors and Washington Park and the amenities it offers. The park offers many pieces of playground equipment so is an excellent location to bring the children and spend some time.

Vandalism

Our police department wrote the following article. It was written due to some activity that has occurred that the Village would like to put a stop to and we need the community's help.

“The **broken windows theory** is a criminological theory of the normsetting and signalling effects of urban disorder and vandalism on additional crime and anti-social behavior. The theory states that monitoring and maintaining urban environments in a well-ordered condition may prevent further vandalism as well as an escalation into more serious crime.

Simply stated, unpunished smaller crimes lead and empower one to commit more serious and larger crimes. The perpetrator often forms the opinion that if I can get away with this, what is to keep me from getting away with something larger? Often times they do until they are caught and even then recidivism is common among the criminalistic society. Which simply means that they will continue to repeat their actions to a level at which they believe that they will not be apprehended or prosecuted.

Therefore as the theory states, if we are able to stop the small crimes through vigilance and fear of criminal prosecution we will be able to curtail criminal activity as a whole.

Although the Village of Bellevue is a small close-knit community, Bellevue has seen its fair share of crime and if ignored these so called small crimes will turn into something larger and more serious and may become more frequent. Just as we all live in this community with one another, we must work with one another in order to preserve the level of tranquility, peace and harmony that we have become accustomed to and desire for the future of our children.

The police departments that serve our area put forth their best effort in solving and policing every crime that occurs within our area but the police can

not be everywhere, all of the time. It takes the cooperation and effort of all that are affected in order to effectively see that those responsible are brought to justice.

Lets all work with one another to insure that our small community with a relatively small crime problem does not turn into a small village with an out of control city like crime rate. Take care of the small things before they become larger problems. It is up to all of us.”

If you witness a criminal activity or hear information that may help the police department regarding a crime please contact us so that we can investigate. If you do not feel comfortable stepping forward, please pass the information along somehow. The police department can be reached at 269-763-9429. The police department’s address is 201 N. Main St., Bellevue, MI 49021.