

**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
JULY 17, 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 Cleary, Ahrendt, Szymanski, Gardner, Kuhlman and Wehling.

ABSENT: None.

STAFF PRESENT: Clerk Janett Conner, Administrator Robert Barber, Chief Jeffrey Weissgerber, Treasurer Nelson Collins, Engineer Ray Koenig, Attorney Tim Kuiper, Village Planner Don Thomas and Economic Development Coordinator Marcy Meyer.

GUESTS: Terry Gatlin from the Beecher Herald, Bill Byrns from the Daily Journal, Wayne Wiechen, Tom Stluka, Bill Voss, Noel Biery, Betty Nicks, Andrew Ahrendt, Jim Rehborg, Kevin Bouchard, Roger Heldt, Randy Gottberg, Phillip Smith, Bob Polarek, Stephanie Loftin, Lee Meyers, Althea Machtemes, Paul Rietveld, Rick Wehling, Tim Kelly, Linda Thompson, Brian and Danna Neville, Al Rago, Tom and Pam Stipanich, Carol Riccio, Sheri Heber, Diane and George Schuitema, Cheryl Leigh, Linda Schnutten, Cory Lund, Steve Gregory and Tom Brislane.

President Lohmann asked for consideration of the minutes of the June 26, 2007 Board meeting. Trustee Wehling made a motion to approve the minutes as written. Trustee Szymanski seconded the motion.

AYES: (5) Trustees Ahrendt, Szymanski, Gardner, Kuhlman and Wehling.

NAYS: (0) None.

ABSTAIN: (1) Trustee Cleary.

Motion Carried.

CLERK'S REPORT: 1) A report on income received since the last meeting was provided. 2) There were no objections to a request from Denis Tatgenhorst for a block party to be held on September 15th on Saddle Run Lane. 3) Bills were presented for the Beautification Commission (\$3,237.11) and the Fourth of July Commission (\$19,900.00). Trustee Kuhlman made a motion to approve the list of bills totalling \$23,137.11 as listed on the Clerk's Report. Trustee Szymanski seconded the motion.

AYES: (6) Trustees Cleary, Ahrendt, Szymanski, Gardner, Kuhlman and Wehling.

NAYS: (0) None.

Motion Carried.

RECOGNITION OF GUESTS: George Schuitema of 211 Orchard said two dirt piles near his home on Donoho are unsightly, dangerous and causing erosion and asked if the Village could do anything about this. He showed a picture of a four wheel drive SUV driving up the dirt pile on the Fourth of July. The picture was turned over to the Police Chief. This is on Sligo5's property. Engineer Koenig indicated that it is not uncommon or illegal for dirt piles to exist but staff believed this dirt was piled too high. A meeting was held on June 25th between Trustee Szymanski, Administrator Barber, President Lohmann and Sligo5 representatives to get many issues on this property resolved but to date the items have not yet been resolved. Mr. Schuitema also complained about a damaged silt fence removed from his property and not replaced. This will be followed up by Engineer Koenig and Village Staff.

Lee Myers of 284 Maple was present to discuss the lot next to his home designated as a prairie garden as discussed at the last Board meeting. Mr. Meyers presented a plan to the Prairie Crossings Homeowners Association for their approval and they are requesting a lot of information before approving his concept. Mr. Meyers indicated that he has decided to forget the prairie garden design at this time and just wanted to let the Board know.

Phillip Smith of 230 Pelicans Nest was present concerning a possible variance request to put in a fence on his corner lot out further than allowed by Village code. Mr. Smith has a sloping yard and wants to fence in the entire slope to avoid problems with kids in the winter using it as a sledding hill and associated safety concerns. Mr. Smith wanted some direction from the Board as to whether they may approve this type of variance because he doesn't want to spend the \$750 variance fee if there is no chance of getting it approved. This was the petitioner's official notification to the Village of this matter. It will go to the Planning and Zoning Commission next if he chooses to proceed.

