

**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
MARCH 28, 2006 -- 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 Rehborg, Kuhlman, Wehling, Ahrendt and Heldt.

ABSENT: Trustee Peterson.

STAFF PRESENT: Clerk Janett Conner, Administrator Robert Barber, Chief Jeffrey Weissgerber, Public Works Superintendent Harold "Bud" Cowger, Treasurer Nelson Collins and Attorney Tim Kuiper.

GUESTS: Terry Gatlin from the Beecher Herald, Tod Stanton of Design Perspectives, Dan Walsh, Randy and Karen Stone, Brad Coats, Ron Reichert, Greg Szymanski, Michael Indicavitch, Bill and Laura Voss, Chuck Hoehn, Joe Gardner, Dan Waterman, Drew Beck, Don McWhorter, Ken Hameister, Ron Helm, Andrew Ahrendt, Larry Cox, Tom Brislane, Doug Short, Larry and Irene Martisek, Chuck Bruti, Joe Schudt, Kevin Hayhurst, Fred Hoffmeyer and Henry Triezenberg.

President Lohmann asked for consideration of the minutes of the March 14, 2006 Board meeting. Trustee Rehborg made a motion to approve the minutes as written. Trustee Heldt seconded the motion.

AYES: (5) Trustees Rehborg, Kuhlman, Wehling, Ahrendt and Heldt.

NAYS: (0) None.

Motion Carried.

CLERK'S REPORT: 1) A report on income received since the last meeting was given. 2) The Board unanimously approved a request to hold Beecher Recreation's opening day parade on Sunday, April 30th. 3) A bill was presented for the Beecher 4th of July Commission. Trustee Rehborg made a motion to approve payment of the bill in the amount of \$53.72 as listed on the Clerk's Report. Trustee Kuhlman seconded the motion.

AYES: (5) Trustees Rehborg, Kuhlman, Wehling, Ahrendt and Heldt.

NAYS: (0) None.

Motion Carried.

A public hearing was held at 7:03 p.m. to consider a plan for the future of Firemen's Park.

RECOGNITION OF GUESTS: Chuck Bruti of Bruti and Associates asked for referral to the Plan

Commission for consideration of Prairie Meadows' preliminary plat of subdivision for 42 single-family

homes. The density decreased since the last proposal. If the Village does not approve this development, Mr. Bruti indicated that he would seek private water and septic in the County. Trustee Rehborg made a motion to refer Chuck Bruti's request to the Plan Commission for their April 27th meeting. Trustee Ahrendt seconded the motion.

AYES: (4) Trustees Rehborg, Kuhlman, Wehling and Ahrendt.

NAYS: (0) None.

ABSTAIN: (1) Trustee Heldt.

Motion Carried.

Doug Short, resident and Planning and Zoning Commission member, asked for direction from the Board for developing commercial and residential around Beecher, so he knows how to proceed at a Plan Commission level. The Board is not voting the same as the Plan Commission, and the Board is not following the comprehensive land use plan so the Plan Commission is not sure how to proceed with some of the developments being referred to them. Trustee Wehling addressed some of Mr. Short's questions.

Ron Reichert addressed the issue of parking for McDonalds on Grove Street. Mr. Reichert suggested adding bus parking on Grove Street east of the east entrance due to buses and vehicles that have been seen parking on Grove Street. There is not enough parking for McDonalds. He was asked to work with Chief Weissgerber and the Public Safety Chair to try and find a solution to make it better for people to park and do business in Beecher.

Karen Stone of 325 Orchard Lane voiced complaints regarding the Board's actions at the last meeting regarding two footings put in Prairie Crossings South where the contractor changed the elevations. The contractor came to the last meeting to ask permission to put in a 1-foot knee wall so he didn't have to tear out the footings. Mr. and Mrs. Stone felt a previous agreement was violated. It was noted that the contractor has since voluntarily torn out the two footings and will comply with the original engineering plans. Karen Stone also asked the Board to look at future developments and not allow these types of problems to occur.

Michael Indicavitch of 533 Birch requested a variance to allow a pool in his side yard. He only has 17 feet in his rear yard and approximately 70 feet on his side yard of his corner lot. He produced a signed approval from his neighbors. Trustee Rehborg made a motion to refer Mr. Indicavitch's request for a variance to the Zoning Board of Appeals. Trustee Heldt seconded the motion.

AYES: (5) Trustees Rehborg, Kuhlman, Wehling, Ahrendt and Heldt.

NAYS: (0) None.

Motion Carried.

Irene Martisek asked for clarification from the Board on her family's property on Dixie Highway and if it should be residential or commercial. She asked the Board what they want, and what she can do with her property. She feels that the Board keeps changing their mind and she doesn't know how to proceed with her property. She said the Village has helped them along with planning how to develop their property so it could be sold and then annexed to Village to comply with the Village's development plans, and now the Board won't

approve the plan that was worked out with the Village. There was much disagreement and discussion. No action was taken.

Dan Walsh, representing the Beecher Chamber of Commerce, spoke regarding the above Martisek issue and pertaining to new developments. Many Chamber members are concerned that the Village is not moving forward to bring new residents to Beecher, which would help local businesses. New developments are being stifled and not moving forward. He said that the Board is not giving clear direction on what is wanted when developers approach the Board.

A. FINANCE AND ADMINISTRATION COMMITTEE

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

A budget workshop is scheduled for Tuesday, April 4th at 6:00 p.m.

