

**MINUTES OF THE REGULAR MEETING OF THE PRESIDENT
& BOARD OF TRUSTEES OF THE VILLAGE OF BEECHER
HELD AT THE WASHINGTON TOWNSHIP CENTER,
30200 TOWN CENTER ROAD, BEECHER, ILLINOIS
JUNE 8, 2009 -- 7:00 P.M.**

All present joined in the Pledge to the Flag.

President Lohmann called the meeting to order.

ROLL CALL

PRESENT: President Lohmann and Trustees Cleary, Ahrendt, Szymanski, Gardner, Kuhlman and Wehling.

ABSENT: None.

STAFF PRESENT: Clerk Janett Conner, Administrator Robert Barber, Chief Jeffrey Weissgerber, Treasurer Nelson Collins, Code Enforcement Officer Julie Riechers and Ray Koenig from Baxter and Woodman.

GUESTS: Terry Gatlin from the Beecher Herald, Kim Koutsky, George Schuitema, Kevin Bouchard, Steve Stoyhoff and Ed Barry.

President Lohmann asked for consideration of the minutes of the May 11, 2009 Board meeting. Trustee Kuhlman made a motion to approve the minutes as written. Trustee Wehling seconded the motion.

AYES: (5) Trustees Cleary, Ahrendt, Gardner, Kuhlman and Wehling.

NAYS: (0) None.

ABSTAIN: (1) Trustee Szymanski.

Motion Carried.

CLERK'S REPORT: 1) A report on income received since the last meeting was provided. 2) Bills were presented for the Beecher Fourth of July Commission (\$125.57), Beautification Commission (\$2,844.49) and the Youth Activities Account (\$604.15). Trustee Wehling made a motion to approve the list of bills totalling \$3,574.21 as listed on the Clerk's Report. Trustee Cleary seconded the motion.

AYES: (6) Trustees Cleary, Ahrendt, Szymanski, Gardner, Kuhlman and Wehling.

NAYS: (0) None.

Motion Carried.

3) The next Census meeting will be held on Wednesday, June 17th at 7 p.m. at the Washington Township Center. 4) Clerk Conner announced that the Village Hall now accepts credit cards for any type of payment in person, and on-line payments of water bills and police fines. 5) Clerk Conner provided a report on the Clerk's Conference she attended in Chicago.

RECOGNITION OF GUESTS: Kevin Bouchard stated that the Fourth of July Commission is looking for volunteers for the food stand, beer stand and bingo stand. Sign up sheets are at the Village Hall.

Code Enforcement Officer Riechers provided an update regarding on-going issues in Code Enforcement. She has received complaints about people putting out garbage and yardwaste bags too early before pick up day. The Board was asked if they want to pass an ordinance regarding this. There was much discussion about the wording and what should be included in the ordinance. Trustee Szymanski made a motion to authorize the Attorney to draft an ordinance stating that refuse and yardwaste bags can be put out no sooner than 5 p.m. on the day before pickup and that cans must be put away by the day after pickup. Trustee Ahrendt seconded the motion.

AYES: (6) Trustees Cleary, Ahrendt, Szymanski, Gardner, Kuhlman and Wehling.

NAYS: (0) None.

Motion Carried.

Code Officer Riechers reported on problems with open storage. The current ordinance only addresses commercial and not residential. A house on Penfield Street has wood stored in the front yard (the house is on a corner lot so it has two front yards) and the Village does not have an ordinance to address this. The neighbor has complained and has expressed concerns about rodents, etc. due to the piled wood. The Board discussed if it could be considered a nuisance because no other ordinance would apply to this. Since Code Officer Riechers doesn't have an ordinance to cite, it is difficult to enforce. The Board discussed where the front building line would be located and discussed whether this needs to go before the Planning and Zoning Commission (PZC) for consideration. The matter was tabled until Board members are able to take a look at the property.

