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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
AUGUST 24, 2015 -- 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 Ahrendt, Kypuros, Wehling, Kuhlman, Basile and Meyer.

ABSENT: None.

STAFF PRESENT: Clerk Janett Conner, Administrator Robert Barber and Chief Jeffrey Weissgerber.

GUESTS: Stacy Mazurek, Bill Dejong and Nathan Dykstra.

President Szymanski asked for consideration of the minutes of the August 10, 2015 Board meeting. Trustee Ahrendt made a motion to approve the minutes as written. Trustee Meyer seconded the motion.

AYES: (6) Trustees Ahrendt, Kypuros, Wehling, Kuhlman, Basile and Meyer.

NAYS: (0) None.

Motion Carried.

CLERK'S REPORT: 1) A report on income received since the last meeting was provided.

2) There were no objections to a request from the Knights of Columbus to hold their Annual Intellectual Disabilities Fund Drive in the Village on September 18-20, 2015.

A. FINANCE AND ADMINISTRATION COMMITTEE

The Board discussed whether to renew a contract with Smith, Koelling, Dykstra and Ohm for auditing services or send out Requests for Proposal (RFPs) and get prices from some other firms. A proposal for another three-year contract from Smith, Koelling, Dykstra and Ohm was received the previous week. Trustee Meyer would like more time to talk about it with staff before deciding on this. Administrator Barber explained the pluses and minuses of changing firms, but said it is up to the Board as to what they would like to do.

Trustee Meyer reported that the State of Illinois is withholding video gaming tax revenue and a D.C.E.O. Grant for ballfield lighting, due to the budget impasse.

The Board discussed an intergovernmental agreement with Washington Township for health insurance. Administrator Barber explained the benefits and risks of this agreement. Trustee Kypuros asked about risks of future costs to the Village if there are significant claims and if Washington Township could go on the plan as their own group, instead of under the Village's insurance to decrease the Village's risk. Trustee Kypuros expressed concerns about the Village's risk on this matter. The IPBC has informed the Village because they are such a small group that Washington Township cannot come into the plan on their own. The history of this issue was discussed. There was some debate regarding the benefits and risks of this.

ORDINANCE #1230 - An Ordinance approving an intergovernmental agreement with the Washington Township Road District concerning prompt payment of health insurance premiums. Trustee Meyer made a motion to approve Ordinance #1230. Trustee Wehling seconded the motion. AYES: (5) Trustees Ahrendt, Wehling, Kuhlman, Basile and Meyer.

NAYS: (1) Trustee Kypuros.

Motion Carried.

B. PUBLIC BUILDINGS AND PROPERTIES, PARKS AND RECREATION COMMITTEE

The results of safety inspections by the insurance company were provided in the packet for review, along with recommendations for new procedures for staff to follow.

C. PLANNING, BUILDING AND ZONING COMMITTEE

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

Dejong Equipment has purchased the empty lot across the street from their business at 380 S. Dixie Highway and plans to display farm implements on the lot. A public hearing was held and the Planning and Zoning Commission (PZC) recommended approval of the special use with conditions that any future lighting or signage for the lot be approved by the Village Board.

ORDINANCE #1231 - An Ordinance granting a special use permit in a B-3 District for the display of agricultural equipment across from 380 S. Dixie Highway with conditions. Trustee Ahrendt made a motion to approve Ordinance #1231. Trustee Kuhlman seconded the motion.

AYES: (6) Trustees Ahrendt, Kypuros, Wehling, Kuhlman, Basile and Meyer.

NAYS: (0) None.

Motion Carried.

A report was provided on Beecher Manor Nursing Home's project. Engineering issues have been addressed and staff is waiting for the final site plan drawing to be approved by the Engineer. The building permit is ready for issuance. Beecher Manor said the failure of the State to adopt a budget may delay this project since many medical bills are not being paid.

The Board considered authorizing the use of remaining funds in The Preserves at Cardinal Creek Developer Escrow Account to complete some improvement projects in the subdivision. Administrator Barber provided a recommendation for improvements to be done, stating that the sidewalks could be done in the next couple weeks. Trustee Wehling asked about the strip of land that is between the bike path and the road. It is in bad shape. There needs to be a barrier between the bike path and road for safety reasons. Administrator Barber suggested that if there is money left over after the projects are done, staff can look at what to do with the barrier area. Trustee Kypuros asked who is responsible for the bike paths. Some is owned by the Homeowner's Association, some is owned by the Village, and ownership of the other areas is unclear. Sealcoating was discussed for the path. Staff will look at sealcoating in the future. The difference between public improvements to the subdivision and regular maintenance has been considered since these funds are just for public improvements. Trustee Ahrendt made a motion to authorize the use of remaining funds in The Preserves at Cardinal Creek Developer Escrow Account to complete some improvement projects in the subdivision. Trustee Meyer seconded the motion.

AYES: (6) Trustees Ahrendt, Kypuros, Wehling, Kuhlman, Basile and Meyer.

NAYS: (0) None.

Motion Carried.

D. PUBLIC SAFETY COMMITTEE

The Police Department monthly report was provided for review.

The Code Enforcement monthly report was provided in the packet for review. It was also noted that the golf course has demolished two unsafe structures at the request of the Village.

Administrator Barber reported that mosquito abatement will continue every Thursday through September.

Chief Weissgerber reported on repairs to the Gould Street warning sirens. Repairs have been completed and a new antenna has been installed so the siren is now working correctly.