The board considered an amended planned development for the Preserve at Cardinal Creek. There were three options for construction of a new pod west of the east branch of Trim Creek (MGM Development). After two public hearings and several workshops, the Planning and Zoning Commission recommended denial of each of the three options based on the findings of fact contained in a memo drafted by the Village Planner. Mr. Lund, attorney for MGM Development explained the amended planned development for the Preserve at Cardinal Creek and the three options. The petitioners are asking for 3 different types of housing units and plan to target the development to "empty nesters" but it will not be an age specific development. Steve Gregory from Gregory Land Design detailed the three different scenarios: Option A - 240 units consisting of 122 detached two family units, 7 duplexes and 13 multi family buildings with eight units each; Option B - 192 units consisting of 88 single family units with 65 foot frontage and 104 multi family units and; Option C - 262 units consisting of 79 seventy foot frontage duplex lots and 104 multi family units. Village Planner Don Thomas reported that the Planning and Zoning Commission found all options unfavorable and recommended to not approve. Trustee Wehling asked if there was ever discussion about pushing this development further east. It was reported that this had been discussed and the developer was not willing to make changes to satisfy Village concerns. Trustee Cleary asked questions regarding the development agreement. Administrator Barber asked why this approval is being requested now if the developer does not intend to begin work for a number of years. Questions

were raised about the petitioners future intent to put a street through to Penfield to avoid the large dead end street. Mr. Lund stated that none of the existing residents would lose their golf course views but the view may change for some. Concerns were expressed by the Board regarding the type of homes being built and the dead end street with only one access point. After much discussion, Trustee Ahrendt made a motion to approve Resolution #2007-12; a resolution rejecting three exploratory proposals for the amended planned development for the Preserve at Cardinal Creek in the Village of Beecher. Motion seconded by Trustee Cleary.

AYES: (6) Trustees Cleary, Ahrendt, Szymanski, Gardner, Kuhlman and Wehling.

NAYS: (0) None.

Motion Carried.

The Board again discussed condemnation of the barn at 1202 Dixie Highway. Betty Nicks was now responsible for the property since the owner, her mother, recently passed away. Betty Nicks was present at the request of the Village. She said that Shamrock Manufacturing would be out on July 21st to complete the work that needs to be done. Trustee Szymanski recommended giving her a little more time since she is taking over the problem on her mother's property. Trustee Wehling asked Ms. Nicks if the roof will have to be replaced on the building. Ms. Nicks stated that the trusses that were broken have been fixed but there is still a dip in the roof that was of concern to Board members. Ms. Nicks offered to let Village staff come look at the inside to see what has been done. Betty Nicks asked for another month to complete work. Trustee Szymanski made a motion to have Betty Nicks come to the next regular Board meeting on August 14th and bring documentation proving exactly what work is to be done and according to Village ordinance. Trustee Gardner seconded the motion.

AYES: (4) Trustees Cleary, Ahrendt, Szymanski, Gardner, Kuhlman and Wehling.

NAYS: (2) Trustees Cleary and Kuhlman.

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. Treasurer Collins noted that the Operations and Maintenance account balance (O&M) has dropped below \$60,000 which is lower than the recommended amount.

A list of bills totalling \$249,183.02 to be paid were available for review. A summary of the list of bills was provided. Trustee Szymanski made a motion to approve payment of the list of bills as presented. Trustee Ahrendt seconded the motion.

AYES: (6) Trustees Cleary, Ahrendt, Szymanski, Gardner, Kuhlman and Wehling.

NAYS: (0) None.

Motion Carried.

Results were provided on the 2007 Fourth of July Celebration. Preliminary numbers indicate that the festival generated about \$32,000 in net revenue. More figures will be available next month. Staff complimented Public Works, the Police Department, the Fire Department, and the Village Board for their help in making this festival a success.