Trustee Ahrendt asked about a complaint about garbage and grease in the pond behind Beecher Plaza. Staff reported that garbage and grease was being thrown out in the back of a business located there. The business owner was contacted and the problem has been addressed.

Code Officer Riechers is working on high grass and weed violations. There have been some problems with getting grass cut on foreclosed property. Ms. Riechers indicated she is continuously working on this matter.

A. FINANCE AND ADMINISTRATION COMMITTEE

TREASURER'S REPORT: A copy of the Treasurer's report was provided to the Board for review and the Treasurer was present to answer questions. Treasurer Collins reminded the Board that Fourth of July Commission checks written in the next month or so can be done without Board approval

because of previous permission given for this. Treasurer Collins will provide a detailed report of all Fourth of July Commission payments after they occur.

Administrator Barber is waiting for the drawdown schedule for JMA Architects to determine how much of the Bond Redemption Account balance could be placed in a certificate of deposit (CD) to earn a higher interest rate.

A list of bills totalling \$118,423.00 to be paid was available for review. A summary of the list of bills was provided. Trustee Cleary made a motion to approve payment of the list of bills as presented. Trustee Ahrendt seconded the motion.

AYES: (6) Trustees Cleary, Ahrendt, Szymanski, Gardner, Kuhlman and Wehling.

NAYS: (0) None.

Motion Carried.

Variance reports for the end of the fiscal year were provided in the packet for review.

The Board considered an ordinance pertaining to responsible bidding. Labor Union representatives Steve Stoyhoff and Ed Barry were present and explained why the ordinance should be approved and the apprentice program should be included in the ordinance. Much discussion followed. The Board talked about training requirements and unions. The matter was tabled for further consideration.

Trustee Cleary made a motion authorizing the Village President to sign an engagement letter in the amount of \$14,900 with Curt Dykstra et al, to complete the audit for Fiscal Year 2008/2009. Trustee Kuhlman seconded the motion.

AYES: (6) Trustees Cleary, Ahrendt, Szymanski, Gardner, Kuhlman and Wehling.

NAYS: (0) None.

Motion Carried.

RESOLUTION #2009-14 - A Resolution authorizing the change of signatories on all bank drafts of the Village of Beecher. Trustee Cleary made a motion to adopt Resolution #2009-14. Trustee Wehling seconded the motion.

AYES: (6) Trustees Cleary, Ahrendt, Szymanski, Gardner, Kuhlman and Wehling.

NAYS: (0) None.

Motion Carried.

RESOLUTION #2009-15 - A Resolution authorizing the change of signatories on all bank drafts of the Beecher Police Department. Trustee Cleary made a motion to adopt Resolution #2009-15. Trustee Kuhlman seconded the motion.

AYES: (6) Trustees Cleary, Ahrendt, Szymanski, Gardner, Kuhlman and Wehling.

NAYS: (0) None.

Motion Carried.

RESOLUTION #2009-16 - A Resolution authorizing the change of signatories on all bank drafts of the Fourth of July Commission. Trustee Cleary made a motion to adopt Resolution #2009-16.

Trustee Ahrendt seconded the motion.

AYES: (6) Trustees Cleary, Ahrendt, Szymanski, Gardner, Kuhlman and Wehling.

NAYS: (0) None.

Motion Carried.

These three Resolutions are to establish who is authorized to sign checks on Village accounts with First Community Bank and Trust.

B. PUBLIC SAFETY COMMITTEE

The Police Department monthly report was provided in the packet for review.

The mosquito abatement program is in full swing.

Chief Weissgerber reported that he was notified by Ford that he can't order a two-tone police interceptor. It is not available anymore. Terry's Ford found a two-tone vehicle for him or the Village can buy a new vehicle as one color and paint the second color. Chief Weissgerber explained the differences between the state bid vehicle and Terry's Ford's vehicle. The price difference is \$1,200. Chief Weissgerber recommended getting a two-tone vehicle with the different options (from state bid) from Terry's Ford because he has not had good experience with vehicles painted after received from the factory. The consensus of the Board agreed to accept Chief Weissgerber's recommendation to buy the two-tone police squad car from Terry's Ford. The cost will not exceed \$23,900.

