

**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  
JULY 11, 2011 -- 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 (arrived at 7:02 p.m.), Szymanski, Kypuros, Kuhlman and Wehling.

**ABSENT:** Trustee Ahrendt.

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

**GUESTS:** Bill Byrns from the Daily Journal, George Schuitema, Gordon and Barbara Wehrman, Lisa Gaidar, Tiffany Messana, Pat Peters, Audrey Peters, Guillermo "JR" and Elizabeth Delgado, and Kim Koutsky.

President Lohmann asked for consideration of the minutes of the June 13, 2011 Board meeting. Trustee Wehling made a motion to approve the minutes with the correction to page 3, last paragraph, line 6, delete the words "and \$4,800 for soliciting three proposals". Trustee Szymanski seconded the motion.

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

**NAYS:** (0) None.

**ABSENT:** (2) Trustee Cleary and Ahrendt.

Motion Carried.

Trustee Cleary arrived at 7:02 p.m.

**CLERK'S REPORT:** A report was provided on income received since the last meeting.

**RECOGNITION OF GUESTS:** Trustee Kuhlman made a motion to approve a request for continuation of a legal non-conforming use in the event the home is more than 50% destroyed at 434 Indiana Avenue, currently owned by Gordon Wehrman. Trustee Wehling reported that he is the listing agent on this property so he will not vote on the motion. The bank needs a letter from the Village in order for Mr. and Mrs. Wehrman to sell the property. Trustee Kypuros seconded the motion.

AYES: (4) Trustees Cleary, Szymanski, Kypuros and Kuhlman.  
NAYS: (0) None.  
ABSTAIN: (1) Trustee Wehling.  
Motion Carried.

Pat Peters was present and reported on her request for a letter of no objection to Will County regarding a special use permit for echo housing and provided a letter of no objection approved by Washington Township on this matter. Trustee Wehling made a motion to approve a letter of no objection for a special use permit for echo housing at 745 West Corning Road. Trustee Szymanski seconded the motion.

AYES: (5) Trustees Cleary, Szymanski, Kypuros, Kuhlman and Wehling.  
NAYS: (0) None.  
Motion Carried.

## **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. Treasurer Collins also provided a report on the recent Fourth of July festival. Trustee Cleary made a motion to approve the Treasurer's report of activity for the month of June, 2011. Trustee Szymanski seconded the motion.

AYES: (5) Trustees Cleary, Szymanski, Kypuros, Kuhlman and Wehling.  
NAYS: (0) None.  
Motion Carried.

A list of bills totalling \$128,314.76 to be paid was available for review. A summary of the list of bills was provided. Trustee Cleary made a motion to approve payment of the list of bills as presented. Trustee Kypuros seconded the motion.

AYES: (5) Trustees Cleary, Szymanski, Kypuros, Kuhlman and Wehling.  
NAYS: (0) None.  
Motion Carried.

Variance reports for the month of May were provided in the packet for review.

The Will County Cable Consortium reached a tentative agreement with Comcast on a new ten-year franchise agreement. Administrator Barber noted that the WPAL fee is a capital fee that can only be used for equipment.

The audit process has begun.

The Code Book review process will concentrate on codes that are over 10 years old.

Seth Jansen from Congressman Adam Kinzinger's office arrived and provided a report. He is the first contact for the Village if any issues come up that require assistance. Redistricting is in process, however, the map is being challenged in court. President Lohmann asked about Congressman

Kinzinger's feeling on raising the debt ceiling. Mr. Jansen reported that Mr. Kinzinger is opposed and explained why. Mr. Jansen discussed streamlining the tax code, illegal immigration, the health insurance reform act, FHA loan limits being decreased, the south suburban airport and the Illiana Expressway.

## **B. PUBLIC SAFETY COMMITTEE**

The Police Department monthly report was provided for review.

Chief Weissgerber reported that everything went well over the Fourth of July festival. There were no major incidents, and traffic seemed to flow well getting people out of town after the fireworks.

