

**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 8, 2010 -- 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 Ahrendt, Szymanski, Kuhlman and Wehling.

ABSENT: Trustees Cleary and Gardner.

STAFF PRESENT: Clerk Janett Conner, Administrator Robert Barber, Chief Jeffrey Weissgerber, Treasurer Nelson Collins, Police Officer Bill Little, Police Officer Roger Sipple and Economic Development Coordinator Marcy Meyer.

GUESTS: Lynn Dill from the Beecher Herald, Bill Byrns from The Daily Journal, Andrew Ahrendt, Bob Tully, Bill Voss, Chuck Hoehn, Dave Lagesse, Dale and Sherry Murray, Joe and Marge Cook, Brian Claus, Bill Mort and George Schuitema.

President Lohmann asked for consideration of the minutes of the January 25, 2010 Board meeting. Trustee Szymanski made a motion to approve the minutes as written. Trustee Ahrendt seconded the motion.

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

NAYS: (0) None.

Motion Carried.

CLERK'S REPORT: 1) A report on income received since the last meeting was provided. 2) Bills were presented for the Beecher Fourth of July Commission. Trustee Wehling made a motion to approve the bills totalling \$1,259.67 as listed on the Clerk's Report. Trustee Kuhlman seconded the motion.

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

NAYS: (0) None.

Motion Carried.

The Public Safety Committee report was done out of agenda order.

PUBLIC SAFETY COMMITTEE

Trustee Kuhlman made a motion to authorize the letting of bids for the 2010 raffle car for the Fourth of July celebration. Trustee Szymanski seconded the motion.

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

NAYS: (0) None.

Motion Carried.

The Animal Control annual report was provided in the packet for review.

The Police Department monthly report was provided for review.

Peotone Police Chief Bill Mort was present and provided information on the BASSET program which is being used by the Village of Peotone. Dale Murray representing the Peotone Police Department was present, is licensed to do BASSET training and is willing to conduct training at no charge for Beecher liquor license holders. Chief Mort explained Peotone's program, said it works well and helps save liquor license holders on their Dram Shop insurance. BASSET Certification is good for two years. The Board discussed which liquor license holders should be required to do BASSET training. No action was taken.

Dale Murray, President of the Beecher Fire Protection District, presented an award to officers Little and Sipple for an act of lifesaving of a Beecher resident.

Chief Weissgerber reported on SPAM email he received from what appeared to be an FBI site and advised everyone that these types of organizations will not contact people this way. Be cautious of any email that asks for money or personal information.

Chief Weissgerber reported on the reverse 9-1-1 calls that went out last week by the Will County Sheriff regarding burglaries in the unincorporated area. The Chief explained how these calls go out.

Chief Weissgerber reported on a seminar he attended regarding children's videogames and violence.

Trustee Szymanski recommended Nixle system participation be put in the next Village newsletter.

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 also provided the Board with a detailed financial report for the Fourth of July Commission.

A list of bills totalling \$95,388.01 to be paid was available for review. A summary of the list of bills was provided. Trustee Kuhlman made a motion to approve payment of the list of bills as presented. Trustee Szymanski seconded the motion.

AYES: (4) Trustees Ahrendt, Szymanski, Kuhlman and Wehling.
NAYS: (0) None.
Motion Carried.

A strategic plan completion workshop is scheduled for Wednesday, February 17th at the Village Hall, beginning at 6:30 p.m.

STREETS AND ALLEYS COMMITTEE

Administrator Barber provided a report on the MS4 compliance inspection conducted by the Illinois Environmental Protection Agency (IEPA). A favorable report with some training requirements is expected.

The Dixie Highway/Chestnut traffic light low bid was rejected by the Illinois Department of Transportation (IDOT). The second lowest bidder is now being considered.

Status was provided on the Dixie Highway repairs, letters of credit work and the Church Road east repairs. Field work was conducted last week on the design and a bid letting is expected for the last week of March.

SEWER AND WATER COMMITTEE

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

A list of all services not having water meters has been drafted and the report was provided in the packet for review.

ORDINANCE #1127- An Ordinance amending the water rates by adding a \$4.00 per billing flat charge as a water main replacement fee effective with the May water bills and escrowing these funds for future watermain replacements. Trustee Szymanski made a motion to approve Ordinance #1127. Trustee Ahrendt seconded the motion.

AYES: (4) Trustees Ahrendt, Szymanski, Kuhlman and Wehling.
NAYS: (0) None.
Motion Carried.

PUBLIC BUILDINGS, PROPERTIES, PARKS AND RECREATION COMMITTEE

Trustee Wehling made a motion to approve payment of bills from the Bond Redemption Account in the amount of \$61,462.05. Trustee Kuhlman seconded the motion.

AYES: (4) Trustees Ahrendt, Szymanski, Kuhlman and Wehling.
NAYS: (0) None.
Motion Carried.

An update was provided on the new Public Works facility.

