

**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
APRIL 26, 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 Szymanski, Kuhlman and Wehling.

ABSENT: Trustees Cleary, Ahrendt and Gardner.

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

GUESTS: Lynn Dill from the Beecher Herald, Bill Byrns from the Daily Journal, Kim Koutsky, Rudy Poth, Bob and Lenore Husum, and Vic Reato.

President Lohmann asked for consideration of the minutes of the April 12, 2010 Board meeting. Trustee Szymanski made a motion to approve the minutes with the following amendment to page 2, last paragraph, line 2, replace sentence with "Trustee Szymanski opposed the wording of supporting a park district because the word 'district' usually means forming another taxing body which would apply to everyone, even those not using the parks." Trustee Kuhlman seconded the motion.

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

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 4th of July Commission. Trustee Szymanski made a motion to approve the bill in the amount of \$166.25 as listed on the Clerk's Report. Trustee Wehling seconded the motion.

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

NAYS: (0) None.

Motion Carried.

RECOGNITION OF GUESTS: President Lohmann presented retiring part-time Police Officer Bob Husum with a plaque and thanked him for his service to the Village. Chief Weissgerber also presented Mr. Husum with a shadowbox from the Police Department and thanked him for his service.

Resident Rudy Poth complained about problems with his water quality over the last five years. Mr. Poth said the water in his block is really dirty and smelly and said neighbors also have problems. He uses a filtration system and complained that he has to change filters frequently. Mr. Poth was advised that the Village does not recommend a filtration system with our water system. Public Works Superintendent Cowger said that all neighbors that have complained had unrelated problems and they have been addressed. He felt that Mr. Poth's problem is only at his house and he will work with him to try and fix the problem. There may be a problem with his service line. Some felt the problem may have been due to a watermain break the previous week or possibly the Fire Department hooking onto a hydrant for practice. Mr. Poth said his water is okay this week. The most recent water problem occurred last week. Mr. Poth was asked to let the Village know as soon as his water is bad again.

Vic Reato, property owner at 759 Penfield Street, asked for a permit to put an apartment on the first floor of his building where a business was previously located. Mr. Reato wants to put in a one-bedroom apartment. Administrator Barber noted that to do this the Board would have to approve an ordinance to allow first floor residential in a business district, and then a special use permit would have to be applied for. This matter would have to be referred to the Planning and Zoning Commission (PZC). It was discussed that this could also create more requests for residential in other business buildings in this area. Some Board members would like to wait to discuss this further when more Board members are present. Mr. Reato explained his plans for the unit. Trustee Wehling was interested in what other building owners would like to see in the old downtown area. The Board asked Mr. Reato to contact the other downtown business property owners and encourage them to come to the next meeting to discuss the issues involved in converting downtown business district units to residential. The matter is to be discussed at the next meeting.

Rudy Poth asked a question about the train whistle in the middle of the night and wondered if anything could be done about it. The railroad is required to blow the whistles by law.

A public hearing was held at 7:45 p.m. to consider a budget for Fiscal Year 2010/2011.

A. FINANCE AND ADMINISTRATION COMMITTEE

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

RESOLUTION #2010-17 - A Resolution adopting a budget for fiscal year 2010/2011. Trustee Kuhlman made a motion to adopt Resolution #2010-17. Trustee Wehling seconded the motion.

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

NAYS: (0) None.

Motion Carried.

ORDINANCE #1132 - An Ordinance of appropriation for fiscal year 2010/2011. Trustee Kuhlman made a motion to approve Ordinance #1132. Trustee Wehling seconded the motion.

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

NAYS: (0) None.
Motion Carried.

Trustee Kuhlman made a motion authorizing the cancellation of the May 24th, June 28th, July 26th, and August 23rd Village Board meetings. Trustee Wehling seconded the motion.

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

NAYS: (0) None.

Motion Carried.

B. PUBLIC SAFETY COMMITTEE

Chief Weissgerber reported on Police youth activities. There will be paintballing on May 1st and the bike rodeo is scheduled for June 5th.

Trustee Kuhlman made a motion to approve a proposal to purchase one digital video camera and one radar unit for the new squad car using funds from the current fiscal year budget at a cost not to exceed \$5,725. Trustee Szymanski seconded the motion.

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

NAYS: (0) None.

Motion Carried.

Chief Weissgerber reported the court case regarding the seized Ford Excursion has been continued until May 10th. The Department may still get the vehicle.

Superintendent Cowger reported that larvicide was started in each of the catch basins earlier in the day. Spraying will be determined based on the weather. Public Works employees will be in Decatur to renew and obtain their applicator licenses this week. It was noted that the Village only treats ponds owned by the Village for mosquitos.

Chief Weissgerber commented that the High School will be conducting a breast cancer walk on Friday, April 30th, from 8:00 a.m. until noon.

C. STREETS AND ALLEYS COMMITTEE

Trustee Szymanski made a motion to approve an amendment to the Phase II engineering services agreement with Baxter and Woodman in the amount of \$5,000 for Route #1 road repairs. Trustee Wehling seconded the motion.

