

**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
JANUARY 9, 2007 -- 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, Treasurer Nelson Collins, Superintendent of Public Works Bud Cowger, and Attorney Tim Kuiper.

GUESTS: Terry Gatlin from the Beecher Herald, Tom Stluka, A. Cooper, David Laster, Pam Stipanich, Rick Bryant, John Spomar, Jr., Brian and Danna Neville, David Serafin, Don and Linda Fette, Will County Board Member Nella Piccolin, E. J. Dal Bello, Stephanie Loftin, Bob Polarek, Wendell Smith, Bobbie Peterson, Tom Brislane, Dan Walsh, Milt Pappas, Jack Mayher, George Oschenfeld, Bob Carter, Gordon Wilson, Susan Shay from IDOT and Mark Piltingsrud from TAMS.

President Lohmann asked for consideration of the minutes of the December 12, 2006 Board meeting and Public Hearing. Trustee Wehling made a motion to approve the minutes as written. Trustee Rehborg seconded the motion.

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

NAYS: (0) None.

ABSTAIN: (1) Trustee Ahrendt.

Motion Carried.

CLERK'S REPORT: 1) A report on income received since the last meeting was provided. 2) A bill was presented for the Beautification Commission. Trustee Rehborg made a motion to approve payment in the amount of \$195.96 as listed on the Clerk's Report. Trustee Heldt seconded the motion.

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

NAYS: (0) None.

Motion Carried.

RECOGNITION OF GUESTS: Susan Shay from IDOT and Mark Piltingsrud from TAMS provided a presentation on two proposed plans for the proposed third airport and showed detailed maps of both layouts. Rick Bryant from Congressman Jesse Jackson Jr's office explained the ALNAC plan. The Board and the audience were given an opportunity to ask questions. The following audience members asked questions: George Oschenfeld, Bob Carter, Gordon Wilson, John Spomar, Bobbi Peterson and Terry Gatlin. Bob Carter showed an airport map and expressed concerns about the pollution impact of the proposed third airport. He read from a report citing the hazards of pollution from airplanes.

Nella Piccolin, Will County Board member who replaced MaryAnn Deutsche, was introduced to the Board.

Linda Fette cited a story about her daughter selling a house near the airport footprint. She reported that someone from the airport project told the buyer not to buy because an airport was to be put at that location.

The Board considered a referral to the Planning and Zoning Commission for its January 25th meeting for a request for an amended planned development for the Preserve at Cardinal Creek (MGM Development), as proposed by Jack Mayher. An application has been submitted and was provided in the packet for review. The Village Attorney has recommended the completion of several outstanding items prior to the referral and it appears that all of the legal conditions placed on the petitioner have been satisfied. Attorney Kuiper explained about the easement needed to be obtained by the developer as discussed at a previous meeting. The Attorney also explained that the Board must refer this issue to the Planning and Zoning Commission to give an opportunity for hearings to be held under due process provisions of the State Statute. Administrator Barber provided audience members the timeline for meetings and hearings to be held on the matter if referred. Fairway Drive resident Dave Serafin commented on how the project would affect areas on not only Fairway Drive and Highlington Lane but also Miller Street and Orchard Lane. Tom Brislane complained that he was not informed about this development earlier. After some discussion on this matter, no action was taken.

The Board considered sending a letter of comments and questions pertaining to the layouts of the proposed third airport provided at the December 19th IDOT Public Hearing to become part of the public record of the Federal Aviation Administration. Trustee Wehling made a motion to approve the Village's letter of comments and questions concerning the proposed layouts for the airport. Trustee Rehborg seconded the motion.

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

NAYS: (0) None.

Motion Carried.

A. FINANCE AND ADMINISTRATION COMMITTEE

TREASURER'S REPORT: A copy of the Treasurer's report was provided to the Board for review and the Treasurer was present to answer questions.

A list of bills totalling \$144,101.06 to be paid was available for review. A summary of the list of bills was provided. Trustee Heldt made a motion to approve payment of the list of bills as presented. Trustee Wehling 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 0.5% increase in the municipal sales tax to be used exclusively for transportation improvement projects.

