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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
JULY 25, 2016 -- 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, Chief Jeffrey Weissgerber and Superintendent of Public Works Bud Cowger.

GUEST: George Schuitema and Stacy Mazurek.

President Szymanski asked for consideration of the minutes of the July 11, 2016 Board meeting. Trustee Wehling made a motion to approve the minutes as written. Trustee Basile seconded the motion.

AYES: (5) Trustees Kypuros, Wehling, Kuhlman, Basile and Meyer.

NAYS: (0) None.

ABSTAIN: (1) Trustee Ahrendt.

Motion Carried.

CLERKS'S REPORT

1) A report on income received since the last meeting was provided. 2) There were no objections from the Board to the Knights of Columbus holding their Intellectual Disabilities Fund Drive in the Village from September 16-18, 2016. 3) A thank you letter was read aloud from the Village of Coal City regarding assistance with the tornado that hit their Village last year. We sent a Public Works crew and a truck to assist them with clean up.

A. FINANCE AND ADMINISTRATION COMMITTEE

ComEd has announced a pilot project in Beecher. Four homes on Miller Street will be receiving a lithium battery back-up supply unit capable of providing up to one hour of power in the event the electric supply goes down. Trustee Wehling was one of the homes included in this project.

B. PUBLIC BUILDINGS AND PROPERTIES, PARKS AND RECREATION COMMITTEE

It was reported that two large dumpsters have been removed in Firemen's Park and replaced with a smaller dumpster with lids and locks to prevent unauthorized dumping.

Chief Weissgerber provided an update on the Police Station flooding clean up. So far the old building inspector's office has a new floor and drywall. Most cleaning is almost done except tile floors in the administrative office. Vent cleaning and some painting still needs to be done.

Trustee Wehling reported that the Village has been notified about a possible donation of playground equipment. Howard Perry has been working on getting playground equipment from a foreclosed property in Markham. Playground equipment is very expensive and this could be a good opportunity. Mr. Perry has been looking for donations. The Village would go and get the equipment and install it. It may be put in Welton Stedt Park. The equipment is too big for Firemen's Park. President Szymanski said the attorney for the property is supposed to give us a letter giving authorization to pick up the equipment and we would store it until the property lien is cleared, in case it has to be returned. It needs to be obtained soon to avoid further theft or vandalism, some of which has already occurred. The equipment may possibly be obtained at no cost.

C. PLANNING, BUILDING AND ZONING COMMITTEE

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

The July 28th Planning and Zoning Commission meeting has been cancelled due to a lack of agenda items.

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.

Chief Weissgerber reported that there were no incidents to report from the recent Fourth of July celebration. Everything went smooth. Help was obtained from Peotone on July 4th.

Superintendent Cowger provided a report on mosquito abatement. Spraying has occurred every Thursday evening from dusk to midnight, depending on the weather.

A code enforcement program update was provided. The part-time officer that has been doing code enforcement was hired as a full-time officer and moved to the midnight shift, so he will no longer be able to do code enforcement. Chief Weissgerber has been doing enforcement, but this is just temporary until a solution is found.

E. PUBLIC WORKS COMMITTEE

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

The water billing register for the previous two months was provided in the packet for review. The pumped to billed ratio is now up to 80%.

Superintendent Cowger reported that the valve turning program has been completed. He is waiting for the report.

There has been a complaint about standing water in the road in the 200 block of Fairway Drive. The resident has also had water in his basement at times, but Superintendent Cowger has been unable to go into his basement to investigate. Some properties on that street have two b-boxes on their property and some b-boxes are buried. There have been some other leaks in the subdivision where there was a coy pond and a leaking sprinkler system. The ground is still saturated but the source has not been determined. Superintendent Cowger said it is possibly caused by field tiles. He doesn't think it is a leak in the water system because the problem is not constant. The problem gets worse with rain. Trustee Kypuros said water is purging from an area where the road was replaced last year and there is a chlorine residual so he doesn't believe it is a field tile and felt a lot of investigating still needs to be done.

A Penfield Street watermain update was provided. The loan application has been submitted and the Village is awaiting the loan offer. Bidding will occur after Labor Day with construction this winter. The issue was raised again about doing a section of Penfield Street early, by the fire station. Superintendent Cowger will get a price to do a permanent watermain replacement from the bridge to Woodward Street.

The results of the sewer plant design kick-off meeting on July 13th was provided. The details of process operation and design details were discussed. The schedule may be pushed back to an October 1, 2017 loan offering while still achieving the 1.82% interest rate. The Board will most likely receive the design in November or December.

According to Superintendent Cowger, the Cardinal Creek median has been completed.

