

**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  
MAY 12, 2008 -- 7:00 P.M.**

All present joined in the Pledge to the Flag.

President Pro-Tem Wehling called the meeting to order.

**ROLL CALL**

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

ABSENT: President Lohmann.

**STAFF PRESENT:** Clerk Janett Conner, Administrator Robert Barber, Chief Jeffrey Weissgerber, Treasurer Nelson Collins, Ray Koenig from Baxter and Woodman and Economic Development Coordinator Marcy Meyer.

**GUESTS:** Terry Gatlin from the Beecher Herald, Bill Byrns from The Daily Journal, Kim and Betty Koutsky, George Wille, Dale Serig, Jay Bradarich, Kevin Bouchard, Al Buitter, Joseph Venturella, Joe Jaworski and John Rizzi.

President Pro-Tem Wehling asked for consideration of the minutes of the April 28, 2008 Board meeting and public hearing with the following changes by Trustee Cleary: Some of President Lohmann's appointments made at the April 28<sup>th</sup> meeting were not made available to Board members before the meeting, so Trustee Cleary moved to strike the Beautification Committee and Fourth of July Commission appointments. Trustee Cleary made a motion to approve the minutes of the April 28, 2008 Board meeting with the aforementioned change. Trustee Gardner seconded the motion.

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

NAYS: (0) None.

ABSTAIN: (1) Trustee Wehling.

Motion Carried.

Trustee Cleary made a motion to approve the minutes of the April 28, 2008 public hearing as written. Trustee Szymanski seconded the motion.

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

NAYS: (0) None.

ABSTAIN: (1) Trustee Wehling.

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 (\$472.54) and the Beautification Commission (\$551.52). Trustee Szymanski made a motion to approve the list of bills totalling \$1,024.06 as listed on the Clerk's Report. Trustee Ahrendt seconded the motion.

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

NAYS: (0) None.

Motion Carried.

A public hearing was held at 7:05 p.m. to consider a pre-annexation agreement with Trinity Industrial for approximately 507 acres of contiguous property referred to as Phase II lands for an intermodal park.

#### **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 addressed the memo provided in the packet that addressed fund balances in two accounts dropping below recommended levels as previously set by the Board. Treasurer Collins discussed the General Checking balance and cash flow.

A list of bills totalling \$164,484.93 to be paid was available for review. A summary of the list of bills was provided. Administrator Barber pointed out a number of bills that came in earlier in the day and were therefore not reviewed by Trustee Szymanski prior to the meeting. Trustee Szymanski asked about bills relating to the Firemen's Park project. Trustee Szymanski 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.

Results were provided on the three financial consultant interviews that were conducted on May 5<sup>th</sup>. A summary of costs involved was provided in the packet for review. The Committee is set to meet again on Monday, May 19, 2008 to discuss a recommendation.

#### **B. PUBLIC SAFETY COMMITTEE**

The Police Department monthly report was provided for review.

Results were provided from the Emergency Services Disaster Agency (ESDA) Executive Board meeting. Chief Weissgerber reported that the disaster plan will need to be updated this year. Lieutenant Emerson is working on this project.

Chief Weissgerber reported on the Weather Spotters training class. The class was very informative and well-attended by approximately 37 people.

Chief Weissgerber reported that he attended the Washington Township meeting on May 5<sup>th</sup> and talked to them about partnering on youth activities. Washington Township offered \$4,000 for this program. All tickets for the upcoming Joliet Jackhammers baseball game are already spoken for.

### **C. STREETS AND ALLEYS COMMITTEE**

Administrator Barber reported that the steel and platform have been delivered for the Miller Street pedestrian bridge. This bridge is scheduled for completion by July 4<sup>th</sup>.

Three proposals have not yet been obtained for the crack sealing program therefore no update was available.

It was reported that street sweeping was conducted the previous week by the Village of Richton Park at a cost of \$400 to sweep the entire town.

Forty-seven new street banners are scheduled for installation the week of May 19, 2008.

Paint striping will be conducted in-house using a machine from the Village of Richton Park, and scheduled for completion by July 4<sup>th</sup>.

Administrator Barber reported on the May 9<sup>th</sup> Arbor Day ceremony. All of Zion Lutheran School's students participated in the ceremony.

### **D. SEWER AND WATER COMMITTEE**

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

The water billing register for the months of March and April were provided in the packet for review. Staff was happy with a pumped to billed ratio of 81.2%. This was 10% better than last year and 14% better than the 10-year average.

Mr. Koenig from Baxter and Woodman reported that May 13<sup>th</sup> is startup day for Well #5. Equipment will be started up with the contractor and Kamp Synergy, and operator training will be conducted. Well #5 will slowly be put online as not to disturb the system. The well should be online after May 13<sup>th</sup>. Trustee Cleary questioned why this well is to be used as a main pump. Some discussion followed.

Night time spring flushing is scheduled for the week of May 19<sup>th</sup>. Trustee Ahrendt asked about the hours for this. Administrator Barber thought the flushing would be conducted between the hours of 10:00 p.m. and 5:00 a.m.