Chief Weissgerber reported that he has the digital video camera up and running, and explained how it works. Broadcasts are now in digital format.

Chief Weissgerber reported that he did not get awarded a grant for a new squad car because there were too many applications received for the grant.

The bike safety rodeo was held Saturday, June 6th. There were 40-45 participants and the rain held off.

Kim Koutsky asked Chief Weissgerber about reports of break-ins in the unincorporated area. No break-ins have been reported in town.

C. STREETS AND ALLEYS COMMITTEE

Street sweeping has been completed.

Paint striping will be completed in the next two weeks.

An update was provided on the Penfield Street asphalt patches.

Spring restorations have begun.

Ray Koenig from Baxter and Woodman reported that the Community Church has changed their site plan to include the wetland area on Church Road east of the Junior High School for their wet detention. The church hopes to get the shell of their building up by Labor Day. Mr. Koenig recommended not to do any paving of Church Road before Labor Day so the church can get all their cement and dirt work in place. There will be a berm between their pond and a ditch to be put in by the Village along the curve. Plans for church property were on the table for review.

Chief Weissgerber provided a report on the traffic study done on Church Road east of the Junior High School. Questions were asked about some of the details of the report.

Superintendent Cowger's report on the cost of maintaining Church Road was reviewed. Some questions were raised by the Board as to the accuracy of the estimated costs. Some discussion followed regarding the safety of the road. The Village could close that section of Church Road if necessary. Trustee Cleary opposed fixing this section of Church Road. There was some discussion that other roads in town also need to be fixed. The Village previously had a developer who was supposed to fix the road. Trustee Gardner felt Superintendent Cowger's estimate may not be accurate but the road is in bad shape and needs to be fixed. It was determined that the Village does not have money to do repairs at this time. Trustee Gardner made a motion to table paving Church Road east of the Junior High School and authorize the Village Engineer to produce bid specs to improve this road, for review at a future meeting.

AYES: (6) Trustees Cleary, Ahrendt, Szymanski, Gardner, Kuhlman and Wehling.

NAYS: (0) None.

Motion Carried.

The Board also discussed the resurfacing of Church Road from Beatty Lumber west to the Village limits. No action was taken.

Trustee Cleary asked if a letter should be sent to our legislators regarding the status of the Dixie Highway/Chestnut traffic signal installation. President Lohmann reported that Representative Dugan will be at Cardinal Creek Golf Course from 9-10 a.m. on June 15th. Board members were encouraged to meet with her and express concerns.

Superintendent Cowger was not present to provide his report.

D. SEWER AND WATER COMMITTEE

The Water and Sewer Department monthly reports were included in the packet for review.

The Board considered suspension of the ARRA watermain replacement project application and engineering design. Trustee Gardner felt we at least need to engineer these replacements so we are ready when the work can be done. Administrator Barber stated that engineering has been halfway completed. Mr. Koenig reported on engineering design and the project application status. The Board

discussed that the Village would have to pay the money for the improvements up front and then the State would reimburse us. It was noted that the money pledged to pay for the watermain improvements was originally intended for sewer plant expansion. Much discussion followed. It was the consensus of the Board to continue to proceed with engineering of the watermain replacement project, apply for the grant and the grant can be denied if it's determined that the Village can't afford the project.

E. PUBLIC BUILDINGS, PROPERTIES, PARKS AND RECREATION COMMITTEE

The Board considered payment of the following invoices from the Bond Redemption Account:

- a. JMA Architects in the amount of \$4,140.00.
- b. JMA Architects in the amount of \$331.92.
- c. Independent Inspections in the amount of \$3,323.20.
- d. Baxter and Woodman Engineers in the amount of \$6,800.00.
- e. Baxter and Woodman Engineers in the amount of \$4,530.32.
- f. Prairie Material in the amount of \$2,359.51.
- g. Lange Trucking and Excavating in the amount of \$1,522.26.
- h. C+M Pipe and Supply in the amount of \$920.37.
- i. HD Waterworks Supply in the amount of \$11,214.53.