Chief Weissgerber stated that there was nothing new to report on youth activity projects at this time. The Youth Commission should become active in the fall and take over the youth events.

Superintendent Cowger reported on the mosquito abatement program. He was asked by a resident about the product that is being sprayed. It is not harmful to humans or animals. Superintendent Cowger will continue spraying once per week.

## **C. STREETS AND ALLEYS COMMITTEE**

The new Public Works dump truck and pick-up truck were in the parking lot for display.

Status was provided on the 2011 road repairs. The Engineer is working on a bid specification and will let bids for an August bid opening and for consideration at the August 8<sup>th</sup> Board meeting.

Crack sealing program bids will be opened on August 3<sup>rd</sup> and a bid award will be considered at the August 8<sup>th</sup> meeting.

The paint striping project has been completed.

Superintendent Cowger reported on repairs to Miller Street from Racine to Oak Park. The base of the road is not very good. The road is in such bad shape that patching would not be adequate. The Committee felt it would be the best option to tar and chip the road. Trustee Cleary made a motion to authorize tar and chip of Miller Street from Racine to Oak Park at a cost of \$2,618 to be paid to Washington Township Highway Department out of Motor Fuel Tax funds. Trustee Szymanski seconded the motion.

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

NAYS: (0) None.

Motion Carried.

A press release was provided in the packet for review stating that a special allotment of \$17,852 in Motor Fuel Tax funds will be provided again this year.

The Committee will meet next week to discuss options for the street name sign replacement program.

Superintendent Cowger reported on the Prairie Crossings flooding. He met with Mr. Thatcher and discussed flooding concerns. Superintendent Cowger also sent out letters to Church Road residents to try and work out a solution to the flooding problems.

Trustee Szymanski thanked all the Village staff for helping prepare for and working during the Fourth of July festival. Trustee Szymanski reported that a storm flattened tents the night before the festival started, and that the Fourth of July Commission and Public Works worked together to get them repaired and back up again.

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

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

The water billing register for May and June was provided in the packet for review.

Administrator Barber reported that the state capital bill was found to be unconstitutional so it may have some implications on the Illinois Environmental Protection Agency (IEPA) loan. President Lohmann asked who is to buy these bonds.

Superintendent Cowger reported that he is working with Julie Riechers to get appointments to replace water meters.

Superintendent Cowger reported that he is to replace the SCADA System computer and install a software upgrade this year.

Superintendent Cowger reported that the insurance company probably won't cover the sewer plant roof damage that occurred with the June 4<sup>th</sup> storm. The repairs will probably be done in house.

The Board considered an ordinance establishing a Youth Commission. A draft of the ordinance was provided in the packet for review. Trustee Szymanski noted wording about electing a treasurer to this Commission and asked if the Village Treasurer should do this. Administrator Barber noted that the Beautification Commission has their own treasurer also, and discussed how this works with other commissions. Trustee Kypuros asked Treasurer Collins if he was interested in being treasurer for the Youth Commission. Concerns were expressed about overloading the current treasurer. The Board discussed establishing consistency between all of these commissions. Details will have to be worked out over time. President Lohmann asked Trustee Kypuros to chair the Youth Commission. The Board also discussed who would be responsible for the bike rodeo. The rodeo will most likely still be done by the Police Department with help from the Youth Commission. Trustee Kypuros announced some of the youth activities that are being discussed.

ORDINANCE #1145 - An Ordinance establishing a Youth Commission, with three amendments: Page 1, Section 2 - the Commission "shall consist of eight volunteer" (instead of seven), the juvenile officer

would be changed to non-voting ninth member; and Page 2, Section 3 - change Youth Commission Treasurer to "Village Treasurer". Trustee Szymanski made a motion to approve Ordinance #1145 with the noted amendments. Trustee Wehling seconded the motion.

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

NAYS: (0) None.

Motion Carried.