Superintendent Cowger was not present due to illness.

The Board discussed the leachate report, as provided in the packet by Baxter & Woodman. Ray Koenig reported that after talking with Bill Merritt, Sewer Plant Operator, that there already is a problem with ammonia going out of the plant at high flow periods. Mr. Merritt is to start testing ammonia levels entering the plant. Administrator Barber explained why ammonia levels get high and how this would relate to treating leachate from the landfill. More study needs to be done. The Board discussed a forced oxidation system for plant. There was much discussion about inflow & infiltration (I & I).

#### **E. PUBLIC BUILDINGS, PROPERTIES, PARKS AND RECREATION COMMITTEE**

Trustee Wehling reported that the contractor is to begin asphaltting at Firemen's Park on Tuesday, May 13<sup>th</sup>. Both fields should be done around May 21<sup>st</sup> at which time seeding and watering will begin.

Trustee Wehling reported that there are a lot of activities scheduled for Firemen's Park this year. An evening "Under the Stars" is scheduled for July 20<sup>th</sup> at Firemen's Park and the Part-Time Players will perform a play on stage. The group is asking to use of one of the vending slots in the vendor building. Trustee Wehling asked the Board if it was okay for the group to use the vendor building. Trustee Szymanski was okay with this. Many of the Part-Time Players are people involved in the Fourth of July festival so they can be trusted with the use of the vendor building. The security deposit is \$50. The new bathrooms should also be available for use from dawn to dusk during the warmer months.

The Spring 2008 newsletter was mailed the week of May 5, 2008.

#### **F. PLANNING, BUILDING AND ZONING COMMITTEE**

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 monthly report was provided in the packet for review.

ORDINANCE #1099 - An ordinance authorizing the Village President and Clerk to sign a pre-annexation agreement for several parcels of land totalling 507 acres as proposed by Trinity Industrial Development. Trustee Ahrendt made a motion to approve Ordinance #1099 contingent upon the Village President being satisfied with the reimbursement of planning and engineering fees. Trustee Szymanski seconded the motion.

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

NAYS: (0) None.

Motion Carried.

The Planning and Zoning Commission is scheduled to meet on May 29, 2008. The only item on the agenda so far is the public hearing on the rezoning of 120 acres east of Racine and south of Church Road to I-T Intermodal upon annexation for the McWhorter and Buiters parcels.

The Board considered the renewal of a building permit for Magic Moon Productions (Buchmeier) at the old Myrick building on Penfield and Reed Streets. This building is under renovation and the permit has expired. Trustee Ahrendt asked if Buchmeiers have been contacted to find out their intentions to continue repairs to the building. Staff believed that they just wish to continue on as is going. The main concerns expressed were about the safety of the building and it being open and accessible. Trustee Ahrendt recommended sending a letter to Buchmeiers and ask what they plan to do. It was the consensus of the Board to send the Buchmeiers a letter letting them know the permit has expired, inform them that they need to immediately secure the building, tell them to attend the next Board meeting on June 9<sup>th</sup> and require them to provide a timeline for getting the improvements done.

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

Administrator Barber reported that Will County is still trying to push road impact fees on a reduced scale.

Staff is still looking into the Hillcrest Drive issue.

Trustee Kuhlman asked about when Administrator Barber talked to Will County Board member Cory Singer and if the poor condition of Route #1 was mentioned. It was noted that Route #1 is a state road not a county road.

Board members discussed the condition of Township roads and if Will County could help.

Administrator Barber reported on the Village's meeting with the Will County Forest Preserve District to kick-start the bike path from Eagle Lake Road to Offner Road. The County owns land to Offner Road from Goodenow Grove and the Village has a bike path installed up to Eagle Lake Road. A concerted effort will now be made to link these trails by 2010.

An update was given on SB2063. This is the airport authority bill which has passed the Senate but is now bogged down in the House of Representatives. It appears that the Democrats in the House will be blocking this bill from moving forward.

An Illinois Works Coalition Listening Session is scheduled for Tuesday, May 13<sup>th</sup> from 6:00 to 7:00 p.m. at South Suburban College. Representative George Scully's office has asked that some elected official attend this meeting. This session is on capital spending plans as to what projects are needed in the south suburbs. Board members were asked if anyone could attend. Trustee Szymanski and Administrator Barber will attend the meeting. Trustee Cleary indicated that he will try to attend.

## **H. NEW BUSINESS**

Administrator Barber reported on the senior housing project tour on May 27<sup>th</sup> to Watseka. Board members were informed that the time was set for 5:00 p.m. to leave for the tour.

Administrator Barber reminded the Board that the next Board meeting is scheduled for June 9, 2008 (due to the cancellation of the May 26<sup>th</sup> meeting which falls on Memorial Day).

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

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

NAYS: (0) None.

Motion Carried.

Meeting adjourned at 8:37 p.m.

Respectfully submitted by:

---

Janett Conner  
Village Clerk