

**MINUTES OF THE REGULAR MEETING OF THE PRESIDENT  
& BOARD OF TRUSTEES OF THE VILLAGE OF BEECHER  
HELD AT THE BEECHER VILLAGE HALL,  
625 DIXIE HIGHWAY, BEECHER, ILLINOIS  
SEPTEMBER 11, 2017 -- 7:00 P.M.**

All present joined in the Pledge to the Flag.

President Szymanski called the meeting to order.

**ROLL CALL**

**PRESENT:** President Szymanski and Trustees Basile, Meyer, Kraus, Mazurek, Kypuros and Wehling.

**ABSENT:** None.

**STAFF PRESENT:** Clerk Janett Conner, Administrator Robert Barber, Chief Jeffrey Weissgerber, Treasurer Donna Rooney and Superintendent of Public Works Bud Cowger.

**GUEST:** Ann Loitz.

President Szymanski asked for consideration of the minutes of the August 28, 2017 Board meeting. Trustee Kraus made a motion to approve the minutes as written. Trustee Mazurek seconded the motion.

**AYES:** (6) Trustees Basile, Meyer, Kraus, Mazurek, Kypuros and Wehling.

**NAYS:** (0) None.

Motion Carried.

**RECOGNITION OF AUDIENCE**

Trustee Mazurek made a motion approving the grandfathering of a legal non-conforming use for a single family home in a B-3 Commercial District at 1220 Dixie Highway. This was requested by the property owner so they can refinance. The property owner was present to answer any questions. Trustee Basile seconded the motion.

**AYES:** (6) Trustees Basile, Meyer, Kraus, Mazurek, Kypuros and Wehling.

**NAYS:** (0) None.

Motion Carried.

Ms. Loitz also thanked the Village for cutting down the tree in her right of way.

**REPORTS OF VILLAGE COMMISSIONS**

Superintendent Cowger reported on the Beautification Commission. Landscaping is done and they are waiting on the bench that was ordered for Depot Park.

Trustee Meyer made a motion to approve the issuance of a General Fund check to Kozol Brothers for the beer at the 2018 Fourth of July festival in lieu of the short term loan that has been borrowed the last couple years to start the festival. This is a check that the Commission provides as a security deposit. The check is never cashed but voided at the end of the festival. This would not require a transfer of funds or a loan as in the past. The reasons for this was explained. Trustee Basile seconded the motion.

AYES: (6) Trustees Basile, Meyer, Kraus, Mazurek, Kypuros and Wehling.

NAYS: (0) None.

Motion Carried.

Kozol Brothers will also be refunding an amount for the 15 kegs that were not credited as returns. The Treasurer will be implementing rules regarding a dollar amount spending limit, a third person to review bills and pre-approval of any spending amount over \$50.

Trustee Mazurek reported on the Youth Commission. Night at the Will County Forest Preserve is scheduled for September 23<sup>rd</sup>. An October 21<sup>st</sup> Trunk or Treat is being planned. The Chamber of Commerce is looking for volunteers to help with Trunk or Treat this year or there may not be enough help to continue this in the future.

Trustee Basile reported that the Ribbon of Hope Commission has installed the eight benches at the Park. Public Works was thanked for their work on this. Bricks have been sent out for engraving. Tadpole's will be scheduled to install the bricks for a fall dedication.

Trustee Wehling reported on the Historic Preservation Commission. A new sign is being delivered by Watseka Signs on Tuesday and will be installed by Public Works at the Depot/Museum. The next meeting for the Historic Preservation Commission is Wednesday at 6 p.m. at the Depot/Museum.

Trustee Wehling made a motion to add a bill in the amount of \$850 for Watseka Signs to the list of bills for the new Depot/Museum sign. Trustee Meyer seconded the motion.

AYES: (6) Trustees Basile, Meyer, Kraus, Mazurek, Kypuros and Wehling.

NAYS: (0) None.

Motion Carried.

#### **A. FINANCE AND ADMINISTRATION COMMITTEE**

President Szymanski reported on video gaming revenue generated at the local businesses. A copy of the report was provided in the packet for review.

**TREASURER'S REPORT:** A copy of the Treasurer's report was provided to the Board for review and Treasurer Rooney was present to answer questions. Trustee Basile made a motion to approve the Treasurer's Report and the Report of Financial Activity in the prior month. Trustee Meyer seconded the motion.

AYES: (6) Trustees Basile, Meyer, Kraus, Mazurek, Kypuros and Wehling.