The employee evaluation process has begun. In the month of April, every employee receives an evaluation and a meeting with their Supervisor.

Trustee Rehborg noted that it is known that at the April 11th Board meeting President Lohmann and at least one Trustee will be absent, and a quorum is needed to pay bills. Trustee Rehborg made a motion that in the event that at the April 11th meeting a quorum is not present to pay bills, that the Committee Chair or Co-Chair may initial each bill and authorize payment and final ratification to pay the bills will be done at the April 25th Board meeting. Trustee Ahrendt seconded the motion.

AYES: (5) Trustees Rehborg, Kuhlman, Wehling, Ahrendt and Heldt.

NAYS: (0) None.

Motion Carried.

B. PUBLIC SAFETY COMMITTEE

Status was provided regarding student parking on Hodges Street near Beecher High School. The students are no longer parking on Hodges, they are now allowed to park on campus.

Chief Weissgerber provided an update on vehicle sticker enforcement. 163 letters were sent out and 140 stickers were purchased. More letters were sent out that day by the Police Department.

An update was provided on the Tree Board. Arbor Day is scheduled for Friday, May 12th at a time and location to be determined.

The Village tree inventory has not yet been completed.

C. STREETS AND ALLEYS COMMITTEE

Status was provided on the new street lights for Dixie Highway, Indiana Avenue and Eagle Lake Road.

ComEd has begun the paperwork for the lights, and has now promised installation by July 30th.

An update was provided on the Peterson alley paving. The Village Engineer has spoken with Bob Peterson and is working out the details. More information will be available at the next Board meeting.

Trustee Rehborg made a motion to limit the leaf collection program beginning in 2006 to an area west of Dixie Highway south of Willow Lane, Miller and Orchard east and Church Road east and providing 20 yardwaste bags instead of 10 yardwaste bags to all other areas. A map of this leaf collection area was provided in the packet for review. Trustee Wehling seconded the motion.

AYES: (5) Trustees Rehborg, Kuhlman, Wehling, Ahrendt and Heldt.

NAYS: (0) None.

Motion Carried.

ORDINANCE #1036 - An ordinance authorizing an installment contract with First Community Bank and Trust in the amount of \$380,000 for ten years at 4.23% interest. Trustee Rehborg excused himself from the meeting due to a conflict of interest due to owning stock in the Bank. Trustee Heldt made a motion to approve Ordinance #1036. Trustee Wehling seconded the motion.

AYES: (4) Trustees Kuhlman, Wehling, Ahrendt and Heldt.

NAYS: (0) None.

ABSTAIN: (1) Trustee Rehborg.

Motion Carried.

Trustee Rehborg explained that the transmission dropped in the Public Works truck. Two estimates were obtained to repair the truck with the lowest being R. L. Reising at an estimated repair cost of \$3,285. Administrator Barber said the money could be taken from the water and sewer street lighting account. Trustee Rehborg made a motion to authorize the line item transfer of \$3,285 from the water and sewer street lighting account to pay for repairs to the Public Works truck. Trustee Wehling seconded the motion.

AYES: (5) Trustees Rehborg, Kuhlman, Wehling, Ahrendt and Heldt.

NAYS: (0) None.

Motion Carried.

D. SEWER AND WATER COMMITTEE

An update was provided regarding the area #1 sanitary sewer rehab project. Work is to begin on Wednesday, March 29th.

An update was provided on the area #2 sanitary sewer evaluation. This project is scheduled to begin Monday, April 3rd.

Superintendent of Public Works Cowger provided a report. Brush pick-up will begin on April 3rd.

E. PUBLIC BUILDINGS, PROPERTIES, PARKS AND RECREATION COMMITTEE

Trustee Wehling provided an update on Firemen's Park. A workshop meeting will be held on Tuesday, April 4th at 7:00 p.m. at the Village Hall. Trustee Wehling requested a closed session be held to discuss land acquisition.

The spring newsletter is in process.

The Washington Township surveys were mailed out and have been coming in to the Village Hall.

An update was provided on the 4th of July Festival. The next meeting is scheduled for Monday, April 10th. A fifth day (Friday, June 30th) has been added to the festival.

Administrator Barber stated that he has been providing five of the six Trustees with e-mail updates on various matters. Trustee Wehling commented that he has been getting a lot of information and the emails are keeping Board members informed.

F. PLANNING, BUILDING AND ZONING COMMITTEE

A Plan Commission meeting is scheduled for Thursday, March 30th. Topics include a workshop on the new zoning ordinance and map, and the process for developing architectural and landscape design standards for residential development.

G. VILLAGE PRESIDENT'S REPORT

President Lohmann had nothing to report.

There being no further business to be discussed in open session, Trustee Wehling made a motion to adjourn into executive session at 8:56 p.m. to discuss land acquisition. Trustee Rehborg seconded the motion.

AYES: (5) Trustees Rehborg, Kuhlman, Wehling, Ahrendt and Heldt.

NAYS: (0) None.

Motion Carried.

Trustee Rehborg made a motion to return to regular session at 9:13 p.m. Trustee Heldt seconded the motion.

AYES: (5) Trustees Rehborg, Kuhlman, Wehling, Ahrendt and Heldt.

NAYS: (0) None.

Motion Carried.

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

AYES: (5) Trustees Rehborg, Kuhlman, Wehling, Ahrendt and Heldt.

NAYS: (0) None.

Motion Carried.

Meeting adjourned at 9:13 p.m.

Respectfully submitted by:

Janett Conner, Village Clerk