

**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 23, 2012 -- 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, Ahrendt, Szymanski, Kypuros, Kuhlman and Wehling.

**ABSENT:** None.

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

**GUESTS:** Bob Jaderberg from the Southland Voice, Kyle Mose, Lesa Kypuros, Adam Howard, George Schuitema, Tami Roskamp, Kim Koutsky, Erika Hodac, Stephanie Salmen, Pat Peters, Mary Howard, Joni Jones, Trish Moran, Kim Kettman, Tiffany Messana, Todd Kraus, Dave Bunte, Elizabeth Delgado, Laura Irwin and Karen Salmen.

President Lohmann asked for consideration of the minutes of the April 9, 2012 Board meeting. Trustee Wehling made a motion to approve the minutes with one correction: page 4, Streets and Alleys Committee, item #2, add "streets engineer HR Green" per Trustee Szymanski. Trustee Szymanski seconded the motion.

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

**NAYS:** (0) None.

**ABSTAIN:** (1) Trustee Kypuros.

Motion Carried.

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

**REPORTS OF VILLAGE COMMISSIONS**

President Lohmann reported on the Beautification Commission. The hanging baskets will be delivered on May 23rd. Beautification Commission officers will be elected at the next regular meeting.

President Lohmann asked the Board to consider a request from the Girl Scouts to paint the Ohlendorf gazebo on Reed Street in Women's Club Park as a project to earn a badge. Trustee Wehling made a

motion to authorize Colleen Lentz to paint the gazebo in Women's Club Park. Trustee Szymanski seconded the motion.

AYES: (6) Trustees Cleary, Ahrendt, Szymanski, Kypuros, Kuhlman and Wehling.

NAYS: (0) None.

Motion Carried.

Trustee Szymanski reported that the Fourth of July Commission has been working in the park. The Commission is also working on park evacuation procedures in case of inclement weather.

Trustee Wehling reported that the next Ehlers Commission meeting is scheduled for May 3<sup>rd</sup> at the veteran's memorial.

Trustee Kypuros reported that the Youth Commission is working on the "Beecher's Got Talent" event. The next Youth Commission meeting is scheduled for April 25<sup>th</sup>.

**A. FINANCE AND ADMINISTRATION COMMITTEE**

A public hearing was held at 7:05 p.m. to consider a budget and appropriation for fiscal year 2012/2013 beginning May 1, 2012 and ending April 30, 2013.

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

RESOLUTION #2012-04 - A Resolution adopting a budget for Fiscal Year 2012/2013. Trustee Cleary made a motion to adopt Resolution #2012-04. Trustee Ahrendt seconded the motion.

AYES: (6) Trustees Cleary, Ahrendt, Szymanski, Kypuros, Kuhlman and Wehling.

NAYS: (0) None.

Motion Carried.

ORDINANCE #1154 - An Ordinance adopting an appropriation for Fiscal Year 2012/2013. Trustee Cleary made a motion to approve Ordinance #1154. Trustee Ahrendt seconded the motion.

AYES: (6) Trustees Cleary, Ahrendt, Szymanski, Kypuros, Kuhlman and Wehling.

NAYS: (0) None.

Motion Carried.

ORDINANCE #1155 - An Ordinance adopting an amendment to Title 1 of the Beecher Village Code. Trustee Cleary explained the changes made to the code. Eleven changes were made to Title 1 as follows:

1. "Village" had been added to all positions to provide clarity.
2. Penalties were raised and maximum time served in a penal institution has been set at one year.
3. Clarification to the code incorporated what we as a Board currently do, approve appointments by the President and provide advice on those appointments.
4. Replaced the word Statue with State Statute.

5. Board and Village Board now reads Village Board of Trustees.
6. Clarification that any expulsion of a Trustee must be stated in public and documented in the meeting minutes.
7. Added the Veteran's Memorial Commission, Youth Commission and future Historical Preservation Commission.
8. Incorporated state law requirements of "Public Physical Bonds".
9. All sections regarding position in the Village have been rewritten to become consistent.
10. Clarification to the Village Administrator being the direct supervisor for all staff including the Chief of Police and the head of Public Works.
11. Clarifications that any appointments or promotions in the Police Department are to be approved by the Board.

