

**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
MARCH 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, Gardner and Wehling.

ABSENT: Trustees Cleary and Kuhlman.

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

GUESTS: Lynn Dill from the Beecher Herald, Bill Byrns from The Daily Journal, Andrew Ahrendt, Kim Koutsky, George Schuitema, Bob Carter, Tim Juskiewicz, Dayna Johnson, Howard Hamilton and Jim Testin.

President Lohmann asked for consideration of the minutes of the February 22, 2010 Board meeting. Trustee Szymanski made a motion to approve the minutes as written. Trustee Gardner seconded the motion.

AYES: (4) Trustees Ahrendt, Szymanski, Gardner 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 (\$1,161.75) and the Police Department Youth Account (\$233.16). Trustee Szymanski made a motion to approve the list of bills totalling \$1,394.91 as listed on the Clerk's Report. Trustee Gardner seconded the motion.

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

NAYS: (0) None.

Motion Carried.

3) A letter from a Beecher resident recognizing two police officers honored by the Fire Department at the last meeting was read aloud.

4) Clerk Conner provided a report on the last census meeting.

RECOGNITION OF GUESTS: Howard Hamilton of Hamilton Engineers provided a presentation asking for consideration as a possible consultant on future projects. A folder explaining the firm's qualifications was provided in the packet for review. President Lohmann asked the Board to

consider different engineers for different projects. A question and answer period followed the presentation.

Bob Carter provided an update on proposed routes for the Illiana Expressway and how it relates to the proposed airport.

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 \$58,217.15 to be paid was 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: (4) Trustees Ahrendt, Szymanski, Gardner and Wehling.

NAYS: (0) None.

Motion Carried.

Trustee Gardner questioned an item on the credit card bill.

On Saturday, March 6th, Finance Chair Cleary met with Administrator Barber and President Lohmann to review the first draft of the budget. Administrator Barber reported that Beatty Lumber closed its doors last week and the Village will lose sales tax money if they remain closed. The State is also proposing cutting the state income tax amount to municipalities. These things will impact the budget and ways need to be found to balance the budget. A closed session will be held to discuss consideration of cutting personnel.

B. PUBLIC SAFETY COMMITTEE

The Police Department monthly report was provided for review.

Chief Weissgerber reported that all sirens worked properly during the community-wide tornado drill held on March 2nd.

C. STREETS AND ALLEYS COMMITTEE

An update was provided on four local road projects. Administrator Barber indicated that work will be bid out the first week in April.

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 January and February were provided in the packet for review.

Results were provided from the Illinois Environmental Protection Agency (IEPA) meeting held February 25th. The Village was not promised any funds, but were told that the application would be reviewed and considered for the 2011 round of loan disbursements. President Lohmann stated that the IEPA was impressed with the booklet Superintendent Cowger put together for the meeting.

E. 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 \$56,431.05 plus the added bill to Steger Ace Hardware for paint in the amount of \$179.91, with the total amount of bills to be paid as \$56,610.96. Trustee Gardner seconded the motion.

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

NAYS: (0) None.

Motion Carried.

Trustee Wehling provided a report on the new Public Works facility.

Clerk Conner provided a report on the Spring newsletter. The target date for mailing is April 19th. Economic Development Coordinator Meyer has sold the ten ads.

An Ehlers Committee meeting is scheduled for March 16th at 5:30 p.m. at the Village Hall.

F. PLANNING, BUILDING AND ZONING COMMITTEE

Trustee Ahrendt made a motion to approve payment of bills from the developer's escrow accounts for Baxter and Woodman for engineering bid spec letting work: \$4,400 from Montalbano Homes Escrow for Nantucket Cove; and \$6,000 from MGM Development Escrow for The Preserve at Cardinal Creek. Trustee Wehling seconded the motion.

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

NAYS: (0) None.

Motion Carried.

The agreement with Art VanBaren for the reimbursement of a portion of the property taxes on the new planned Dutch American Foods addition will be considered at the next Board meeting.

Trustee Ahrendt deferred until the next Board meeting, when more Board members would be present, the consideration of authorization of deferral of tap-in fees for residential construction in 2010.

The Planning and Zoning Commission (PZC) is scheduled to meet on March 25th. Items on the agenda include a hearing to include vertical wind turbines as a ground-based unit having the same

setback requirements as small horizontal turbines, and a workshop on requiring that the Village record all changes to zoning, land use and plats.

An update was provided regarding architectural guidelines. The Committee is working with Economic Development Coordinator Meyer via emails to update this document for presentation to the Board at a later date.

G. VILLAGE PRESIDENT'S REPORT

An Intergovernmental meeting is scheduled for March 29th at 7:00 p.m. Topics include the property tax reimbursement for Dutch American Foods and the template annexation agreement concerning fees.

There being no further business to be discussed in open session, Trustee Ahrendt made a motion to adjourn into executive session at 8:15 p.m. to discuss pending litigation and personnel pertaining to possible employee cuts due to pending budget cuts. Trustee Wehling seconded the motion.

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

NAYS: (0) None.

Motion Carried.

Trustee Wehling made a motion to return to regular session at 9:10 p.m. Trustee Szymanski seconded the motion.

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

NAYS: (0) None.

Motion Carried.

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, Gardner and Wehling.

NAYS: (0) None.

Motion Carried.

Meeting adjourned at 9:10 p.m.

Respectfully submitted by:

Janett Conner
Village Clerk