The total amount of these bills is \$35,142.11. These types of bills will be paid at each Village Board meeting as the project progresses. Trustee Wehling made a motion to approve payment of invoices from the Bond Redemption Account for a total amount of \$35,142.11. Trustee Ahrendt seconded the motion.

AYES: (6) Trustees Cleary, Ahrendt, Szymanski, Gardner, Kuhlman and Wehling.

NAYS: (0) None.

Motion Carried.

The Board considered the following field change orders to the Public Works facility project.

- a. Deduct in the amount of \$6,700 for 18" standard grade soffits vs. special order 24" soffits.
- b. Authorization to Baxter and Woodman in the amount of \$4,140 to stake the property for mass grading.
- c. Relocation of the access road from the Washington Township side to Town Center Road and narrow the width of the roadway from 30 feet to 22 feet.

The total net change to the project cost as a result of change orders: \$(- 2,560).

There was discussion as to why staking of the property was not part of the original costs and instead was a change order. After lengthy discussion, Trustee Wehling made a motion to approve change orders a.b. and c. to the Public Works facility project with a net change of -\$2,560. Trustee Szymanski seconded the motion.

AYES: (5) Trustees Ahrendt, Szymanski, Gardner, Kuhlman and Wehling.

NAYS: (1) Trustee Cleary.

Motion Carried.

The Board discussed that the Public Works facility property has to be staked again. Mr. Koenig said restaking is covered in this cost but the contractors will need to be watched so this doesn't continually happen and cost the Village more money.

There is a need to approve someone to review change orders in between Board meetings so necessary decisions can be made to allow the project to keep moving along. Trustee Wehling made a motion authorizing the Chair of the Public Buildings and Properties Commission to approve all change orders having a value less than \$5,000 and the total sum of the project does not exceed \$20,000 over the total of the bid awards. Trustee Gardner seconded the motion.

AYES: (5) Trustees Ahrendt, Szymanski, Gardner, Kuhlman and Wehling.

NAYS: (1) Trustee Cleary.

Motion Carried.

Status was provided on the new Public Works facility. A pre-construction meeting was held on June 2nd and groundbreaking occurred on June 3rd. Some watermain pipe has been installed. Administrator Barber reported that JMA Architects is to review partial final waivers in response to a question by Trustee Ahrendt. Trustee Cleary asked who would be reviewing change orders in addition to Trustee Wehling to make sure they are viable. JMA Architects will make a recommendation to Trustee Wehling on the change orders. Much more discussion followed. George Schuitema recommended a post-construction audit to make sure any add-ons aren't already in the contract.

F. PLANNING, BUILDING AND ZONING COMMITTEE

Results were provided from the May 28th Planning and Zoning Commission (PZC) meeting. Representatives from the Chamber of Commerce attended the meeting and a compromise was reached on a new sign ordinance. All new LED outdoor signs will require a special use permit, and businesses will be allowed to display signs in up to 50% of their window surface, and any electronic sign exceeding six square feet in a window will also require a special use permit. It was agreed that this ordinance amendment be drafted up and presented at a public hearing to be held later in the Fall.

The Building Department monthly report was provided in the packet for review.

The Code Enforcement monthly report was provided in the packet for review.

The Economic Development Coordinator's monthly report was provided in the packet for review.

No status was provided on the Buchmeier building on Penfield Street.

Status was provided on J. Plano Builders, builder of the townhomes located behind the Washington Township Center. Two banks have hired contractors to complete the unfinished units. There are still two more unoccupied duplexes there but the townhomes that had standing water in them are finally being fixed.