NAYS: (0) None.

Motion Carried.

Variance reports for the preceding month were provided in the packet for review.

A list of bills totalling \$157,451.94 to be paid was available for review including the Watseka Signs bill added in the amount of \$850. A summary of the list of bills was provided. Trustee Basile made a motion to approve payment of the list of bills as presented. Trustee Wehling seconded the motion.

AYES: (6) Trustees Basile, Meyer, Kraus, Mazurek, Kypuros and Wehling.

NAYS: (0) None.

Motion Carried.

The Board discussed referral to the Planning and Zoning Commission (PZC) consideration of amendments to the Zoning Ordinance pertaining to the parking of recreational vehicles, campers and boats in residential districts. This was discussed at the previous Board meeting as to parking of Rvs, campers and boats behind the front property line in residential districts due to some recent concerns expressed. The Committee is scheduled to meet on Wednesday at 6 p.m. to discuss this matter.

Trustee Kypuros made a motion to approve award of a bid to Denler, Inc., in the amount of \$24,480 (\$0.51 per linear foot) for the crack sealing of streets in the Village. This was the only bid received this year and Denler had been the low bidder for the last few years. Trustee Wehling seconded the motion.

AYES: (6) Trustees Basile, Meyer, Kraus, Mazurek, Kypuros and Wehling.

NAYS: (0) None.

Motion Carried.

President Szymanski requested a Proclamation declaring September as Suicide Prevention Month in the Village of Beecher be supported by motion. Trustee Kypuros made a motion approving President Szymanski's Proclamation declaring September as Suicide Prevention Month in Beecher. Trustee Wehling seconded the motion.

AYES: (6) Trustees Basile, Meyer, Kraus, Mazurek, Kypuros and Wehling.

NAYS: (0) None.

Motion Carried.

The Board discussed a proposal to establish and maintain a Village Facebook page from Constituent Outreach Consultants (COC) at a cost not to exceed \$1,500. The company will provide the creation of the page, training and six months support. Trustee Meyer explained the proposal and questions about creating a Facebook page and problems with push notifications and other issues with the Village app since the last update. She recommended not having a public forum. It would be a limited forum page where the Village would control the original posts on the site and people can comment on our posts. It will be a tool to keep residents informed about issues. The Village would probably post once or twice a week. Before a contract is signed with COC there are more questions that need to be answered and a Committee meeting will be held to work out the details and answer questions. Trustee Meyer said since the app isn't working as well as it used to the Village can see how the Facebook page goes, and it may replace the app. Trustee Kypuros expressed some concerns about how the Facebook page could be used based on posts on other local pages. A copy of the proposal was provided in the packet for review. After some

discussion, Trustee Meyer made a motion to approve a proposal with Constituent Outreach Consultants for creation of a Facebook page at an amount not to exceed \$1,500. Trustee Kraus seconded the motion.

AYES: (6) Trustees Basile, Meyer, Kraus, Mazurek, Kypuros and Wehling.

NAYS: (0) None.

Motion Carried.

## **H. NEW BUSINESS**

President Szymanski announced that the Princess Café is celebrating 40 years as the current owners and congratulated them on their anniversary and is proud to have a business serving our community for 40 years.

Trustee Kraus asked community policing to put on an educational program with the grade school for the crosswalk lights.

Administrator Barber reported that the strategic planning surveys are done and have been provided to all Board members. They can be printed out and responses written in or typed in a Word document. Completed surveys should be returned by 5 p.m. on October 2<sup>nd</sup>. He will then compile results and dates can be set to go over results.

Administrator Barber provided a copy of the draft aggregation sheet from the Will County Governmental League (WCGL). ComEd had not released their rates previously which made it a more difficult process. Administrator Barber felt it was not worth going through this process again if there is not more substantial savings.

A meeting with all potential bidders on the sewer plant project will be held on September 26<sup>th</sup> at 2:30 p.m. and bids will be opened on October 31<sup>st</sup> at 2:30 p.m.

There being no further business, President Szymanski asked for a motion to adjourn. Trustee Wehling made a motion to adjourn the meeting. Trustee Meyer seconded the motion.


AYES: (6) Trustees Basile, Meyer, Kraus, Mazurek, Kypuros and Wehling.

NAYS: (0) None.

Motion Carried.

Meeting adjourned at 7:44 p.m.

Respectfully submitted by:

  
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Janett Conner  
Village Clerk