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**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  
OCTOBER 23, 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, Superintendent of Public Works Bud Cowger and Acting Chief Rick Emerson.

**GUEST:** George Schuitema.

President Szymanski asked for consideration of the minutes of the September 25, 2017 and October 10, 2017 Board meetings. Trustee Wehling 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.

**CLERK'S REPORT**

1) A report on income received since the last meeting was provided. 2) Clerk Conner read a thank you card from the family of Jeff Weissgerber.

**A. FINANCE AND ADMINISTRATION COMMITTEE**

Trustee Basile made a motion authorizing the Village President to sign an agreement with Buyboard.com to participate in cooperative purchasing. Trustee Meyer seconded the motion.

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

**NAYS:** (0) None.

Motion Carried.

The Board discussed dates and times to begin the strategic planning process. The Board decided to conduct a session after the November 13<sup>th</sup> Board meeting and November 14<sup>th</sup> at 6:30 p.m., if necessary.

**B. PUBLIC BUILDINGS AND PROPERTIES, PARKS AND RECREATION COMMITTEE**



Trustee Wehling provided a report on the proposed playground equipment for Firemen’s Park. He and Trustee Kraus got together and measured the area. They plan to get some different prices on equipment. The suggested location is right behind the t-ball field.

Superintendent Cowger reported on damage to the Firemen’s Park bathrooms. Kids kicked in the vents in the door. The police arrested those responsible. Superintendent Cowger said he is looking at replacing the vents or possibly a new door, depending on costs. Acting Chief Emerson said the Police Department is seeking restitution from parents once costs are known.

**C. PLANNING, BUILDING AND ZONING COMMITTEE**

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

The Village was notified that we will be receiving a CMAP LTA grant for drafting of a new comprehensive land use plan. This process will begin after the holidays.

The Board considered an ordinance adding Section 9-5-16 of the Village Code pertaining to the parking of oversized vehicles and trailers within all property of the Village. The Committee met last month and is proposing the drafted ordinance to be part of the municipal code and not the zoning ordinance so it could be more easily enforced by the Police Department and interpreted by the Code Enforcement Officer. This would change the current ordinance so that any vehicle or trailer in excess of 25 feet in length cannot be parked anywhere in the Village for more than three days unless on property licensed for such use. All recreational trailers and vehicles would also have to be parked on an asphalt or concrete surface and be at least 5’ from a property line.

There was much discussion as to whether this is a frequent problem in the Village and if it should be approved if there was only one complaint received. The complaint was resolved by the Code Enforcement Officer. It was noted that the town has grown a lot since the ordinance was approved, with smaller lots and different subdivision layouts and different setback requirements than the old part of town. Old campers used to be smaller than the large campers there are today. The Acting Chief was asked for an opinion and he stated that the Code Enforcement Officer will not write a ticket on a Zoning Ordinance violation. Zoning Ordinance violations must be addressed through long form complaints. Village Ordinance could be changed to mirror what’s in the Zoning Ordinance so the Police Department can enforce it. After much discussion the matter was tabled to allow the Board to consider the matter further and to obtain more information and determine how many people this would affect.

**D. PUBLIC SAFETY COMMITTEE**

The Police Department monthly report was provided for review.

The EMA monthly report was provided in the packet for review.

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

Halloween trick or treat hours are set from 4-7 p.m. on Tuesday, October 31<sup>st</sup>.

Trustee Kraus reported that the Police Department is moving ahead with promotion of corporals and the creation of a full-time hiring list. The Department hopes to promote up to two patrol officers to corporal at some point in the future and create a list for eligible candidates for full-time police officer.

### **E. PUBLIC WORKS COMMITTEE**

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

Bid opening for the wastewater treatment plant rehabilitation project is scheduled for Tuesday, October 31<sup>st</sup> at 2:00 p.m. at the Village Hall. Consideration of the bids will be at the next Village Board meeting.

Superintendent Cowger provided a Penfield Street watermain restoration update. The project has been completed. Restorations that have been sinking will be corrected by the contractor in the spring.

A Chestnut street light update was provided. Brandon Industries will supply us with two high-lumen decorative street lamps and we will price these out once more information is received from King Electric on installation costs. Superintendent Cowger is working on lining everything up with ComEd. He hopes to get the lights in within the next 2-3 weeks.