The Board considered authorizing the Chief of Police to purchase a 2015 state bid Chevy Tahoe. Chief Weissgerber explained the process for this and that this state bid model was the last one left and the newer model is \$5,000 more than the 2015 model. Discussion followed about the spending freeze due to the State budget impasse and that Village spending has been put on hold because of that. Chief Weissgerber asked if we should move forward with this purchase or keep waiting which would cost more. This vehicle would replace M38 which has 150,000 miles on it. Trustee Kypuros asked about where all these squads are stored. Chief Weissgerber explained that they haven't been able to use the Police Department garages for storage for the last two months because of the replacement of the sidewalk in front. Trustee Kypuros asked what the Chief's plan to move forward was if the Chevy Tahoe purchase was not approved. There was also discussion as to why the Chief wanted a Tahoe instead of a different vehicle. After much discussion, Trustee Kuhlman made a motion authorizing the Chief of Police to purchase a 2015 state bid Chevy Tahoe from Miles Chevrolet in Decatur for an amount of \$33,910. Trustee Ahrendt seconded the motion.

AYES: (6) Trustees Ahrendt, Kypuros, Wehling, Kuhlman, Basile and Meyer.

NAYS: (0) None.

Motion Carried.

E. PUBLIC WORKS COMMITTEE

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

A leak detection update was provided. Trustee Kypuros stated that there was a Public Works Committee meeting on August 12th. The Committee discussed buying a special listening device for leak detection to find leaks on service lines. This device will be purchased to try find these leaks, and Superintendent Cowger will move forward on this.

The Fairway Drive resurfacing has been completed and it looks good. Some curbs were damaged and the matter has been brought to the contractor's attention for repair, prior to payment for the resurfacing work.

Trustee Kypuros provided an update on ash tree removal. It is an ongoing project.

Trustee Kypuros reported that a new storm sewer for a portion of Maxwell Street will be installed in the Fall. There was a collapse of a field tile on private property that has resulted in street flooding in the 400 block of Maxwell Street.

A report was provided on patching two bad spots of Woodward Street on each side of Indiana Avenue. One proposal received to repair the road was \$8,000. The Committee is seeking a second proposal before the work is completed.

The dredging of Lange's Phase III pond has been completed but the outfall structure needs to be lowered to its original as-built height in order to drain the pond. Administrator Barber explained about improvements to the pond.

Trustee Kypuros provided a meter replacement program report. Public Works had 180 meters on hand and it is proposed to purchase 100 more. Only about 80 meters have been replaced. Superintendent Cowger plans on replacing 180 meters with IPERL meters by the end of 2015.

Trustee Kypuros reported that the Public Works Committee had a meeting and discussed the need to increase pumping capacity at the bypass lift station located behind the Elementary School. The Village previously had obtained a price from the Engineer for a 12" pump in the amount of \$125,000 but the Engineer will obtain a current price for a new pump. Trustee Kypuros and Administrator Barber explained the details of the history on this. The Committee would like to see the Village move towards getting the 12" pump. Trustee Meyer asked if the other things that were being looked into, such as televising, had been done. VisuSewer is supposed to be coming in this week to give a price for this. The Engineer would bid out the pumps and hire the contractor to get the job done so it can get installed by next Spring. It was the consensus of the Board to move forward with getting prices for this new pump.

At their recent meeting, the Public Works Committee discussed infrastructure; resurfacing, sidewalk replacement, quiet zones and a splash park. The splash park would be a Parks and Recreation Committee issue. President Szymanski asked the Committee to provide a list of priorities and a timeline for these projects. Discussion was also held regarding the need to develop a 10-year watermain replacement plan to have a guide for the use of watermain replacement funding.

Trustee Kypuros made a motion approving a bid in the amount of \$22,127.41 from Denler Inc. for the 2015 crack sealing program. Trustee Basile seconded the motion.

AYES: (6) Trustees Ahrendt, Kypuros, Wehling, Kuhlman, Basile and Meyer.

NAYS: (0) None.

Motion Carried.

F. ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT AND COMMUNITY RELATIONS COMMITTEE

Board members were asked what articles they would like to see in the Fall newsletter. Trustee Wehling recommended the normal articles regarding leaf and brush pickup. Administrator Barber said to maybe do an article on tree replacement due to the many trees that are being taken down due to the ash borer, and that it may be a while before all the trees can be replaced.

A Smartphone app update was provided. Trustees Meyer and Basile will be meeting with Emily from COC to go over the app and get it updated.

A report was provided on recently sold Gould Street buildings.

As part of the Village's membership in the South Suburban Mayors and Managers, the Village has received several leads from retail agents looking into the Chicago area market for expansion. The Committee will be discussing in the near future how to fairly attract retail development.

G. VILLAGE PRESIDENT'S REPORT

President Szymanski reported that the Chamber of Commerce is still having their golf outing at Cardinal Creek Golf Course. Staff has heard that the course is supposed to open around September 1st.

A report was provided on Representative Elgie Sims' visit to the Village for a day.

Board members were asked who planned to attend the Illinois Municipal League (IML) conference and to let Clerk Conner know by Tuesday.

An intergovernmental meeting will be held on Wednesday, August 26th.

H. OLD BUSINESS

Trustee Ahrendt asked what was happening with Well #4. Administrator Barber said he believed that the pump was still not working so the well is still down.

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 Ahrendt, Kypuros, Wehling, Kuhlman, Basile and Meyer.

NAYS: (0) None.

Motion Carried.

Meeting adjourned at 8:43 p.m.

Respectfully submitted by:



Janett Conner
Village Clerk