Trustee Cleary made a motion to approve Ordinance #1155. Trustee Szymanski seconded the motion.

AYES: (6) Trustees Cleary, Ahrendt, Szymanski, Kypuros, Kuhlman and Wehling.

NAYS: (0) None.

Motion Carried.

The Board considered an ordinance adopting an amendment to Title 2 of the Beecher Village Code. Trustee Cleary reported on commissions added to Title 2. It was noted that the Village is not ready to adopt Title 2 yet. There are still some modifications to be made with the Attorney. Trustee Szymanski asked about Section 2-3-3 for the Fourth of July Commission and how they pay bills. Administrator Barber recommended being consistent in the code on all commissions on how they operate. Discussion followed on whether each Commission should have their own treasurer or if the Village Treasurer should be treasurer for all commissions. Trustee Kypuros commented on how the Youth Commission approves and pays their bills. He is having problems that his commission members are paying out of their personal accounts for decorations, etc. for events and getting reimbursed so he felt a need to address the matter so it doesn't cost them out of their pockets. President Lohmann agreed that something should be worked out. Administrator Barber also asked if the Village wants to tie the Village Treasurer to Fourth of July Treasurer and will this work in the future. Trustee Szymanski said he wants to make sure whatever we do that there are enough checks and balances. Treasurer Collins commented that in the future the treasurers of commissions could also be responsible for preparing budgets, doing variance reports, etc. There was some discussion on this. Administrator Barber recommended the committee sit down and consider addressing the issue of commission members' out of pocket expenses.

Trustee Kypuros indicated he would like to expand the Youth Commission to 15 members. He said this is needed for the safety of children, amount of events being put on, doing set up, tear down, waivers, permission slips, etc. He expressed concern of commissioners getting burned out. President Lohmann asked why these additional people need to be commissioners and not volunteers. The Youth Commission currently has eight members plus one police officer on the commission. Trustee Kypuros would like to go up to at least 11 commissioners with the new appointments in May and be allowed up to 15. President Lohmann expressed concerns that there might be too many people in charge. Trustee Szymanski commented that there needs to be an executive board and many volunteers underneath and wasn't sure if more commission members are what's needed. President Lohmann felt

he and Trustee Kypuros need to sit down and discuss this further before he makes his annual appointments.

ORDINANCE #1156 - An Ordinance authorizing the President and Clerk to sign an Intergovernmental Agreement with other municipalities in Will County to form the Will County Electric Aggregation Group. Trustee Cleary made a motion to approve Ordinance #1156. Trustee Ahrendt seconded the motion.

AYES: (6) Trustees Cleary, Ahrendt, Szymanski, Kypuros, Kuhlman and Wehling.

NAYS: (0) None.

Motion Carried.

Administrator Barber reported on the April 18<sup>th</sup> hearing on the plan of governance and aggregation of load. No one showed up for the hearing other than Village officials, Will County Governmental League (WCGL) and electrical representatives.

**B. PUBLIC SAFETY COMMITTEE**

Chief Weissgerber reported that on April 10<sup>th</sup> Fagen Pharmacy was robbed at gunpoint. The subject was recognized as a customer of the pharmacy/doctor's office and was caught in Bourbonnais later that day. He is currently in jail.

Public Works Superintendent Cowger reported that larvaciding should be completed by the end of the week.

Trustee Kuhlman made a motion authorizing the purchase of a 2013 Ford police interceptor all-wheel drive and the issuing of payment in the amount of \$23,163 on May 1<sup>st</sup> for said purchase. Trustee Wehling seconded the motion.

AYES: (6) Trustees Cleary, Ahrendt, Szymanski, Kypuros, Kuhlman and Wehling.

NAYS: (0) None.

Motion Carried.

**C. STREETS AND ALLEYS COMMITTEE**

An update was provided on the street name sign program. Trustee Szymanski reported that an order for 37 poles was made and the first phase of signs will go up along Dixie Highway, Indiana Avenue, Penfield Street, Gould Street and Reed Street.

