

**MINUTES OF A REGULAR MEETING OF THE PRESIDENT  
& BOARD OF TRUSTEES OF THE VILLAGE OF BEECHER  
HELD AT THE WASHINGTON TOWNSHIP CENTER,  
30200 TOWN CENTER DRIVE, BEECHER, ILLINOIS  
MAY 23, 2011 -- 7:00 P.M.**

**JOINT TAXING BODY MEETING**

All present joined in the Pledge to the Flag.

The meeting was called to order.

**ROLL CALL:**

PRESENT: President Lohmann and Trustees Szymanski, Kypuros and Kuhlman.

ABSENT: Trustees Cleary, Ahrendt and Wehling.

All other taxing bodies called roll.

**STAFF & OTHERS PRESENT:** Clerk Janett Conner, Administrator Robert Barber, Lynn Dill from the Beecher Herald, Bill Byrns from the Daily Journal, Marcy Meyer, Ted Deery, Mike Mack, Debbie VonAlvon, Tom Stluka, Dan Strick, Sally Fuhrmann, Debbie Mack, George Obradovich, Drew Beck, Rick Krabbe, Theresa Peterson, Bob Howard, Shirley Biery, Marge Cook and George Schuitema.

A Joint Taxing Body meeting was held to share information relating to each taxing body. The Village, School District, Fire District, Library District, Township and Community Hall Building Board had representatives present.

A plaque was presented to George Obradovich in recognition of his service to the community and joint cooperation with the other taxing bodies. He is retiring from the School District.

Washington Township Supervisor Bob Howard announced that he has decided to place clothes recycling containers behind the Township Center from the company USAGAIN. The committee discussed placing boxes at other locations in town. The school will discuss putting bins behind the junior high at their next regular meeting and other taxing bodies will also discuss it with their boards.

A template pre-annexation agreement and establishment of an annexation committee was discussed. The Township expressed a desire to add a fee for the township for recreational or transportation uses. There were no objections to the Village adopting the template pre-annexation agreement.

A round table discussion was then held.

Dan Strick reported that the girls softball team and some students on the track team will be going to state finals.

George Obradovich asked about signs at entrances to the Village recognizing athletic accomplishments. He asked if signs could also be placed recognizing academic accomplishments. They can be placed on the same sign boards. As all available room is used up, older signs will have to be removed.

George Obradovich's retirement and the transition to the new superintendent was discussed.

Bob Howard reported that money has been secured for the Vincennes Trail bike path. Establishing the route and acquiring property is being pursued at this time.

Bob Howard asked that the Village and Township set up a committee to discuss a dog park. The Township is asking for a piece of property from the Village and the Township will put together the park, maintain the park and provide insurance coverage.

Bob Howard expressed a need to provide recreational services to special needs children in Washington Township. Possibly a small ball diamond can be designated for something like this.

The Community Hall Building Board representatives reported on improvements to the Community Hall. President Lohmann asked if the Board would consider purchasing a back-up generator for when the building is being used as a shelter and the power goes out. They will look into purchasing this. Administrator Barber said that the parking lot between the Community Hall, Fire Station and the park will soon be in need of improvements and there was a former agreement that the three adjoining taxing bodies share in the cost. It was suggested that the Fourth of July Commission and Beecher Recreation also be approached to contribute. The Community Hall Board members asked to be added to the mailing list for Intergovernmental Committee meetings.

Shirley Biery announced the Summer Reading Program at the library.

Marge Cook from the Fire District reported on the new bay doors on the Fire Station and announced the Fire Department does free blood pressure readings 24 hours a day. Mrs. Cook was asked if the Fire Department has any plans for expansion. She said it has been discussed but there are none at this time.

Trustee John Kypuros announced the Bike Rodeo will be held June 4<sup>th</sup> in the Fire Station parking lot. Two bikes will be given away and donations have been obtained from local businesses for more prizes.

Trustee Ron Kuhlman asked the School about their elimination of the SRO in the Beecher Schools and expressed concerns about this. George Obradovich explained the cost cutting measures the school had to take to balance their budget and that the grant was cut for the SRO. They would consider reinstating the SRO if a grant could be obtained to pay for it.

President Lohmann reported that Marcy Meyer has been hired to update the Economic Development portion of the Village website. He also asked Bob Howard about County reapportionment plans and the future of a branch court and dispatch center. State redistricting was discussed.

President Lohmann reported that the Village and Will County Governmental League is in the process of trying to create a co-op to provide residents with cheaper electric rates. A county-wide referendum will need to be approved for the co-op to be implemented.

Administrator Barber reported on a 60 unit senior housing community proposed for the area of Church and Dixie by the Beecher Baptist Church.

Administrator Barber provided an update on the proposed Illiana Expressway, Third Airport and Crete Intermodal. He also explained the fuel lock-in pertaining to the Joint Fuel Committee.

The next Intergovernmental Committee meeting was set for Monday, August 29, 2011 at 7:00 p.m.

Trustee Szymanski made a motion to adjourn the meeting. Trustee Kuhlman seconded the motion.

AYES: (3) Trustees Szymanski, Kypuros and Kuhlman.

NAYS: (0) None.

Motion Carried.

Meeting adjourned at 8:40 p.m.

Respectfully submitted by:

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Janett Conner, Village Clerk