

**REGULAR MEETING OF THE VILLAGE OF BEECHER, BOARD OF TRUSTEES  
TO BE HELD AT THE WASHINGTON TOWNSHIP CENTER, 30200 TOWN CENTER DRIVE,  
BEECHER, ILLINOIS AT 7:00 P.M. ON TUESDAY, JULY 25, 2006.**

**AGENDA**

I. PLEDGE TO THE FLAG

II. ROLL CALL

III. APPROVAL OF MINUTES OF THE PREVIOUS MEETING

IV. VILLAGE CLERK REPORT

V. RECOGNITION OF AUDIENCE

**A. FINANCE AND ADMINISTRATION COMMITTEE**

1. VARIANCE REPORTS for the month of June are enclosed for your review.
2. VILLAGE STAFF MEETS WITH COMCAST TO DISCUSS ISSUES OF MUTUAL CONCERN. This meeting was held on Thursday and the results of the meeting will be presented by the Administrator at the meeting.

**B. PUBLIC SAFETY COMMITTEE**

1. NEW SQUAD HAS ARRIVED and has been placed into service. The old squad will remain in limited service for use by the SRO officer and when it needs significant repair it will be declared as surplus and taken to a used car lot in Kankakee for sale.
2. YOUTH PROGRAMS UPDATE. The Village has pledged \$5,000 and the Township \$1,000 to provide youth service programs through the police department. An update will be provided.
3. TREE BOARD UPDATE. A list of residents requesting parkway trees has been compiled and there is also a need to replace those trees on parkways which will be removed this Summer. Tree plantings will occur in the Fall and the locations will be determined by the Tree Board.
4. CONSULTANT MARK DUNTEMANN RELEASES REPORT ON THE CONDITION OF THE VILLAGE'S STREET TREES. This lengthy report is enclosed for your review. In short, the Village has 1,421 street trees with an appraised value of \$3,632,842 for an average value per tree of \$2,557. There is also room for 587 additional trees on Village rights of way, meaning that only 71% of our public property is properly forested. There also concerns about the limited number of species being planted, and the lack of controls of new plantings in new subdivisions. The trees identified for removal will be taken care of this year. The consultant also recommends that tree trimming to remove dead wood be intensified and we are doing this. The consultant also recommends that the Village take over tree planting in new subdivisions by charging a street

tree fee at the time of certificate of occupancy and placed into escrow and once each year a massive tree planting would occur by a contractor to Village

specifications. The Tree Board has taken this report under advisement and will use it as a basis for drafting a new tree ordinance.

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

1. MFT ROAD RESURFACING PROJECT. Bids will be opened on Wednesday, July 26<sup>th</sup> at 2:00 p.m. at the Village Hall. A base bid of seven primary locations and an alternate bid of a total of 10 locations will be bid. Results will be reviewed and considered for award at the first meeting in August.
2. TREE REMOVAL/TRIMMING PROGRAM is in full swing. A update will be provided.
3. REPORT OF THE PUBLIC WORKS SUPT.

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

1. WELL #5 DRILLING UPDATE to be provided at the meeting.
2. PRINCESS ALLEY STORM SEWER PROJECT HAS BEEN DEFERRED. This project was placed on hold after the owners of the Princess Café had an issue with the location of the proposed storm sewer line through their property. Alternative solutions are under consideration at this time to prevent the flooding of residents on Elm Street due to runoff.
3. CONTINUED DISCUSSION ON REVISING CURRENT ORDINANCE ON DELIQUENT WATER BILL NOTIFICATIONS AND SHUT OFF PROCEDURE. This item was deferred at the last meeting to allow the Clerk and the Chief to review procedures in other communities. The partial results of a survey which is underway are enclosed for your review and comment. The Village clerk will provide an update.
4. RESULTS OF 2 AND 3 INCH RAINS OF JULY 11/12. The Village received several reports of flooded basements on the west and interior portions of the Village. All pumps were operating and the wet well at the sewer plant never got over half full. Basement flooding was the result of improperly-connected floor drains and surcharging 8 inch sanitary lines at the extreme ends of the system due to infiltration. The trunk lines remained clear. Enclosed is letter from one of the residents. Staff and the Committee Chair is meeting with this resident to address their issues.
5. DISCUSSION ON THE FUTURE OF THE CURRENTLY VACANT PUBLIC WORKS MAINTENANCE WORKER POSITION. This item was deferred from the last meeting so that Scott and Gayle can join in the discussion. Jerry Conley has left Beecher Public Works for Park Forest. Matt Conner will be moved from parks to the public works department until this position is filled. Bill Waterman will remain with parks. The question is when and how to fill this position. The Village currently does not have personnel who desire to obtain water and sewer licenses which was our plan with Jerry. Do we want to pursue a licensed water operator or someone willing to obtain a license? Do we want a parks employee? Do we wish to remain with the current staff of a Supt., one wastewater operator, one foreman, three maintenance workers, one part-

time maintenance worker and one part-time parks employee? The starting pay for the open position is \$27,741 which is currently in the budget. One of the concerns raised is the ability of the Village to cover snow removal operations since the Wastewater Operator does not plow.

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

### **1. FIREMEN'S PARK BOARD UPDATE**

2. **UPDATE ON BALLFIELDS SOUTH OF NEW JUNIOR HIGH SCHOOL.** A proposed name for this park is "Welton Stedt Park" in honor of Mr. Stedt who started and ran Beecher Rec for over 20 years. The bid documents are being finalized and a site plan is enclosed for your review. The project will go to bid next week for a bid opening after Labor Day. Our goal is to get the cost of these improvements under the Henry Brothers original bid of \$127,000.

