

**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  
FEBRUARY 22, 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, Ahrendt, Szymanski, Gardner, Kuhlman and Wehling.

**ABSENT:** None.

**STAFF PRESENT:** Clerk Janett Conner, Administrator Robert Barber, Chief Jeffrey Weissgerber, Treasurer Nelson Collins, Public Works Superintendent Harold "Bud" Cowger, Economic Development Coordinator Marcy Meyer and Part-time Police Officer Tamara Fox.

**GUESTS:** Lynn Dill from the Beecher Herald, Bill Byrns from the Daily Journal, Andrew Ahrendt, Bob Carter, Art VanBaren, George Schuitema, Kevin Bouchard, Ed Linden, Chris and C.J. Luttrell, and Michael D. Jordan.

President Lohmann asked for consideration of the minutes of the February 8, 2010 Board meeting. Trustee Szymanski made a motion to approve the minutes as written. Trustee Kuhlman seconded the motion.

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

**NAYS:** (0) None.

**ABSTAIN:** (1) Trustee Cleary.

Motion Carried.

**CLERK'S REPORT:** 1) A report on income received since the last meeting was given. 2) Bills were presented for the Beecher 4<sup>th</sup> of July Commission. Trustee Szymanski made a motion to approve the bills in the amount of \$1,533.90 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.

**RECOGNITION OF GUESTS:** Clerk Conner swore in new part-time Police Officer Tamara Fox and she was introduced to the Board.

Art VanBaren of Dutch American Foods was present to request a property tax reimbursement for a 60,000 square foot addition to his facility on Dutch American Way. Mr. VanBaren provided a presentation on how his business started and the reasons he is requesting a property tax reimbursement. Questions were asked as to what would happen in the future if he outgrows the expanded building, if he would move the entire business. Mr. VanBaren indicated he has no intentions of doing this. He would prefer multiple locations. Questions were raised as to if Dutch American Foods decides to move, if the tax reimbursement would end or go with the property. Wording would be needed in the tax reimbursement agreement to allow for a clawback in case Mr. VanBaren moves from the building during the term of the agreement. This matter will also be discussed further with the other taxing bodies at the March 29<sup>th</sup> Intergovernmental meeting. Trustee Ahrendt made a motion to authorize the attorney to draft a property tax reimbursement agreement for a 60,000 square foot addition to the Dutch American Foods facility on Dutch American Way. Trustee Gardner seconded the motion.

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

NAYS: (0) None.

Motion Carried.

Bob Carter provided a presentation on the results of the Illiana meeting held the previous week in Indiana. He stated his concerns about pollution relating to this project.

Ed Linden, a resident just outside of Lowell, Indiana, provided some input on the Illiana meeting. He also attended the meeting and testified. Some discussion followed.

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

Variance reports for the previous month were included in the packet for review.

It was the consensus of the Board to stay late after a future regular Board meeting and handle the strategic plan. It will most likely be discussed following the March 22<sup>nd</sup> Board meeting.

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

ORDINANCE #1129 - An Ordinance establishing progressive fines and to provide for a Basset training program certification for all liquor license holders. Some discussion followed regarding special events such as the Fourth of July Celebration, the Street Dance, etc. Trustee Kuhlman made a motion to approve Ordinance #1129. Trustee Wehling seconded the motion.

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

NAYS: (0) None.

Motion Carried.

Trustee Kuhlman made a motion authorizing the sale of a 2001 Ford Excursion, which was confiscated by the Police Department, and placing the funds in the asset forfeiture account to be used for the purchase of replacement video cameras. Chief Weissgerber reported that title has not yet been

received, but it is in very good condition. Trustee Cleary seconded the motion.  
AYES: (6) Trustees Cleary, Ahrendt, Szymanski, Gardner, Kuhlman and Wehling.  
NAYS: (0) None.  
Motion Carried.

Trustee Kuhlman requested a closed session be held to discuss personnel.

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

RESOLUTION #2010-02 - A Resolution establishing a capital equipment replacement fund. The Village will appropriate for this but won't actually implement it until we know if the State of Illinois is going to cut our revenue. Trustee Szymanski made a motion to adopt Resolution #2010-02. Trustee Wehling seconded the motion.

