

**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
OCTOBER 11, 2010 -- 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, Szymanski (arrived at 7:12 p.m.), Kuhlman and Wehling.

ABSENT: Trustees Ahrendt and Gardner.

STAFF PRESENT: Clerk Janett Conner, Administrator Robert Barber, Treasurer Nelson Collins, Public Works Superintendent Harold "Bud" Cowger, Chief Jeffrey Weissgerber, Derek Wold from Baxter & Woodman and Auditor Curt Dykstra.

GUESTS: Lynn Dill from the Beecher Herald, Bill Byrns from the Daily Journal, Kim Koutsky, Bill and Ann Hearn, Dennis Kennedy, John DellAquila, George Schuitema, Bob Carter, Walter Olson, Jonathan Kypuros, Kurt Gess, David Flores, Anthony Messana, Diane Williams and Deb Bruni.

President Lohmann asked for consideration of the minutes of the September 13, 2010 Board meeting. Trustee Cleary made a motion to approve the minutes with a correction to page 5, line 6, replace "The Board discussed financing options" with "The Board discussed the raising of donations to make up the difference between the Ehlers donation and actual project cost". Trustee Wehling seconded the motion.

AYES: (4) Trustees Cleary, Kuhlman, Wehling and President Lohmann.

NAYS: (0) None.

ABSENT: (3) Trustees Ahrendt, Szymanski and Gardner.

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. Trustee Wehling made a motion to approve the list of bills totalling \$267.00 as listed on the Clerk's Report. Trustee Kuhlman seconded the motion.

AYES: (4) Trustees Cleary, Kuhlman, Wehling and President Lohmann.

NAYS: (0) None.

ABSENT: (3) Trustees Ahrendt, Szymanski and Gardner.

Motion Carried.

3) Clerk Conner reported that election packets for the April 5, 2011 election are now available at the Village Hall. Three Trustee seats are up for election.

Village auditor Curt Dykstra presented the fiscal year 2009-2010 audit. Board members were given an opportunity to ask questions. Questions were asked about the state income tax and uncollateralized assets.

Trustee Szymanski arrived at 7:12 p.m.

Trustee Cleary made a motion to accept the audit for Fiscal Year 2009-2010. Trustee Wehling seconded the motion.

AYES: (3) Trustees Cleary, Kuhlman and Wehling.

NAYS: (0) None.

ABSTAIN: (1) Trustee Szymanski.

ABSENT: (2) Trustees Ahrendt and Gardner.

Motion Carried.

RECOGNITION OF GUESTS: Bob Carter provided an update on the proposed third airport. A meeting is scheduled in Joliet for next week.

Resident Bill Hearn from Pine Street in Prairie Crossings Subdivision spoke regarding a complaint he submitted prior to the Board meeting expressing his concerns about flooding in his neighborhood. Photos were shown of the flooding. Mr. Hearn said he had to replace his patio because flooding washed out his other patio. He increased the height of the swale on his property also and said his sod has died in spots. He was not sure if the sod died due to chemicals off farmers fields being brought in with the rain. He said his property is not the only one that floods. Other neighbors have same problems. Mr. Hearn wants to know what the Village can do to help with this. There is also a problem with the dry retention pond filling with sludge when it rains, coming off the fields. Mr. Hearn suggested to put a swale in the adjoining farm fields.

Prairie Crossings resident Walter Olson said debris from farm fields washes into their properties in the spring with the rains and goes into the storm sewer.

Administrator Barber said it needs to be asked what the conditions of water flow in the area were before the subdivision was built. Derek Wold explained the engineer's design to grade a swale along the north and northeast side of the subdivision. There have been many "hundred year" storms in the last few years, which is much greater than the design for water drainage. Mr. Wold said if the swale was done as originally designed it would do the job but it was not done to the original plan. Trustee Szymanski noted that sending the water to the farm fields will become a problem for farmers. There would be a need for an easement if the swale was moved to the farm field. Then who would maintain the property? Trustee Szymanski proposed putting a swale along the farm field, the homeowners would maintain the property in exchange for getting the easement. It was questioned if the existing storm sewer pipe is large enough to take all the water. A utility easement runs behind the properties which would be a problem for cutting a swale. Administrator Barber asked what the back up plan is

if the farmers don't want to cooperate. Trustee Cleary questioned if there is some kind of build up on properties that is contributing to the problem. President Lohmann proposed to again approach the farmers that own the adjoining farm fields and see if they would work with the Village to solve the flooding problems. Approaching the Will County Stormwater Committee may also be a possibility. The Streets and Alleys Committee will work on this in cooperation with Bill Hearn and other homeowners in the neighborhood. The Village will approach the farmers to try and work something out. There was much discussion.

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.

Variance reports for the month of August were provided in the packet for review.

A list of bills totalling \$103,680.88 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 Szymanski seconded the motion.

AYES: (4) Trustees Cleary, Szymanski, Kuhlman and Wehling.

NAYS: (0) None.

ABSENT: (2) Trustees Ahrendt and Gardner.

Motion Carried.

A copy of a graph showing cash balances trends since April, 2007, was provided for review. The cutting done by the Board in the past few years has worked to keep fund balances healthy.

ORDINANCE #1138 - An Ordinance authorizing the Village President and Clerk to sign an intergovernmental agreement establishing the Eastern Will County Council of Mayors for Health Management Cooperative as a sub-pool of the IPBC and adopting our by-laws. Trustee Cleary made a motion to approve Ordinance #1138. Trustee Szymanski seconded the motion.

AYES: (4) Trustees Cleary, Szymanski, Kuhlman and Wehling.

NAYS: (0) None.

ABSENT: (2) Trustees Ahrendt and Gardner.

Motion Carried.