Trustee Heldt made a motion to authorize the Attorney to draft the referendum question asking for a 0.5% increase in the municipal sales tax. Trustee Ahrendt seconded the motion.

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

NAYS: (0) None.

Motion Carried.

Trustee Heldt made a motion to move the special Board meeting concerning the budget workshop from Tuesday, March 20th to Tuesday, April 3rd. The municipal elections have been pushed back to April 17th due to the Christian and Jewish holidays. Trustee Ahrendt seconded the motion.

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

NAYS: (0) None.

Motion Carried.

Trustee Heldt made a motion to move the Village Board meetings in May to the third and fifth Tuesdays so that newly-elected Board members can assume the oath of office at the first meeting in May, 2007. The State moved the municipal elections to April 17th due to Passover. County Clerks are not required to certify election results until 30 days after the election, and newly-elected Board members cannot receive their oath of office until the election results have been certified. Trustee Ahrendt seconded the motion.

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

NAYS: (0) None.

Motion Carried.

Trustee Heldt made a motion to authorize payment of invoices for services rendered for engineering design review and observation from Baxter and Woodman for the following: Beecher School District in the amount of \$6,520.89; Dixie Commons (Carmen Knuth) in the amount of \$1,142.01; and Beecher Plaza in the amount of \$793.00. Trustee Wehling seconded the motion.

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

NAYS: (0) None.

Motion Carried.

B. PUBLIC SAFETY COMMITTEE

The Police Department monthly report was provided for review.

The School District approved the School Resource Officer (SRO) agreement at the January 8th School Board meeting.

Trustee Kuhlman requested a closed session be held to discuss hiring of a part-time police officer.

C. STREETS AND ALLEYS COMMITTEE

Core samples have been taken on certain newly paved streets regarding the Motor Fuel Tax (MFT) resurfacing project. To date, no results have been provided.

A copy of a letter from Popovich Guns was provided in the packet concerning the condition of the railroad tracks at Indiana Avenue. The Union Pacific Railroad responded to the letter by sending out a crew to repair the tracks.

Trustee Wehling asked if a sign for the school softball championship had been ordered. Public Works Superintendent Cowger reported that it was ordered and had just been received.

D. SEWER AND WATER COMMITTEE

The Water and Sewer Department monthly reports were included in the packet for review.

The water billing register for the months of November and December were provided in the packet for review.

The Board considered authorizing the filing of an application for a Community Development Block Grant (CDBG) in 2007. Administrator Barber expressed concerns about coming up with the matching funds for the CDBG Grant. After some discussion, Trustee Rehborg made a motion to authorize the Village Engineer to provide a cost estimate but not to apply for CDBG funds at this time. Trustee Heldt seconded the motion.

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

NAYS: (0) None.

Motion Carried.

Trustee Rehborg made a motion to approve a proposal for an amount not to exceed \$12,800 to expand the Village's facilities planning area (FPA) to include areas south of Eagle Lake Road and east of Ashland Avenue. There are 480 acres in this quadrant which are not in the Village's FPA. \$8,000 of the fee would go to Baxter and Woodman and \$4,800 would be paid to CMAP for review of the application and a public hearing in Chicago. Trustee Wehling seconded the motion.

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

NAYS: (0) None.

Motion Carried.

The Village Engineer was not present. No engineer's report was provided.

The Sewer and Water Committee will meet with the contractor on January 11th regarding the installation of a 10" main from First National Bank of Grant Park north to Chestnut. The Village received a bid of \$36,990 on its own to complete this work which included \$3,200 for a stainless steel sleeve.

Trustee Rehborg requested a closed session be held to discuss land acquisition for the expansion of the sewer plant.

