

PUBLIC HEARING MARCH 28, 2006

MINUTES OF THE PUBLIC HEARING OF THE PRESIDENT & BOARD OF TRUSTEES OF THE VILLAGE OF BEECHER, ILLINOIS HELD AT THE WASHINGTON TOWNSHIP CENTER, 30200 TOWN CENTER ROAD, BEECHER, ILLINOIS BEGINNING AT 7:03 P.M. ON MARCH 28, 2006.

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.

Trustee Wehling made a motion to open the Firemen's Park public hearing. Trustee Rehborg 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. Tod Stanton of Design Perspectives provided a presentation on the Firemen's Park plans. Plans were shown for a playground in the park, an asphalt walking trail, a fitness station, bio swales, native landscaping, and parking plans. Board members were given an opportunity to ask questions and provide input. Project costs were not yet available and will depend on the extent of the projects the Village would like to do in the park. Chuck Hoehn of the 4th of July Commission asked questions about the effects on the 4th of July Festival in relation to parking, etc. Trustee Wehling indicated that the Parks Committee wants to keep Firemen's Park primarily as open space. Mr. Hoehn also asked about adding a walking path along the creek. Dan Waterman and Drew Beck also asked questions. Drew Beck expressed concerns about the condition of the park now, in regards to the upcoming baseball and softball games and areas where they practice before their games. Dan Walsh asked about on-site buildings. The Park Board is considering consolidating existing buildings as part of the plan. Mr. Walsh also asked if there were any plans for a skate park. It was expressed that a skate park is not currently being considered in the Firemen's Park Grant plans.

When there was no further discussion, President Lohmann asked for a motion to close the public hearing. Trustee Wehling made a motion to close the hearing at 7:40 p.m.. Trustee Rehborg seconded the motion. AYES: (5) Trustees Rehborg, Kuhlman, Wehling, Ahrendt and Heldt. NAYS: (0) None. Motion Carried.

Respectfully submitted by:

Janett Conner, Village Clerk