

**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
APRIL 25, 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 Kuhlman, Wehling, Peterson and Heldt.

ABSENT: Trustees Rehborg and Ahrendt.

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

GUESTS: Terry Gatlin from the Beecher Herald, Bill Byrns from the Daily Journal, Henry Triezenberg, Bill and Laura Voss, Dane Wilburt, Larry and Irene Martisek, Duane Temme and Angela Kramer.

President Lohmann asked for consideration of the minutes of the April 11, 2006 Board meeting. Trustee Peterson made a motion to approve the minutes as written. Trustee Heldt seconded the motion.

AYES: (3) Trustees Kuhlman, Peterson and Heldt.

NAYS: (0) None.

ABSTAIN: (1) Trustee Wehling.

Motion Carried.

CLERK'S REPORT: 1) A report on income received since the last meeting was given. 2) The minutes of the April 11, 2006 Public Hearing were left out of the agenda packet and were included with the Clerk's Report. These minutes were for the hearing for the Community Development Block Grant to replace the watermain on Country Lane. Trustee Peterson made a motion to approve the minutes as written. Trustee Heldt seconded the motion.

AYES: (3) Trustees Kuhlman, Peterson and Heldt.

NAYS: (0) None.

ABSTAIN: (1) Trustee Wehling.

Motion Carried.

3) The Illinois Municipal League will be holding training called "Municipal Government 201". Anyone interested in attending should let Clerk Conner know. Program information was provided in the Clerk's packet for review.

RECOGNITION OF GUESTS: Farmer Duane Temme requested financial assistance for repair of a field tile to his farm field. The tile is continuously full of water and is causing damage to his field. He said the water has been constricted due to the Village's work on Church Road. Superintendent Cowger reported that approximately five years ago it was found that a tile was collapsed under the railroad, the railroad was contacted, and they indicated that they would not fix it. At that time the Village put in a siphon tube to allow the water to flow. This doesn't seem to be working now, according to Mr. Temme. Mr. Temme did not want the siphoning tube to be removed at this time feeling this would do more damage. After much discussion, it was decided that the engineer and the railroad will be contacted and will work with Mr. Temme to try and resolve the drainage problem.

A public hearing was held at 7:22 p.m. to discuss the budget for Fiscal Year 2006/2007.

A. FINANCE AND ADMINISTRATION COMMITTEE

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

RESOLUTION #2006-07 - A resolution adopting a proposed budget for fiscal year 2006/2007. Trustee Peterson made a motion to adopt Resolution #2006-07. Trustee Wehling seconded the motion.

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

NAYS: (0) None.

Motion Carried.

ORDINANCE #1038 - An ordinance of appropriation for fiscal year 2006/2007. Trustee Peterson made a motion to approve Ordinance #1038. Trustee Wehling seconded the motion.

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

NAYS: (0) None.

Motion Carried.

Trustee Peterson made a motion to approve a proposal from Auditor Pete Skinger to conduct the audit and GASB 34 compliance for Fiscal Year 2005/2006 for an amount not to exceed \$8,500. Trustee Heldt seconded the motion.

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

NAYS: (0) None.

Motion Carried.

B. PUBLIC SAFETY COMMITTEE

Chief Weissgerber provided an update on the recently obtained surplus equipment. The generator is not in as good of shape as hoped. It may be used for parts but options are still being explored. The other equipment is in good shape and is being equipped with rescue equipment.

An update was provided for the Tree Board. The Arbor Day celebration is scheduled for May 12th at Gould and Penfield Streets. Students from the Children's Creative Learning Center will help plant the tree. The rain

date will be May 19th.

There was nothing new to report regarding the tree inventory.

Trustee Kuhlman proposed a new tree ordinance to the Board. Since the matter was not on the agenda it could not be voted on at this meeting. The Attorney will review the ordinance and the ordinance will be brought back to the Board for a vote at the next meeting. There was some discussion about a licensing requirement in the ordinance for the spraying, trimming, planting, etc. of parkway trees. The jurisdiction of trees in the drainage district was also discussed.

C. STREETS AND ALLEYS COMMITTEE

An update was provided regarding street lighting. Contracts for the new street lights have been signed and a \$4,200 installation fee has been paid by the Village for 15 new lights on Dixie Highway, Indiana Avenue and Eagle Lake Road. The installation date is estimated for July 15th-30th. Service requests have also been filed for several lights that are out on Dixie Highway north of Meadow Lane.

An update was provided regarding the Illiana Expressway. A meeting on this conceptual roadway was held in Cedar Lake on April 12th with Trustee Heldt and Administrator Barber in attendance. It was learned that Illinois and Indiana are working on an agreement for Phase I engineering of the roadway which may begin later this Fall.

A meeting was held on April 18th to discuss the Trim Creek Watershed Project. At the meeting some of the ordinance requirements were discussed. This project should be completed over the summer.

Trustee Heldt provided an update on the drainage district.

The Board considered a proposal from Perm-A-Seal in the amount of \$5,200 to paint stripe the entire Village and Firemen's Park parking lot during the month of June. A copy of the proposal was provided in the packet for review. President Lohmann suggested doing less paint striping and spend more money on crack sealing. Administrator Barber recommended staying with the striping. After some discussion, Trustee Heldt made a motion to approve the proposal from Perm-A-Seal in the amount of \$5,200 for paint striping. Trustee Peterson seconded the motion.