A Pine Street flooding update was provided. Trustee Szymanski reported that he met with a farmer who agreed to let the Village help him improve the flooding but then raised some other issues. Trustee Szymanski is still trying to work further with him.

An update was provided on the way-finding sign. The sign was moved to the east side of Dixie Highway but Trustee Szymanski said the sign is still a little further back than he would have liked, and may put a planter around the base of it. Concerns were expressed that the gold on black lettering is not easy to read in the daytime.

Superintendent Cowger reported that street sweeping is scheduled for this week.

Patriotic banners and American flags are scheduled to go up the week of May 21<sup>st</sup>.

The Fuel Committee is going out for bid for new pumps and software to resolve issues with the original equipment. This should help keep better, more accurate records.

Trustee Szymanski had a sample of the Village logo and shirt he provided to Board members for review.

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

Superintendent Cowger provided a piece of pipe that showed a hole where it was leaking in Nantucket Cove Subdivision. A contractor was hired to fix it under the road. The sanitary sewer still needs to be televised. Superintendent Cowger provided a report on the leak detection process.

Surveys have been mailed for the Community Development Block Grant (CDBG) watermain replacement for Maxwell Street. Trustee Kypuros made a motion authorizing a public hearing on the CDBG Grant for Monday, May 14<sup>th</sup>. Trustee Wehling seconded the motion.

AYES: (6) Trustees Cleary, Ahrendt, Szymanski, Kypuros, Kuhlman and Wehling.

NAYS: (0) None.

Motion Carried.

Superintendent Cowger reported that hydrant painting should begin in the next 2-3 weeks and he hopes to have most of it done by the Fourth of July. There are 284 hydrants to be power washed, primed and then painted.

Superintendent Cowger reported that the elevated tank was washed on Friday. It wasn't expected to be done so soon. Superintendent Cowger asked if the contractor's check could be cut for next week to H2O Towers. After some discussion, it was the consensus of the Board to cut the contractor's check in the amount of \$5,350.

Superintendent Cowger reported that hydrant flushing is scheduled for May 7-10. A press release will be published in the paper and signs will be put out.

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

Trustee Wehling reported on the Spring newsletter.

Superintendent Cowger reported now that the water storage tank has been washed he needs to put the Water Tower Park playground equipment together. Trustee Kypuros offered to help on May 4<sup>th</sup> and has some other volunteers that can help.

Superintendent Cowger reported that he is waiting for caps and then the Centennial Memorial rebuild can be completed.

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

Trustee Ahrendt made a motion authorizing the release of \$51,500 from the MGM escrow account to The Preserve at Cardinal Creek, LLC for the completion of fine grading in units #3 and #4 of The Preserve at Cardinal Creek Subdivision. The check exchange will take place after the Village approves the work and final waivers of lien are received. Trustee Wehling seconded the motion.

AYES: (6) Trustees Cleary, Ahrendt, Szymanski, Kypuros, Kuhlman and Wehling.

NAYS: (0) None.

Motion Carried.

The Planning and Zoning Commission is considering a new meeting schedule due to scheduling conflicts at the Township Center. A decision on when to hold the meetings hasn't been made yet.

Trustee Ahrendt reported that the item is off the table regarding a request from Fifth Avenue Construction to defer building permit and park impact fees until the time of certificate of occupancy for pre-sold homes in The Preserve at Cardinal Creek Subdivision.

A proposal was provided from Jim's Trees in the amount of \$16,434 for erosion control, seeding and fertilizing of Unit #3 of The Preserve at Cardinal Creek Subdivision. The bill would be paid out of the escrow account. Stan Smagala is looking for Village approval before entering into this agreement to do this work. It was the consensus of the Board to have Smagala go ahead with this proposal.

**G. VILLAGE PRESIDENT'S REPORT**

An update was provided on WPAL. President Lohmann is to meet May 17<sup>th</sup> as a group with WPAL and the three towns. He is concerned that if a consensus is not reached that WPAL could pull out and the Village could lose this channel.