3. **MUNICIPAL FACILITIES PLAN UPDATE.** The Committee met with the architects last Thursday to review a rough draft of the plan and to provide some feedback. The plan is being finalized for presentation to the full Board at the second meeting in August and will include a building footprint for the new PW facility. At this time the plan calls for a 12,000 square foot garage and 3,500 square feet of office/storage space and 48,000 square feet of paved surface for a materials yard. The facility will fit on the eastern half of the 5.5 acre site and has room for expansion to double in size.

4. **CONSIDER TOPICS FOR FALL NEWSLETTER.** Staff proposes articles on the yardwaste bag distribution which will occur on two consecutive Saturday mornings on October 14<sup>th</sup> and the 21<sup>st</sup>, and the results of the Village resident survey. A stormwater article is also required, along with the seasonal info. Do Trustees have any other ideas for this newsletter?

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

1. **UPDATE ON REQUEST FOR ENCROACHMENT OR VACATION FOR 645 WOODWARD (STLUKA).** This was discussed at the last meeting and the attorney will be presenting some type of opinion at the next meeting. The Public Works Supt. has also examined all of the utilities in this area and will provide a status report. Enclosed is a copy of a written request which has now been received on this matter. Enclosed are several legal opinions from prior Village Attorneys which state that a vacation can only occur by eliminating the entire portion of the right of way and granting ½ of the parcel to each of the adjoining property owners, and that a right of way cannot be sold for monetary value. Also, there is another way to accomplish this task in order to get a clear title: a certificate of encroachment can be provided by the Village to the property owner which acknowledges the encroachment and permits it as a legal non-conforming use. If the garage were to be destroyed or torn down, it would have to be re-located off the right of way, but at the same time clean title could be tendered. This item is for discussion only at this time.

2. **CONSIDER AUTHORIZING THE VILLAGE ATTORNEY TO DRAFT AN ORDINANCE ESTABLISHING NEW DEVELOPMENT REVIEW AND APPLICATION FEES.** The enclosed draft ordinance from the Village Planner was reviewed at the last meeting and the Board wished to defer the ordinance so that more time could be spent reviewing these fees. This ordinance follows a template used by the Village of Frankfort. Action on this matter is at the discretion of the Board.

3. CONSIDER A PROPOSAL IN THE AMOUNT OF \$2,500 FROM DON THOMAS OF BAXTER AND WOODMAN TO AMEND THE COMPREHENSIVE PLAN FOR AN AREA NORTH OF THE VILLAGE PRIOR TO IMPLEMENTING AN ANNEXATION STRATEGY FOR THIS AREA. This item was discussed in June after the Board repealed a boundary agreement with the Village of Crete and adopted a policy of annexing property up to Goodenow Road. The current land plan only included airport-related uses in this area and the annexation process will occur prior to any airport development if it occurs at all. There is a need to complete more detailed land use planning in this area if the Village is to be successful in securing pre-annexation agreements in this area.

4. REPORT ON CURRENT DEVELOPMENT STATUS IN THE VILLAGE. Enclosed is the latest development status report for the Village. We currently have 1,382 dwelling units with another 87 dwelling units to be occupied before the end of the year. There are 1,575 approved lots in the Village awaiting building permits in the future. There is also a planned expansion of the Cardinal Creek Subdivision of 250 units which were approved in a 2000 development agreement which will be built on the south nine holes of the golf course in 2009/2010. This would bring the total number of units in the Village to 3,294 upon full build-out. Based on a population of 2.32 persons per household, Beecher's population would be 7,642 upon full build-out in the year 2015. When the sewer plant is expanded in 2008, this will give us a capacity of 12,000 P.E. At 3.5 P.E. per household, the plant will be running at 11,529 P.E. in the year 2015.

#### **G. VILLAGE PRESIDENT REPORT**

1. ILLIANA EXPRESSWAY UPDATE. A meeting was held two weeks ago on this project and a status report will be provided.

2. THIRD AIRPORT/DEVELOPMENT DISTRICT UPDATE. The Eastern Will County Council of Mayors met last week to discuss issues which the Village of University Park had with the development district legislation as it site in the House. An update will be provided.

3. PEOTONE ACCESS LEAGUE UPDATE. The computer which runs the system froze up and was not repaired for over a month which caused two of our Board meetings to not be played on the community service channel. This prompted some complaints from residents to the Village Hall. The computer was re-booted last Monday and the system is working once again. The delay in the repair is of some concern since all of the PAL members do not live in the service area and were not aware of the malfunction. We have also not received any requests for funds despite a meeting held 8 weeks ago where we explained that the a proposal had to be approved before funds were released.

4. VILLAGE TO HOST ONE FINAL 9-11 SERVICE ON MONDAY, SEPTEMBER 11<sup>TH</sup> AT 8:00 P.M. ON THE FIREMEN'S PARK MAIN STAGE. The Beecher Part-Time Players have agreed to provide a one hour musical production in support of our troops abroad and our local police and fire departments. The Beecher Police Department will coordinate this event.

5. CONSIDER A REQUEST FROM BEDA TO UPDATE RETAIL TRADE SURVEY AT A COST OF \$10,000 WITH THE VILLAGE PROVIDING 2/3 OF THE COST AND THE CHAMBER OF COMMERCE PROVIDING THE REMAINING 1/3. Please see the enclosed letter. The Chamber has

recently committed \$8,000 for a new business directory so it is uncertain if they can participate in this survey. Has the Chamber been asked to fund its portion? Also, we have been asked in the past why Township residents were not included in the last survey.