It was reported that there are major problems at well #4 located at the base of the water tower on Gould Street. The well was placed out of service and the motor was pulled off the shaft. The seal to the bearings to the shaft from the motor were compromised resulting in a vibration and some damage to the shaft inside the well. The motor will be taken to Jays for repair and then reset it on the shaft and test the well. It won't be known if the shaft is damaged until the motor is repaired and put back in. The other wells are working fine while well #4 is off-line.

Route #1 shoulder widening began the previous week. It was noted that this is an Illinois Department of Transportation (IDOT) project and work not being done by the Village as some think.

Superintendent Cowger provided an update on valve turning. He will have a solid date on this program within the next two weeks.

Leaf collection is now in full swing. Public Works will do one pass per street each week.

A Penfield Street STP update was provided. The engineer's estimate for the total project cost is \$4,902,250 which includes the bridge at Trim Creek and the feds are picking up \$3,921,800 (80%) of that amount, leaving the Village to pay a 20% match or \$980,450. This project is planned for 2020 or 2021 depending on the circumstances.

The Board discussed an ordinance extending the deferred tap-in fee payment and \$2,000 water bill incentive for a period of two years and imposing a 10% late penalty for deferred tap-ins if they are not paid within one year. Trustee Kypuros felt a 10% penalty was not high enough. He preferred a 15% late penalty. Discussion followed.

ORDINANCE #1277 – An Ordinance extending the deferred tap-in fee payment and \$2,000 water bill incentive for a period of two years and imposing a 15% late penalty for deferred tap-ins if they are not paid within one year. Trustee Kypuros made a motion to approve Ordinance #1277. Trustee Basile seconded the motion.

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

NAYS: (0) None.

Motion Carried.

## **F. ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT AND COMMUNITY RELATIONS COMMITTEE**

An update on the Village newsletter was provided. It is still at the printer and should be mailed this week.

Trustee Meyer provided a Facebook page update. The scheduled launch date is the end of November. Staff is working on a social media posting policy.

The Gould Street boardwalk is now complete. The contractor recommends it not be sealed until summer of 2018. Staff will get prices to put that into the budget. Some boards have already been replaced by the contractor.

Trustee Basile reported that a Veteran's ceremony is scheduled to take place at 2:00 p.m. on Thursday, November 9<sup>th</sup> at Prairie State College. Several applications have been received from Beecher residents. Forms are being accepted at the Village Hall.

A sesquicentennial update was provided. Administrator Barber stated that this will be discussed during strategic planning.

RESOLUTION #2017-08 – A Resolution supporting Illinois bi-centennial celebrations. Trustee Meyer made a motion to adopt Resolution #2017-08. Trustee Mazurek seconded the motion.

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

NAYS: (0) None.

Motion Carried.

## **G. VILLAGE PRESIDENT'S REPORT**

President Szymanski provided the Board with a proposal to recruit, screen and assess Police Chief candidates. A job description, announcement, salary surveys and proposed timeline for the process was provided for review. He went through the timeline for options on how to proceed and explained the overall selection process. The Chief's current budgeted salary is being advertised but the salary will be dependent upon qualifications. The Board looked at hiring options A, B and C as presented by President Szymanski. He said he originally thought about going with a

company to do the hiring process but that would cost approximately \$13,000, so he is looking at a hybrid of different options instead. There were some questions regarding who will be on the selection committee and the benefits and costs of the different options. After much discussion, President Szymanski decided to go with option B for the selection process. There were no objections from the Board.

#### **H. OLD BUSINESS**

#### **I. NEW BUSINESS**

Administrator Barber reported crack sealing was done on Friday. It still needs to be determined if street sweeping needs to be done on the streets that were sealed.

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

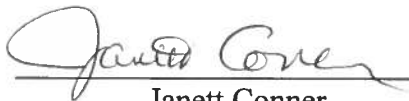
AYES: (6) Trustees Basile, Meyer, Kraus, Mazurek, Kypuros and Wehling.

NAYS: (0) None.

Motion Carried.

Meeting adjourned at 8:23 p.m.

Respectfully submitted by:



Janett Conner  
Village Clerk