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

NAYS: (0) None.

Motion Carried.

Trustee Szymanski made a motion to approve an agreement for testing services for cement and asphalt to be used on the Chestnut/Dixie Highway traffic signal project in an amount not to exceed \$5,000. Trustee Wehling seconded the motion.

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

NAYS: (0) None.

Motion Carried.

Fourth of July banners and American flag installations are scheduled for the week of May 24th.

A reminder was made to residents that brush pickup will be every other week on curbside recycling day.

RESOLUTION #2010-18 - A Resolution of appropriation of Motor Fuel Tax funds for Fiscal Year 2010/2011. Trustee Szymanski made a motion to adopt Resolution #2010-18. Trustee Wehling seconded the motion.

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

NAYS: (0) None.

Motion Carried.

CONSENT AGENDA: The following items were considered for approval on the Consent Agenda:

- a. RESOLUTION #2010-09 - Resolution of Intent to Issue 2002 Series Certificates and complete project
- b. RESOLUTION #2010-10 - Obligation Resolution for Fiscal Year 2004
- c. RESOLUTION #2010-11 - Obligation Resolution for Fiscal Year 2005
- d. RESOLUTION #2010-12 - Obligation Resolution for Fiscal Year 2006
- e. RESOLUTION #2010-13 - Obligation Resolution for Fiscal Year 2007
- f. RESOLUTION #2010-14 - Obligation Resolution for Fiscal Year 2008
- g. Authorize Village President to sign revised Final Report of 2002 Improvement Project
- h. Authorize Village President and Clerk to sign Refunding Bond Issues Authorization Form
- i. RESOLUTION #2010-15 - Superseding Resolution of Intent for 2006 Series MFT Bond Issue
- j. RESOLUTION #2010-16 - Obligation Resolution for Fiscal Year 2010/2011.

Trustee Szymanski made a motion to approve all consent agenda items. Trustee Wehling seconded the motion.

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

NAYS: (0) None.

Motion Carried.

Superintendent Cowger was asked about stoning shoulders on Church Road, and was aware that the work needed to be done.

D. SEWER AND WATER COMMITTEE

Sludge hauling from the sewer plant is scheduled for the week of June 1st.

The Illinois Environmental Protection Agency (IEPA) is scheduled to inspect the sewer plant on April 29th.

Superintendent Cowger reported that hydrant flushing is scheduled for the first week of June.

Trustee Szymanski provided information on the Fourth of July festival. Iron Horse, a band that has played in Beecher the last few years, will be competing on the “America’s Got Talent” television show and he wished them well.

E. PUBLIC BUILDINGS, PROPERTIES, PARKS AND RECREATION COMMITTEE

Status was provided on the Bond Redemption Account. The Board discussed paving the parking lot and doing the curb cut, landscaping, signage and other improvements that still need to be done at the new Public Works facility. Plans for a sign on and in front of the building are being worked on.

An open house for the new Public Works facility is scheduled for May 22nd. President Lohmann asked Administrator Barber to send invitations to other taxing bodies, contractors who worked on the project, etc. Lynn Dill offered to put information in the Beecher Herald informing the residents of the event. Washington Township will also be asked to put the information on their sign.

The Spring newsletter has been mailed.

The Ehlers Committee is scheduled to meet within the next two weeks.

F. PLANNING, BUILDING AND ZONING COMMITTEE

The Planning and Zoning Commission is scheduled to meet on April 29th at 7:00 p.m.

All developers and vacant lot owners have been forewarned about keeping their properties mowed and cleared of debris.

The Preserve at Cardinal Creek homeowners have organized to maintain common areas.

G. VILLAGE PRESIDENT’S REPORT

Results were provided of the Will County Governmental League Lobby Day in Springfield. Administrator Barber reported that he got commitment from the Senate President that the state will not touch the state distributive fund this year. The state has federal stimulus project money being appropriated for the Illiana Expressway putting it on the fast track. There will be a bid letting May 14th to resurface Route #1 from Goodenow Road to Church Road. There are also plans to deep patch bad spots of Route #1 within the Village limits and pave the entire road between Church and Pasadena next year.

President Lohmann requested a closed session be held to discuss the Public Works Superintendent’s employment contract.

There being no further business to be discussed in open session, Trustee Wehling made a motion to adjourn into executive session at 8:40 p.m. to discuss the Public Works Superintendent's employment contract. Trustee Szymanski seconded the motion.

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

NAYS: (0) None.

Motion Carried.

Trustee Wehling made a motion to return to regular session at 8:58 p.m. Trustee Kuhlman seconded the motion.

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

NAYS: (0) None.

Motion Carried.

ORDINANCE #1133 - A motion to approve an employment contract with Superintendent of Public Works Harold Cowger. Trustee Wehling made a motion to approve Ordinance #1133. Trustee Szymanski seconded the motion.

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

NAYS: (0) None.

Motion Carried.

H. NEW BUSINESS

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

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

NAYS: (0) None.

Motion Carried.

Meeting adjourned at 9:00 p.m.

Respectfully submitted by:

Janett Conner, Village Clerk