

**PUBLIC HEARING  
NOVEMBER 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 NOVEMBER 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, Superintendent of Public Works Harold "Bud" Cowger, Treasurer Nelson Collins and Lieutenant Rick Emerson.

**GUESTS:** Terry Gatlin from the Beecher Herald, Bill Byrns from the Daily Journal, Tom Stluka, David Laster, Tom Brislane, Stephanie Loftin, Kathy Rago, Brian and Danna Neville, Don McWhorter, Dan Walsh and Vickie Polarek.

Trustee Heldt made a motion to open the public hearing at 7:03 p.m. Trustee Rehborg seconded the motion.

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

NAYS: (0) None.

Motion Carried.

A public hearing was held to consider a property tax levy for 2006 collectible in 2007. Administrator Barber provided an overview of the tax levy. The Village is asking for a 26.66% increase in the operating levy and a 4.5% decrease in the debt service levy for a combined increase in the overall levy of 22.37%. All but 3.4% of this increase will come from new construction added to the books in 2006. A handout was provided to those in attendance which showed that Village residents will be paying less in property taxes to the Village in 2007 than what they paid in 1994, and that our tax rate has dropped from 0.7508 in 1994 to 0.5898 in 2007. Board members and the audience were asked for testimony on the tax levy. Audience member Dan Walsh asked questions.

When there was no further testimony, President Lohmann asked for a motion to close the public hearing. Trustee Rehborg made a motion to close the hearing at 7:11 p.m. Trustee Heldt seconded the motion.

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

NAYS: (0) None.

Motion Carried.

Respectfully submitted by:

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Janett Conner, Village Clerk