Superintendent Cowger reported that work has begun on the Bald Eagle sidewalk. When done backfilling, the Committee will look at seeding the property.

Construction on the Safe Routes to Schools project has begun. The solar powered flashing lights haven't come in yet. It is hoped that the project will be completed prior to school starting.

Ash tree removals will begin in the month of August. The trees to be removed will be tagged and then taken down when Public Works has time during the Fall and Winter.

The Board considered a pilot project to purchase and install four solar-powered LED street lights on Chestnut and Willow Lanes at a cost not to exceed \$1,500. This issue came up four months ago when Trustee Kypuros received a complaint and went out with Trustee Kuhlman to look at the area

at night and it was pitch dark. Two lights would be installed on Chestnut and two lights on Willow Lane. Trustee Kypuros felt the solar power LED lights weren't going to provide enough light. President Szymanski suggested waiting until the Illinois Municipal League (IML) Conference and talk to some vendors of different lighting types available and talk to the residents on these streets and get their input on installing lights in this area. These solar lamps were more like regular yard lights and Trustee Kypuros felt larger street lights are needed that overhang the street. The matter will be investigated further at IML and residents on Willow and Chestnut will be contacted for their input.

F. ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT AND COMMUNITY RELATIONS COMMITTEE

A meeting was held that morning with the historic downtown business owners about the proposed boardwalk and other issues. Trustee Basile reported that all the business owners were thrilled about the boardwalk and totally in favor of it. Mr. Salmen was the only person not present at the meeting.

The Board discussed waiving bids for the construction of a boardwalk. The attorney reported a 2/3 vote of the Board is required to waive bids for this project due to the uniqueness of the project. Three local contractors were solicited for a proposal. Trustee Basile made a motion to waive bids for the construction of a boardwalk. Trustee Meyer seconded the motion.

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

NAYS: (0) None.

Motion Carried.

The Board discussed authorizing the award of bid to B & D Construction for the installation of a boardwalk on Gould Street. Three bids were received and provided in the packet for review. The lowest of the three proposals was B & D Construction. This bid would be for a 2" x 6" lumber deck with railings built from lumber on site and plastic conduit under the boardwalk as an option and the use of a Village employee to assist in construction.

Trustee Basile made a motion authorizing a bid to B & D Construction for the installation of a boardwalk on Gould Street in the amount of \$44,600. Trustee Meyer seconded the motion. Much discussion followed. Trustee Kypuros did not support supplying a Public Works employee to work alongside of the contractor. He had concerns about workmen's compensation and Public Works having other duties to get done. He felt all work should be handled by the contractor. Public Works is one man short right now. It was discussed that only one person is needed and maybe it could be a volunteer. Trustee Basile volunteered to go and help instead of a Public Works employee. Trustee Ahrendt asked if this could be done now that Public Works is union. Administrator Barber felt having the contractor supply all labor would add to the cost which would put the project even more over budget. Trustee Kypuros asked questions about the liability of using volunteers for this kind of work and who will cover Trustee Basile if he is unable to be there. It was considered to amend the motion to remove the stipulation to include a Public Works employee and just provide a volunteer in its place. There was also discussing whether the three different bids were for similar materials and if the bids were comparable. After further consideration, Trustee Basile withdrew his motion from the table to get further information on the proposals.

A meeting will be held with the new owners of Balmoral Park on Wednesday, August 10th, to get information on the new plans for the facility.

President Szymanski and Trustee Basile plan to attend an economic development training session hosted by the Will County Center for Economic Development on August 24th.

R.P. Lumber has purchased the old Beatty Lumber property on Church Road.

Trustee Basile provided an update on the Vincennes bike path extension. He has been trying to get the project to move forward but hasn't made any progress.

G. VILLAGE PRESIDENT'S REPORT

The Village has been notified that we will receive a grant to install a generator at the Village Hall. It's a 50/50 matching grant with the Village paying \$5,000. A 100% grant was budgeted so the Village will have to spend \$5,000 not in the budget. The project must be completed by January 1, 2017.

Trustee Wehling made a motion making Columbus Day a holiday for all non-union employees. This day was already made a holiday in the new Public Works contract. Trustee Kuhlman seconded the motion.

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

NAYS: (0) None.

Motion Carried.

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

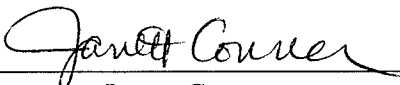
AYES: (6) Trustees Ahrendt, Kypuros, Wehling, Kuhlman, Basile and Meyer.

NAYS: (0) None.

Motion Carried.

Meeting adjourned at 7:52 p.m.

Respectfully submitted by:



Janett Conner
Village Clerk