

**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  
FEBRUARY 23, 2009 – 7:15 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, Public Works Superintendent Harold “Bud” Cowger and Treasurer Nelson Collins.

**GUESTS:** Terry Gatlin from the Beecher Herald, Bill Byrns from the Daily Journal, Pat Lane, Pat Cleary, Marcy Meyer, Brian and Danna Neville, Kevin Bouchard, Bob Polarek, Frieda and Gordon Wilson, Joseph F. Venturella, Sheriff Paul Kaupus, Lt. Jeff McKenzie, Sgt. Jason Ellige, Senator Toi Hutchinson, Representative Lisa Dugan, Will County Executive Larry Walsh, County Board Member Katrina Deutsche, Brian Hayhurst, Ted Deery, Dennis Koehn, Kim and Betty Koutsky, Bob Bacon, Bob Howard, Harold Karstensen and Kimberly Brayboy from the Illinois State Treasurer’s Office.

The Public Officials’ Forum was delayed until 7:15 p.m., awaiting the arrival of two officials.

A Public Officials’ Forum was held with elected officials from the State and County levels. The following were in attendance: State Senator Toi Hutchinson, Representative Lisa Dugan, Will County Executive Larry Walsh, Will County Board Member Katrina Deutsche, and Sheriff Paul Kaupus.

Each official provided a presentation and the Board and audience members were given an opportunity to ask questions. Some of the matters discussed included improvements to Route #1, Illinois Department of Transportation (IDOT) Districts, the Stimulus Package, the 3<sup>rd</sup> airport, road work needing to be done in Beecher and intermodals.

At the end of the Public Officials’ Forum, a ten minute break was held and the Board meeting resumed at 9:15 p.m.

President Lohmann asked for consideration of the minutes of the February 9, 2009 Board meeting. Trustee Szymanski made a motion to approve the minutes as written. Trustee Kuhlman seconded the motion.

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

NAYS: (0) None.

Motion Carried.

**CLERK'S REPORT:** 1) A report on income received since the last meeting was given. 2) A bill was presented for the Beecher Beautification Commission. Trustee Wehling made a motion to approve the bill in the amount of \$9,800.00 as listed on the Clerk's Report. Trustee Ahrendt seconded the motion.

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

NAYS: (0) None.

Motion Carried.

**RECOGNITION OF GUESTS:** Pat Cleary, 842 Penfield, stated that encroaching water from her neighbor cost her \$23,000 and asked what the Village would do for the residents of Beecher so this type of flooding problem does not happen again. President Lohmann responded that he thought it was a civil matter between neighbors. Trustee Cleary explained the drainage ordinance and how he felt it applies to this matter. This was an issue from approximately five years ago. Trustee Gardner wanted more facts on the matter before commenting. Administrator Barber provided some history. After some discussion, the Board directed Administrator Barber to provide them with more information pertaining to this issue. Trustee Cleary indicated he will also look into adding additional language to the current ordinance to address enforcement of this issue.

A public hearing was held at 9:38 p.m. to consider credit card acceptance by the Village through the State of Illinois E-Pay Program.

**RESOLUTION #2009-03** - A Resolution supporting the implementation of E-Pay for payment of utility bills and other Village fees in the Village of Beecher. Trustee Szymanski made a motion to adopt Resolution #2009-03. Trustee Cleary seconded the motion.

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

NAYS: (0) None.

Motion Carried.

Trustee Szymanski made a motion to reschedule the March 23<sup>rd</sup> Board meeting to Tuesday, March 24, 2009, due to a conflict with the Washington Township Center meeting room. Trustee Gardner seconded the motion.

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

NAYS: (1) Trustee Szymanski.

Motion Carried.

The Board considered submitting a list of projects to the Illinois Environmental Protection Agency (IEPA) low interest loan program for water and sewer improvements. Trustee Gardner expressed concerns about applying for a loan and not ending up having the money to pay it back. Superintendent Cowger reported on areas that need replacement of watermain. The Administrator indicated that doing these projects now will reduce the Village's ability to afford expansion of the sewer plant in the future. It was also noted that the water and sewer projects that need to be done are not "shovel ready" projects as required by the State as a stimulus project. Trustee Gardner made a motion to table submitting a list of projects to the Illinois Environmental Protection Agency (IEPA) low interest loan program for water and sewer improvements. Trustee Cleary seconded the motion.

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

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 Gardner seconded the motion.

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

NAYS: (0) None.

Motion Carried.

Meeting adjourned at 10:22 p.m.

Respectfully submitted by:

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Janett Conner  
Village Clerk