Trustee Szymanski requested that discussions of finance options for the Public Works facility and a capital spending policy for Village purchases, including how it would affect Commissions, be deferred until the workshop meeting on July 31st.

President Lohmann stated that he is vetoing the authorization to enter into an engineering services agreement with Baxter and Woodman Engineering pertaining to the municipal facility plan for the Public Works, Village Hall and Police station. President Lohmann also recommended this matter be discussed at the workshop meeting on July 31st. A copy of President Lohmann's veto letter is attached to these minutes.

Administrator Barber explained his phone call with the Illinois Environmental Protection Agency (IEPA) earlier in the day. They may require the Village to install a UV lighting system at the sewer plant or expand the plant within the next 2-3 years. This could change how much money is available for a Public Works, Village Hall and Police station facility.

B. PUBLIC SAFETY COMMITTEE

The Police Department monthly report was provided for review. Chief Weissgerber provided a mileage report to the Board that was not included in the monthly report.

Chief Weissgerber provided a report on the 4th of July festival's security. There was one incident on the 4th of July when three urgent calls came in within one minute during the heavy traffic after the fireworks. Everything was handled but the matter will be looked at to learn from for the future.

President Lohmann asked how many times mosquito sprayings have been done this year. Three have been done and eight have been budgeted for.

C. STREETS AND ALLEYS COMMITTEE

A report was provided on the replacement of the sinking sidewalk at the Dave Tikusis residence at 1053 Oak Drive. The pine tree in the parkway was taken down and the sidewalk was replaced by the resident. The Village has been invoiced for its \$250 share and the project has been completed.

A report was provided on the 2007 tree trimming and removal program. One tree in the 500 block of Oak Park Avenue has been targeted for contractual takedown by Public Works. In the coming weeks, a survey of the parkway trees will occur and Public Works will conduct tree trimming.

Trustee Cleary handed out a letter from the Prairie Crossings Homeowner's Association. They requested the Village to install no parking signs along both sides of Chestnut Lane and Linden Lane for safety reasons. Trustee Cleary made a motion to authorize the installation of no parking zone signs at both entrances to Prairie Crossings Subdivision. Trustee Wehling seconded the motion.

AYES: (6) Trustees Cleary, Ahrendt, Szymanski, Gardner, Kuhlman and Wehling.

NAYS: (0) None.

Motion Carried.

There was no report by the Public Works Superintendent.

D. SEWER AND WATER COMMITTEE

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

The water billing register for May and June were provided in the packet for review.

The Board considered the awarding of bid for the pump for Well #5. Two bids were received: one from Water Well Solutions in the amount of \$54,860 for a Goulds/Hitachi pump and one from Layne Western in the amount of \$66,537 for a Byron-Jackson pump and \$57,580.00 for a Goulds/Hitachi pump. Engineer Koenig's recommendation was provided in the packet for review. This item was tabled at the last Board meeting after a motion failed to purchase the Hitachi pump by a vote of 2-3. The Board discussed reasons the submersible pump was chosen and whether it should be purchased now or later. Trustee Cleary wanted to know what the cost would be to put in a vertical shaft pump. Tim Kelley from Water Well Solutions and Rick Wehling from Layne Western were present to answer questions. There was much discussion about the technical aspects of the different pump types and costs. Engineer Koenig indicated that if changes are made to pump type, that the building and piping to the well house was designed a certain way and changes will have to be made to the overall design if a pump type change is made at this time. Trustee Cleary raised the issue of electrical costs with a line shaft pump versus a submersible pump. It was noted that these bids are good for 60 days and may need to be rebid out if a decision is not made soon. Trustee Gardner made a motion to award a bid to Water Well Solutions for a Goulds/ Hitachi pump in the amount of \$54,860 for a pump for Well #5. Trustee Szymanski seconded the motion.

AYES: (2) Trustees Szymanski and Gardner.

NAYS: (4) Trustees Cleary, Ahrendt, Kuhlman and Wehling.