Status was provided on the 9C (Doc's) pond on Cardinal Creek Golf Course by Highlington Estates Subdivision. The pond has been cleaned and the aerator has been installed. Trustee Ahrendt viewed the pond prior to the Board meeting, and stated that the pond has been cleaned up but still needs more improvement. There is still some weeds and algae. Staff will take pictures the day of the June 22nd Board meeting and bring photos to show the Board and area homeowners. The homeowners can tell Staff what they want done or if the work is acceptable.

Ray Koenig from Baxter and Woodman reported on the following:

- a. Hunter's Chase West punch list and resurfacing - curb repairs have been completed, most patching is done, developer is negotiating with pavers to get best price.
- b. Curb failure in Hunter's Chase Original - Mr. Koenig forwarded the list to John Lotton. Mr. Koenig, Administrator Barber and Superintendent Cowger will go out and look what still needs to be done.
- c. Street lights in Hunter's Chase East have been completed.
- d. Prairie Crossings South Retention Pond and berm stabilization - Mr. Igoe has stabilized the pond but it still needs more seeding. Administrator Barber asked if the pond needs to be reseeded and who is responsible, the Village or Vince Igoe? It was the consensus of the Board that Mr. Igoe owns the pond and will be responsible for reseeding.
- e. Punch list and final surfacing in Prairie Crossings South - Mr. Sova has contracted with Iroquois Paving to do the work.
- f. MGM punch list items and final lift - is in the hands of the Village Attorney, who will be asked to provide a status at the next Board meeting.
- g. Montalbano punch list items - is in the hands of the Village Attorney, who will be asked to provide status at the next Board meeting. Administrator Barber was asked if Montalbano Homes has been formally contacted about the punch list items. Staff has had problems reaching anyone from Montalbano.

G. VILLAGE PRESIDENT'S REPORT

President Lohmann provided results from the May 12th bike path meeting. The Forest Preserve District and Washington Township was not successful in obtaining land for a bike path. President Lohmann and Economic Development Coordinator Meyer will meet with some property owners to discuss alternate routes for the bike path.

ORDINANCE #1118 - An Ordinance amending the Liquor Code to establish fees for late payment of license renewals and loss of license after 30 days for non-renewal. A copy of the ordinance was provided in the packet for review. Clerk Conner felt that doubling the fee was excessive. There was some discussion. Trustee Wehling made a motion to approve Ordinance #1118. Trustee Szymanski seconded the motion.

AYES: (6) Trustees Cleary, Ahrendt, Szymanski, Gardner, Kuhlman and Wehling.

NAYS: (0) None.

Motion Carried.

A "GO TO 2040" CMAP workshop for Eastern Will County is scheduled for June 23rd at 7 p.m. at Washington Township Center.

President Lohmann recommended setting up a committee of two citizens and two Board members to consider the use of the \$50,000 Ehler's bequest for public improvements. President Lohmann appointed Trustee Wehling, Trustee Ahrendt, Administrator Barber, Jeanette O'Grady, Joe Cook and himself to the committee to consider the use of the \$50,000 Ehler's bequest for public improvements. Trustee Wehling made a motion to approve appointments. Trustee Ahrendt seconded the motion.

AYES: (6) Trustees Cleary, Ahrendt, Szymanski, Gardner, Kuhlman and Wehling.

NAYS: (0) None.

Motion Carried.

The Board also authorized Treasurer Collins to put part of the amount in a CD for now because it will take time to decide on a project. Treasurer Collins will leave a small amount in the account to keep it open. Administrator Barber will set up a committee meeting and report back to the Board.

H. NEW BUSINESS

Administrator Barber will be out of town the rest of the week at a City Manager's Conference.

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

AYES: (6) Trustees Cleary, Ahrendt, Szymanski, Gardner, Kuhlman and Wehling.

NAYS: (0) None.

Motion Carried.

Meeting adjourned at 10:08 p.m.

Respectfully submitted by:

Janett Conner
Village Clerk