

**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  
SEPTEMBER 28, 2009 -- 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, Kuhlman and Wehling.

ABSENT: Trustees Gardner.

**STAFF PRESENT:** Clerk Janett Conner, Administrator Robert Barber, Chief Jeffrey Weissgerber, Treasurer Nelson Collins and Public Works Superintendent Harold "Bud" Cowger.

**GUESTS:** Lynn Dill from the Beecher Herald, George Wille, Tom Stluka, Kim Koutsky and Kevin Bouchard.

President Lohmann asked for consideration of the minutes of the September 14, 2009 Board meeting. Trustee Cleary made a motion to approve the minutes with the following amendment; page 2, paragraph 3, replace "Doug Short" with "the Prairie Crossings HOA" in the last two sentences. Trustee Szymanski seconded the motion.

AYES: (5) Trustees Cleary, Ahrendt, Szymanski, 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 \$1,144.70 as listed on the Clerk's Report. Trustee Szymanski seconded the motion.

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

NAYS: (0) None.

Motion Carried.

3) A thank you card from Christine and Brad Coats was read aloud. 4) There were no objections from the Board for a block party to be held from 377 Woodbury Bend to 1658 Woodbury Bend on October 10, 2009 from 2:00 p.m. to 8:00 p.m.

Clerk Conner gave a report on the Illinois Municipal League (IML) Conference she attended the previous week.

**RECOGNITION OF GUESTS:** George Wille explained maps that were provided on the proposed third airport and commented upon the politicians associated with the project.

**A. FINANCE AND ADMINISTRATION COMMITTEE**

Variance reports for the previous month were included in the packet for review.

The audit is complete and will be presented at the next meeting by Auditor Curt Dykstra.

Budget amendments (line item transfers) are being prepared to adjust the expenses of the Village to meet the terms of the new Police contract, health insurance and IMRF payments. This resolution will be prepared for consideration in November.

The Board member survey results have been compiled. It was the consensus of the Board to hold a special workshop meeting on October 29<sup>th</sup> at 6:00 p.m. at the Village Hall to discuss these results. A second workshop session will be scheduled at that meeting.

**B. PUBLIC SAFETY COMMITTEE**

Chief Weissgerber reported that the overnight museum trip will not be held this year due to the cost and the need for chaperones. A skating event will be scheduled after January 1, 2010. Nothing else is scheduled at this time.

E.S.D.A. Plan updates have been completed and were distributed to the Board. Thanks were given to Marcy Meyer for completing this project.

Trustee Kuhlman requested a closed session be held to discuss the hiring of a full-time police officer and extension of health insurance benefits to the Lieutenant.

Halloween hours will be 4:00 to 7:00 p.m. on October 31st.

**C. STREETS AND ALLEYS COMMITTEE**

Yardwaste bag distribution dates will be October 10<sup>th</sup> and 17<sup>th</sup> from 9:00 a.m. to noon at the Junior High School.

Leaf collection is scheduled to begin the week of October 12<sup>th</sup>.

#### **D. SEWER AND WATER COMMITTEE**

An update was provided on the United States Department of Agriculture (USDA) loan. The USDA is offering a 40-year loan at 4.375% for watermain replacement. Trustee Szymanski asked if staff was obtaining another price from another firm for the study. It was suggested that a price be obtained from Ehlers and Associates or Farnsworth Group. This matter will be tabled until after the workshop meeting.

#### **E. PUBLIC BUILDINGS, PROPERTIES, PARKS AND RECREATION COMMITTEE**

Trustee Wehling made a motion to authorize payment of bills from the Bond Redemption Account in the amount of \$4,205.79. Trustee Ahrendt seconded the motion.

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

NAYS: (0) None.

Motion Carried.

According to President Lohmann, the fire sprinkler system is 90% completed in the new Public Works facility. The contractor is starting to install vents. The floor will be poured in two weeks. The building should be completed by mid-November. President Lohmann has been taking photos of the progress of the building.

Clerk Conner reported that the Fall newsletters should be done and mailed later this week.

The next Ehlers Committee meeting is scheduled for October 7<sup>th</sup> at 5:30 p.m. at the Village Hall.

#### **F. PLANNING, BUILDING AND ZONING COMMITTEE**

The September 24<sup>th</sup> Planning and Zoning Commission meeting has been cancelled due to a lack of agenda items. The next meeting will be held on October 22<sup>nd</sup> when a public hearing on amendments to the Village's sign ordinances will be held.

Status was provided on the letter of credit work that needs to be done in Nantucket Cove and The Preserve at Cardinal Creek.

#### **G. VILLAGE PRESIDENT'S REPORT**

President Lohmann gave a report on the IML Conference he attended last Thursday through Saturday. The conference was attended by President Lohmann, Clerk Conner, Trustee Szymanski and Administrator Barber.

President Lohmann met with Sunset Boulevard property owners and authorized Jim's Tree Service to do landscaping work. He will verify with the homeowners when the work is done and to see that it was done to their satisfaction.

The Volunteer Recognition Dinner plans are going well, but the location may have to change, according to Clerk Conner.

President Lohmann and Administrator Barber provided an update on the Illiana Expressway meeting. St. John, Indiana had no position on the Illiana and Lowell opposed it because it may negatively impact their downtown businesses. Cedar Lake has the Illiana in their comprehensive plan.

A special intergovernmental meeting invitation has been extended to tour the Dutch American Foods plant at 1375 Dutch American Way in the Trim Creek Business Park on November 7<sup>th</sup> at 9:00 a.m. Board members were encouraged to take the tour. This invitation is for all taxing bodies.

#### **H. NEW BUSINESS**

There being no further business to be discussed in open session, Trustee Cleary made a motion to adjourn into executive session at 7:32 p.m. to discuss the hiring of a full-time police officer and extension of health insurance benefits to the Lieutenant.

Trustee Ahrendt seconded the motion.

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

NAYS: (0) None.

Motion Carried.

Trustee Cleary made a motion to return to regular session at 8:09 p.m. Trustee Szymanski seconded the motion.

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

NAYS: (0) None.

Motion Carried.

Trustee Szymanski reminded the Board of the Oktoberfest being held on October 3<sup>rd</sup>.

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

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

NAYS: (0) None.

Motion Carried.

Meeting adjourned at 8:10 p.m.

Respectfully submitted by:

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Janett Conner, Village Clerk