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

NAYS: (0) None.

Motion Carried.

Trustee Heldt made a motion to approve a proposal from Perm-A-Seal in the amount of \$9,050 for crack sealing Pasadena East, Highlington Court, and Miller Street and Orchard Lane east of Lange Drive, using Motor Fuel Tax (MFT) funds. A copy of the proposal was provided in the packet for review. Trustee Peterson seconded the motion.

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

NAYS: (0) None.

Motion Carried.

Trustee Heldt made a motion to approve a proposal from Perm-A-Seal for crack sealing from Penfield Street to Elliott Street for an amount not to exceed \$9,000. This will not come from Motor Fuel Tax (MFT) funds. A copy of the proposal was provided in the packet for review. Trustee Peterson seconded the motion.

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

NAYS: (0) None.

Motion Carried.

President Lohmann asked Treasurer Collins about a penalty if the Village had to take money out of an investment early in order to pay for the crack sealing project. Treasurer Collins stated that the Village shouldn't lose more than one month's interest. The Board discussed how long it would take to bid out, etc. Staff will talk to the Engineer about bidding out for both July 5th and September start times and see which bids come in lower.

D. SEWER AND WATER COMMITTEE

The Board considered the bid award for the drilling of well #5 in Hunter's Chase East. Layne Western was the low bidder at \$105,302, with the next bid being \$129,885. Trustee Heldt made a motion to award the bid to Layne Western in an amount not to exceed \$105,302. Trustee Peterson seconded the motion.

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

NAYS: (0) None.

Motion Carried.

Trustee Heldt made a motion to approve payment to Visu-Sewer for the area #2 sanitary sewer televising program, in the amount of \$12,415.96. Trustee Wehling seconded the motion.

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

NAYS: (0) None.

Motion Carried.

Superintendent Cowger reported that Public Works and DRACC have been spraying for midge flies near the sewer plant and Trim Creek. The problem seems to be under control now.

Superintendent Cowger reported that there have been some problems with residents putting out debris to be picked-up as brush that should be placed in bags. He is leaving the residents notes letting them know the brush pick-up rules and the debris is not being picked-up.

The Miller Street restoration project was discussed. Rob Deenik will be doing the final grading of the property soon. He can't hydroseed until the possibility of freezing and frost has passed.

E. PUBLIC BUILDINGS, PROPERTIES, PARKS AND RECREATION COMMITTEE

An update was provided regarding Firemen's Park. A public meeting will be held on April 27th. The pathway from Miller Street has been staked out. Lange Excavating will cut the path and Washington Township and the Village will lay the path in stone. Fine grading and seeding will occur the week of May 1st.

The Spring newsletters were mailed earlier that day.

The Village hall staff has been working on the results of the Township resident surveys. Results will be provided when they are available.

Trustee Wehling requested that a closed session be held to discuss land acquisition.

F. PLANNING, BUILDING AND ZONING COMMITTEE

An update was provided regarding the Zoning Board of Appeals meeting. Two fence variances in Hunter's Chase Subdivision will be considered.

A Plan Commission meeting will be held on April 27th. Work will continue on the zoning ordinance.

The Board considered an ordinance requiring stone backfill in garages and drywall on interior walls in garages as amendments to the BOCA Code. The Attorney requested that the matter be deferred until the next meeting when the Committee Chairperson would be present. President Lohmann asked if drywalled meant it had to be taped and finished or if drywall just needs to be hung. President Lohmann will ask the Building Inspectors some questions regarding this matter. Much discussion followed as to if and why it is necessary to drywall garages. Inspector Bill Blanke will be asked to attend the next Board meeting to answer questions about this issue.

The Board considered a request for referral to the Plan Commission for a commercial Planned Unit Development upon annexation for the back 18½ acres of the Larry Martisek property on Dixie Highway. A site plan for the project was for a sports complex that included a building with four indoor basketball courts, two ice hockey rinks and a health club. Trustee Peterson made a motion to refer the request to the Plan Commission for their April 27th meeting. Trustee Wehling seconded the motion.

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

NAYS: (0) None.

Motion Carried.

G. VILLAGE PRESIDENT'S REPORT

President Lohmann expressed concerns about the condemnation of certain properties in Beecher. Property owners have exceeded time limits for improvements. Upon advice by the Attorney, this matter will be discussed in executive session.

An update was provided regarding the third airport.

It was recently learned that the Peotone Access League (PAL) would like to continue operating and not have communities take over their group. They have provided a list of equipment they need and the local Village's will work with them to try and get them what they need to continue.

An update was provided regarding the Hunter's Chase drainage issue. A third meeting of the property owners was held on April 18th. At this meeting, a decision was to be made on the installation of the tile. It was decided that there is nothing more the Village can do at this time since the Village is complying with the law.

There being no further business to be discussed in open session, Trustee Heldt made a motion to adjourn into executive session at 8:50 p.m. to discuss land acquisition and pending litigation. Trustee Wehling seconded the motion.

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

NAYS: (0) None.

Motion Carried.

Trustee Wehling made a motion to return to regular session at 9:25 p.m. Trustee Heldt seconded the motion.

AYES: (4) Trustees Kuhlman, Wehling, Peterson 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 Peterson seconded the motion.

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

NAYS: (0) None.

Motion Carried.

Meeting adjourned at 9:25 p.m.

Respectfully submitted by:

Janett Conner, Village Clerk