President Lohmann reported much concern was expressed on escalating dispatching fees at the last Eastcom Board of Directors meeting and cost cutting measures were discussed. An Operations Committee meeting and Board of Directors meeting will be held on May 8<sup>th</sup> to try and resolve some of the issues.

Administrator Barber explained Senate Bill 678 regarding the construction of a coal-fired energy plant with state funds and a surcharge placed on electric bills to pay off the project. Trustee Cleary explained how this type of plant would work. Trustee Szymanski made a motion approving a letter of opposition to Senate Bill 678. Trustee Wehling seconded the motion.

AYES: (6) Trustees Cleary, Ahrendt, Szymanski, Kypuros, Kuhlman and Wehling.

NAYS: (0) None.

Motion Carried.

Trustee Ahrendt made a motion to cancel the June 25<sup>th</sup> Board meeting. Trustee Szymanski seconded the motion.

AYES: (6) Trustees Cleary, Ahrendt, Szymanski, Kypuros, Kuhlman and Wehling.

NAYS: (0) None.

Motion Carried.

President Lohmann reported that STAND had their rally Saturday and ALNAC had theirs near the proposed third airport site. Both groups were well represented. The Iron Ring Communities are meeting this Thursday with the State Senator to discuss the authority on the proposed airport.

President Lohmann reported that he received a letter pertaining to the Illiana corridor study. Survey activities will begin on all three corridors. Property owners will receive notices about this. The Illiana corridor study has the right to go on properties and survey, and will be doing this into 2014. One of the corridors does come up against the Village limits.

President Lohmann requested a closed session be held to discuss the approval and release of closed session minutes.

Administrator Barber noted Public Works has watermain spoils and proposed using the spoils to fill in and level low spots in Nantucket Cove Subdivision. The work would be done by a part-time summer worker being paid \$10 per hour and the labor costs would be charged to the Letter of Credit. There were no objections to this proposal.

Trustee Wehling made a motion to adjourn into executive session at 8:46 p.m. to consider approval and release of closed session minutes and destruction of closed session audio recordings more than 18 months old. Trustee Cleary seconded the motion.

AYES: (6) Trustees Cleary, Ahrendt, Szymanski, Kypuros, Kuhlman and Wehling.

NAYS: (0) None.

Motion Carried.

Trustee Ahrendt made a motion to return to regular session at 9:11 p.m. Trustee Cleary seconded the motion.

AYES: (6) Trustees Cleary, Ahrendt, Szymanski, Kypuros, Kuhlman and Wehling.

NAYS: (0) None.

Motion Carried.

Trustee Ahrendt made a motion to approve executive session minutes from April 25, 2011 through January 9, 2012. Trustee Cleary seconded the motion.

AYES: (6) Trustees Cleary, Ahrendt, Szymanski, Kypuros, Kuhlman and Wehling.

NAYS: (0) None.

Motion Carried.

RESOLUTION #2012-05 - A Resolution releasing certain executive session minutes as approved by

the Board. Trustee Szymanski made a motion adopting Resolution # 2012-05. Trustee Ahrendt seconded the motion.

AYES: (6) Trustees Cleary, Ahrendt, Szymanski, Kypuros, Kuhlman and Wehling.

NAYS: (0) None.

Motion Carried.

Trustee Cleary made a motion authorizing destruction of closed session audio recordings from November, 2009 through November, 2010. Trustee Ahrendt seconded the motion.

AYES: (6) Trustees Cleary, Ahrendt, Szymanski, Kypuros, Kuhlman and Wehling.

NAYS: (0) None.

Motion Carried.

#### **H. NEW BUSINESS**

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

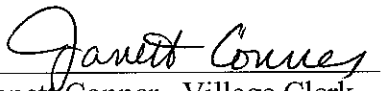
AYES: (6) Trustees Cleary, Ahrendt, Szymanski, Kypuros, Kuhlman and Wehling.

NAYS: (0) None.

Motion Carried.

Meeting adjourned at 9:13 p.m.

Respectfully submitted by:



Janett Conner, Village Clerk