AYES: (6) Trustees Cleary, Ahrendt, Szymanski, Gardner, Kuhlman and Wehling.  
NAYS: (0) None.  
Motion Carried.

Trustee Szymanski made a motion authorizing an agreement and payment to Terry Zeilenga in the amount of \$1,200 for mowing and maintaining Lange's Unit III pond for the 2010 season. Trustee Ahrendt seconded the motion.

AYES: (6) Trustees Cleary, Ahrendt, Szymanski, Gardner, Kuhlman and Wehling.  
NAYS: (0) None.  
Motion Carried.

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

The Board discussed authorizing the Village President to obtain loan funding from the Illinois Environmental Protection Agency (IEPA) for the 2009 watermain replacement project. This would be a loan, not a grant. President Lohmann and Administrator Barber are meeting with the IEPA on February 25<sup>th</sup> to discuss this. Questions were raised if this loan would require bond backing. Superintendent Cowger will also attend the IEPA meeting and bring records of all watermain breaks to support the need for watermain improvements.

Superintendent Cowger reported that he has been unable to get some of the information regarding unmetered water usage for sprinklers in ballfields, the watering of flowers, etc. He asked for more time to obtain accurate information.

Superintendent Cowger reported that there was a watermain break on February 20<sup>th</sup> on Miller Street.

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

Superintendent Cowger reported that most of the painting has been completed in the new Public Works facility. Plumbers are finishing up their work. The tool room is done. It is hoped to have the

April 12<sup>th</sup> Board meeting in the new facility.

Trustee Wehling will set up a meeting in March for the Veteran's Memorial Committee (Ehlers Bequest Committee) to discuss a site for the veterans memorial.

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

The template annexation agreement and listing of fees will be discussed at the March 29<sup>th</sup> Intergovernmental meeting.

Marcy Meyer is ready to go over the latest draft of the architectural guidelines. The Committee will get in contact with her before the next meeting.

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

Trustee Szymanski made a motion to approve President Lohmann's appointments of Marcy Meyer, Laura Voss and Kevin Bouchard to the Beecher Fourth of July Commission to fill open spots due to resignations. Trustee Gardner seconded the motion.

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

NAYS: (0) None.

Motion Carried.

A status report was provided regarding letters of credit. There is still money left on the Hunters Chase West letter of credit. Work is to be done this spring. Hunter's Chase East needs paving and curb work and has a punch list of items to be done. President Lohmann recommended putting pressure on Mr. Lotton to get improvements in by September 1<sup>st</sup>. After some discussion, Trustee Cleary made a motion to authorize the Village Engineer to send a letter to John Lotton concerning Hunter's Chase east to resolve the final lift on Hunter's Chase east and propose drawing on the letter of credit if work is not done. After further discussion, Trustee Cleary amended the previous motion to: authorize the Village Engineer to send a letter to the developer that Hunter's Chase Subdivision east must be in acceptable condition by September 1<sup>st</sup> or inform them that the Village intends to draw on their letter of credit. Trustee Szymanski seconded the motion.

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

NAYS: (0) None.

ABSTAIN: (1) Trustee Ahrendt.

Motion Carried.

President Lohmann provided his annual State of the Village Address.

#### **H. NEW BUSINESS**

There being no further business to be discussed in open session, Trustee Szymanski made a motion to adjourn into executive session at 8:52 p.m. to discuss personnel, regarding a union grievance. Trustee Cleary seconded the motion.

AYES: (6) Trustees Cleary, Ahrendt, Szymanski, Gardner, Kuhlman and Wehling.  
NAYS: (0) None.  
Motion Carried.

Trustee Szymanski made a motion to return to regular session at 9:22 p.m. Trustee Kuhlman seconded the motion.

AYES: (6) Trustees Cleary, Ahrendt, Szymanski, Gardner, Kuhlman and Wehling.  
NAYS: (0) None.  
Motion Carried.

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: (6) Trustees Cleary, Ahrendt, Szymanski, Gardner, Kuhlman and Wehling.  
NAYS: (0) None.  
Motion Carried.

Meeting adjourned at 9:22 p.m.

Respectfully submitted by:

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Janett Conner, Village Clerk