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

Trustee Wehling reported that everything is going as planned for the Veteran's memorial. A dedication ceremony is to be held on September 11<sup>th</sup>. A draft brochure was not available yet because the committee is still working on finalizing speakers for the event. Roy Segert was selling bricks for the memorial in Firemen's Park over the Fourth of July. Trustee Wehling reported that there is a July 15<sup>th</sup> deadline for getting in brick orders so they can be engraved and placed at the memorial in time for the dedication. The committee has collected approximately \$91,000 so far. The flagpoles have been installed.

A Village survey was discussed for the fall newsletter. Other questions suggested were in regards to the Vincennes Trail bike path.

A committee consisting of a representative from the Fire Department, Township Supervisor Bob Howard and Trustee Wehling will meet and discuss the improvements needed to Firemen's Park parking lot.

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

A request for a plat of re-subdivision was discussed. Administrator Barber provided for review, plats of subdivision as provided by Chuck Onik at 902 Catalpa Street, and recommended approval. The Planning and Zoning Commission (PZC) unanimously recommended approval. The Board discussed Mr. Onik's access to the garage; he will probably use the driveway that his neighbor, Roy Stamp, uses. Trustee Wehling made a motion to authorize the Village President and Clerk to sign a plat of re-subdivision for Chuck Onik at 902 Catalpa Street. Trustee Szymanski seconded the motion.

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

NAYS: (0) None.

Motion Carried.

The Board may not get a decision from the Stough Group regarding the senior housing project until October, according to Administrator Barber.

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 Board considered a process for repairing the south approach to the Cardinal Creek Boulevard bridge. Administrator Barber asked what structural engineer the Board would like to use to inspect the bridge. This will be paid for out of the escrow account. President Lohmann asked if staff should meet with the new owner of the subdivision before making a decision on this. He also noted that a lot of curbing will need to be replaced in that subdivision. It was the consensus of the Board to delay action until after meeting with the new property owners to discuss this.

Trustee Wehling made a motion to approve payment from the MGM (\$615.04) and Nantucket Cove (\$410.03) developer escrow accounts in the total amount of \$1,025.07. Trustee Cleary seconded the motion.

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

NAYS: (0) None.

Motion Carried.

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

President Lohmann appointed the following to the Youth Commission: Chair: Trustee Jon Kypuros, Lisa Gaidar, Kyle Mose, Elizabeth Delgado, JR Delgado, Tiffany Messana, Vickie Cakowski, George Obradovich and Andy LeRoy as Ex officio member. Trustee Kypuros made a motion to approve President Lohmann's appointments to the Youth Commission. Trustee Cleary seconded the motion.

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

NAYS: (0) None.

Motion Carried.

President Lohmann reported that he attended meetings on the Illiana Expressway. Those in attendance were split up into small groups and discussed concerns. President Lohmann commented that he does not want to see our fire and school districts split up by the Illiana Expressway.

President Lohmann reported that Patrick Sharpe from the Chicago Blackhawks was at the recent Comcast Scholarship banquet he attended with scholarship recipient Timothy Johnson.

The Board considered an application and \$50 fee for a centennial award to the Illinois Historical Society. President Lohmann wanted to currently decline doing this as it would create a lot of work and research. Trustee Kypuros asked if it would be beneficial to do this for economic development. Administrator Barber suggested waiting until next year.

President Lohmann suggested discussing the Illiana Expressway and advising other taxing bodies of the creation of the Youth Commission at the August 29<sup>th</sup> Intergovernmental meeting.

The Will County Center for Economic Development has scheduled an economic development seminar for elected officials from 8 a.m. to 3 p.m. on July 28<sup>th</sup>. Trustees should advise Administrator Barber if they wish to attend.

President Lohmann reported that he, Dan Strick and Jerry Meyer will meet with the new school superintendent.

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

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

NAYS: (0) None.

Motion Carried.

Meeting adjourned at 8:44 p.m.

Respectfully submitted by:

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Janett Conner  
Village Clerk