E. PUBLIC BUILDINGS, PROPERTIES, PARKS AND RECREATION COMMITTEE

The Board considered a proposal from Design Perspectives for the design and construction oversight of the OSLAD Grant for Firemen's Park in an amount not to exceed \$38,680. This fee includes \$29,180 for Design Perspectives and \$9,500 for outside consultants. Design work would begin immediately and the project would be bid for a July 5, 2007 construction start date. A copy of the proposal was provided in the packet for review. Trustee Wehling went over the costs and account balances for paying for this project. Trustee Wehling proposed that \$225,000 would be borrowed from the General Account to help pay for the project. It was discussed to borrow the entire \$380,000 instead of borrowing from the General Account. After some discussion, a five-year loan for \$380,000 was agreed upon by the Board. If the funds are available before the five-year term of the loan it could be paid off early. President Lohmann asked if Washington Township was approached to see if they would be willing to contribute some funds, since many township residents use Firemen's Park. Trustee Wehling made a motion to approve a proposal from Design Perspectives for the design and construction oversight of the OSLAD Grant for Firemen's Park for an amount not to exceed \$38,680. Trustee Rehborg seconded the motion.

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

NAYS: (0) None.

Motion Carried.

Trustee Wehling made a motion to sign a contract with Midwest Archaeological Survey in the amount of \$2,380.78 for a study of Firemen's Park. Trustee Ahrendt seconded the motion.

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

NAYS: (0) None.

Motion Carried.

Work is being put off until Spring on Welton Stedt Park, due to the weather. The estimated completion date is August 8, 2007.

Trustee Wehling provided a report on Nantucket Cove Park and Prairie Park.

F. PLANNING, BUILDING AND ZONING COMMITTEE

An update was provided on the Creekside Subdivision. President Lohmann and staff met with the developers of this project to be located on the Crescenzo property south and west of Church Road and Dixie Highway. There are several outstanding matters which have to be addressed in a

development agreement prior to the Village's consideration of a final plat of subdivision, such as phasing, recapture and Church Road improvements. The developers were asked to put something in writing and were told that the property must be secured before the Board will move forward with this project.

The Board continued their discussion on architectural provisions and fees to be included in annexation agreements. At the last Board meeting, the Board favored placing the architectural code into annexation agreements as opposed to adopting an ordinance which would impact all existing subdivisions. Staff recommended that in lieu of calling this new document a template annexation agreement, it be changed to a "suggested" annexation agreement. The most-recent formally-adopted agreement established a fee of \$25,000 but since this adoption the Village Board has been requesting a \$33,000 fee on the last three developments. Administrator Barber asked what fees does the Village want to require for new developments? He has been approached by additional developers wanting to know what Beecher's fees are and needs to know what to tell them. A copy of the agreement with the \$33,000 figure was provided in the packet for review. President Lohmann suggested setting up a points system. If the developer meets certain architectural criteria within the ordinances that the cost would be lower than if they don't want to comply with all the requirements. Board members wanted more time to think about this. The matter will be considered again at the next meeting.

G. VILLAGE PRESIDENT'S REPORT

An update was provided on the Illiana Expressway. Consultants have been hired to look at alternate routes.

President Lohmann appointed Brad Coats to the Planning and Zoning Commission, to fill the vacancy from Mike Turcol's resignation. Trustee Rehborg made a motion approving the appointment of Brad Coats. Trustee Wehling seconded the motion.

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

NAYS: (0) None.

Motion Carried.

The Board considered authorizing the Village Attorney to draft an ordinance removing the restriction of alcohol sales on Sunday mornings. President Lohmann noted this would be for packaged liquor only. Businesses are losing sales due to customers not being able to buy packaged liquor until 11 a.m. President Lohmann proposed to change the ordinance to allow liquor sales beginning at 8:00 a.m on Sundays. No action was taken on this matter.

A copy of an invitation to the Beecher Education Foundation's wine tasting and silent action was provided in the packet for review.

President Lohmann requested a closed session be held to discuss the hiring of an individual to assist in obtaining pre-annexation agreements with landowners north and west of the Village.

There being no further business to be discussed in open session, Trustee Heldt made a motion to adjourn into executive session at 9:28 p.m. to discuss the hiring of personnel, land acquisition for sewer plant expansion and possible litigation. Trustee Ahrendt seconded the motion.

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

NAYS: (0) None.

Motion Carried.

Trustee Kuhlman made a motion to return to regular session at 10:26 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 Wehling 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 10:26 p.m.

Respectfully submitted by:

Janett Conner
Village Clerk