Status was provided on the Bond Redemption Account. In addition to a curb cut on Cardinal Creek Boulevard and security installation for the building, a few other items are yet to be completed.

Trustee Wehling reported that the Veterans Memorial Committee plans on having a meeting in March. Different locations for the memorial are being considered.

PLANNING, BUILDING AND ZONING COMMITTEE

ORDINANCE #1128 - An Ordinance requiring all variances to be implemented within one year of being granted and to expire one year after the variance use is discontinued. Trustee Ahrendt made a motion to approve Ordinance #1128. Trustee Szymanski seconded the motion.

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

NAYS: (0) None.

Motion Carried.

Trustee Wehling expressed that variances should be recorded with the property and state the variance's expiration date. The Village should be responsible for recording variances instead of homeowners, to make sure it gets done.

Trustee Wehling made a motion to refer to the Planning and Zoning Commission to have all variances, special uses and plats to be recorded by the Village within 30 days of approval. Trustee Kuhlman seconded the motion.

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

NAYS: (0) None.

Motion Carried.

The Planning and Zoning Commission (PZC) heard a presentation on windspires as an alternative for small power generating wind turbines. Trustee Ahrendt reported that good information was presented. Administrator Barber said that the Village probably needs to amend its ordinance pertaining to what was learned at this meeting. Trustee Wehling expressed concerns about safety and vandalism of wind turbines.

An update was provided on architectural guidelines and template annexation agreements. Trustee Wehling wants to talk about these fees and decide what to charge before the matter comes up again. He felt it was an intergovernmental matter and he would like to get together with the school district, fire district, etc. to see what everyone wants before approving fees. This matter will be discussed at the March intergovernmental meeting.

Economic Development Coordinator Marcy Meyer provided a report on architectural guidelines. The committee needs to get together with Marcy to discuss the architectural guidelines.

Trustee Ahrendt made a motion authorizing payment of bills from the developer's escrow accounts in the total amount of \$262 (Montalbano: \$122; MGM: \$140). Trustee Szymanski seconded the motion.

AYES: (4) Trustees Ahrendt, Szymanski, Kuhlman and Wehling.
NAYS: (0) None.
Motion Carried.

The Building Department monthly report was provided in the packet for review.

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

The Economic Development monthly report was provided in the packet for review.

Bob Tully was present to request an extension of time to demolish a lean-to at 606 Gould Street, due to the current economic situation and the snow currently on the building. Mr. Tully asked for a 90-day extension. Mr Tully reported he has put the old hardware store property up for sale. Tuck pointing repairs needing to be done on his Teapots building was discussed. Mr. Tully stated that he can't make the improvements because the adjoining property owner does not want to give him access, which is very close to his building. Mr. Tully also wants to meet with the Economic Development Committee to discuss some of his needs in the old downtown area. Trustee Ahrendt made a motion to approve a request for an extension until May 1, 2010 to demolish a structure at 606 Gould Street (This extension runs with the address not the owner.) Trustee Kuhlman seconded the motion.

AYES: (3) Trustees Ahrendt, Szymanski and Kuhlman.
NAYS: (0) None.
ABSTAIN: (1) Trustee Wehling.
Motion Carried.

VILLAGE PRESIDENT'S REPORT

President Lohmann explained the submittal of two Fiscal Year 2011 Appropriations Project Request applications to Congresswoman Debbie Halvorson. Trustee Wehling made a motion authorizing the submittal of an application in the amount of \$150,000 for 10 small vertical wind turbines at both the Beecher High School and the Junior High School in conjunction with the Beecher School District and authorizing submittal of an application in the amount of \$50,000 for Trim Creek bank stabilization which includes a \$50,000 match from the Trim Creek Drainage District. Trustee Ahrendt seconded the motion.

AYES: (4) Trustees Ahrendt, Szymanski, Kuhlman and Wehling.
NAYS: (0) None.
Motion Carried.

A Will County Governmental League legislative committee update was provided. Regulations regarding video gaming will not even be drafted until December 2010 and the capital bill is in jeopardy. President Lohmann also noted that some communities that opted out of video gaming were penalized. Pension funding was discussed.

President Lohmann is scheduled to meet with Senator Toi Hutchinson and the IEPA on February 25th to try and get a grant or loan for water improvements.

NEW BUSINESS

Administrator Barber asked for direction on the BASSET ordinance. Trustee Szymanski asked if the liquor ordinance needs to be reviewed for further changes. Fine amounts need to be changed. President Lohmann is to look at the liquor ordinance again to consider anything else that needs to be changed. Trustee Szymanski expressed concerns about possible loopholes in the BASSET ordinance. The Board also discussed sending the chair and co-chair of the beer tent for the Fourth of July celebration to the training.

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

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

NAYS: (0) None.

Motion Carried.

Meeting adjourned at 8:57 p.m.

Respectfully submitted by:

Janett Conner
Village Clerk