Motion Failed.

Trustee Ahrendt made a motion to award the bid to Layne Western for a Byron-Jackson pump in the amount of \$66,537. Trustee Kuhlman seconded the motion.

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

NAYS: (2) Trustees Cleary and Szymanski.

Motion Carried.

E. PUBLIC BUILDINGS, PROPERTIES, PARKS AND RECREATION COMMITTEE

An update was provided on the Firemen's Park/OSLAD Grant. Bids specifications will go in the newspaper soon. The project should be completed by the end of the year. Some concerns were expressed by Board members about a softball field in the park plans. Some felt this was not needed. Trustee Wehling indicated that the field was in the original plans the Board previously approved.

Trustee Wehling provided an update on Welton Stedt Park. On June 29th a proof roll was conducted and the property is ready for work to begin. The contractor was instructed to begin work immediately

so that these fields would be ready for play in Spring 2008. To date, work has not begun. Staff has now been advised that work will begin on July 23rd.

An update was provided on Nantucket Cove Park. Some gravel is being moved on the site.

Results were provided on the Ladycats' victory picnic held on July 9th. It was held inside the Community Hall. Trustee Kuhlman presented a plaque and pins to the coaches and team members. Trustee Wehling thanked Trustee Kuhlman for his participation.

F. PLANNING, BUILDING AND ZONING COMMITTEE

The Building Department monthly report was provided in the packet for review. Permits for 11 new homes were pulled during the month of June.

The Code Enforcement monthly report was provided in the packet for review.

A copy of the letter advising Beecher Economic Development Authority (BEDA) members of the termination of the BEDA Board was provided in the packet for review.

G. VILLAGE PRESIDENT'S REPORT

Trustee Cleary made a motion approving an employment agreement with Marcy Meyer as Economic Development Coordinator. A copy of the agreement was provided in the packet for review. Trustee Ahrendt seconded the motion.

AYES: (6) Trustees Cleary, Ahrendt, Szymanski, Gardner, Kuhlman and Wehling.

NAYS: (0) None.

Motion Carried.

The Village of Crete filed for Facilities Planning Area (FPA) expansion to Eagle Lake Road citing major industrial and commercial expansion in this area as the basis for providing sewer service. A copy of their application was provided in the packet for review. This conflicts with Beecher's proposed FPA expansion to Offner Road. It was thought that the Crete application is in response to our application and shows the expansion plans that Crete intends to pursue. Crete's proposed expansion touches the Beecher Village limits at Eagle Lake and Monhegan east of Route #1. A meeting was held with Baxter and Woodman to discuss strategy. Crete has submitted two applications, one to Goodenow Road and one to Eagle Lake Road. The Village of Beecher is requesting a hearing be held on this.

The Economic Development Committee is scheduled to meet on July 19th to discuss a new downtown grant program and a change to the sales tax agreement with Beatty Lumber in light of the new ½% sales tax increase effective in 2008.

An agenda for the July 31st workshop meeting was provided for review.

Status of crop damage compensation to Larry Martisek and farm land east of Hunter's Chase Subdivision was deferred until the July 31st workshop meeting.

President Lohmann went through goals set by himself in 2006 and the three Trustees that ran for election at that time and the timeline. This matter was for new Board members' information.

H. NEW BUSINESS

Trustee Cleary reported that residents of Hunter's Chase have gotten together with Officer Ann Waterman to form a neighborhood watch program.

President Lohmann stated that there are some problems on the Planning and Zoning Commission. A member is not attending the required amount of meetings. President Lohmann plans on making a new appointment at the next meeting.

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

AYES: (6) Trustees Cleary, Ahrendt, Szymanski, Gardner, Kuhlman and Wehling.

NAYS: (0) None.

Motion Carried.

Meeting adjourned at 9:58 p.m.

Respectfully submitted by:

Janett Conner
Village Clerk