B. PUBLIC SAFETY COMMITTEE

The Police Department monthly report was provided for review.

An update was provided on the shooting spree east of Beecher. Chief Weissgerber reported that the Board packet was printed before Will County made an arrest. What has been in the paper is all that Chief knows. Beecher Police only assisted in securing the home until other units arrived on the scene. Trustee Cleary asked about procedures for school notification when this type of incident occurs.

Trustee Szymanski suggested more people sign up for the Nixle system to be better informed. The Will County Emergency Notification System was discussed.

C. STREETS AND ALLEYS COMMITTEE

Trustee Szymanski made a motion to approve payment in the amount of \$726 to SEC Group for pre-meeting and document preparation for the Route #1 patching and repair project. Trustee Cleary seconded the motion.

AYES: (4) Trustees Cleary, Szymanski, Kuhlman and Wehling.

NAYS: (0) None.

ABSENT: (2) Trustees Ahrendt and Gardner.

Motion Carried.

The Chestnut/Dixie traffic signal project is moving along slowly. Work is scheduled for completion by December 3rd.

A crack sealing update was provided.

A “Ring Road” curb repair update was provided. Work is scheduled to begin next Monday.

Leaf collection will begin on Tuesday, October 12th.

D. SEWER AND WATER COMMITTEE

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

Public Works Superintendent Cowger reported that cleaning of the exterior of the above ground water storage tank was completed by Public Works. This project will be put on the regular maintenance list.

E. PUBLIC BUILDINGS, PROPERTIES, PARKS AND RECREATION COMMITTEE

The Fall newsletter will be mailed on Tuesday, October 12th.

The next meeting of the Ehlers Bequest Committee is scheduled for Wednesday, October 13th at 6:00 p.m. at the Village Hall. The Committee will discuss donation possibilities and keep moving the project forward.

Trustee Szymanski said he was approached by a resident about swings that need to be repaired in Hunter’s Chase Park. Superintendent Cowger stated that Public Works was aware of the problem and will fix the swings.

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.

Trustee Wehling made a motion to approve payment of bills from the MGM Escrow Account in the amount of \$2,224.75. Trustee Szymanski seconded the motion.

AYES: (4) Trustees Cleary, Szymanski, Kuhlman and Wehling.

NAYS: (0) None.

ABSENT: (2) Trustees Ahrendt and Gardner.

Motion Carried.

Trustee Wehling made a motion to approve payment of a bill from the Montalbano Escrow Account in the amount of \$183.00 to Baxter and Woodman Engineering. Trustee Kuhlman seconded the motion.

AYES: (4) Trustees Cleary, Szymanski, Kuhlman and Wehling.

NAYS: (0) None.

ABSENT: (2) Trustees Ahrendt and Gardner.

Motion Carried.

The Board considered requesting Metra to add a Beecher stop for the proposed southeast commuter rail service. There had been some discussion at an intergovernmental meeting about this relating to revitalization of the old downtown area. The Board was asked for a consensus if they would like commuter rail extended to Beecher. After some discussion, it was the consensus of the Board that this is not the time to pursue this.

G. VILLAGE PRESIDENT'S REPORT

RESOLUTION #2010-24 - A Resolution of support for the Vincennes multi-purpose recreational trail linking Nantucket Cove with the Goodenow Grove Forest Preserve. Administrator Barber said that property owners did not appear to be willing sellers at this time and the Village has no jurisdiction outside the Village limits for this. Trustee Kuhlman made a motion to adopt Resolution #2010-24. Trustee Szymanski seconded the motion.

AYES: (4) Trustees Cleary, Szymanski, Kuhlman and Wehling.

NAYS: (0) None.

ABSENT: (2) Trustees Ahrendt and Gardner.

Motion Carried.

RESOLUTION #2010-25 - A Resolution re-affirming the Village's position on the proposed south suburban airport. This Resolution combines some past resolutions into one. Trustee Szymanski made a motion to adopt Resolution #2010-25. Trustee Wehling seconded the motion.

AYES: (4) Trustees Cleary, Szymanski, Kuhlman and Wehling.

NAYS: (0) None.

ABSENT: (2) Trustees Ahrendt and Gardner.

Motion Carried.

Administrator Barber reported on the 9-1-1 meeting held on September 23rd. The building proposal was not unilaterally supported by the audience or the 9-1-1 Board at the meeting. The cost of the facility was questioned. A comment was made at the 9-1-1 meeting that additional space wasn't even needed for 9-1-1. The other agencies involved needed more space. President Lohmann asked if Beecher is getting our fair share back from the 9-1-1 tax. Chief Weissgerber said 9-1-1 does put money towards upgrading our dispatch center.

The Village has received an invitation to attend the grand opening of the new Beecher Community Church. Trustees Kuhlman and Szymanski plan to attend.

President Lohmann received a call from Representative Anthony DeLuca's office stating that the Village will be receiving a check in the amount of \$17,863 from the State of Illinois. The State sold bonds for a capital bill to do road projects. The money will be put in the Motor Fuel Tax (MFT) Fund.

Trustee Wehling made a motion to cancel the October 25th Board meeting. Trustee Szymanski seconded the motion.

AYES: (4) Trustees Cleary, Szymanski, Kuhlman and Wehling.

NAYS: (0) None.

ABSENT: (2) Trustees Ahrendt and Gardner.

Motion Carried.

The next Board meeting will be held November 8th.

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

AYES: (4) Trustees Cleary, Szymanski, Kuhlman and Wehling.

NAYS: (0) None.

ABSENT: (2) Trustees Ahrendt and Gardner.

Motion Carried.

Meeting adjourned at 8:42 p.m.

Respectfully submitted by:

Janett Conner
Village Clerk