

AC

**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 10, 2014 -- 7:00 P.M.**

All present joined in the Pledge to the Flag.

President Szymanski called the meeting to order.

ROLL CALL

PRESENT: President Szymanski and Trustees Cleary (arrived at 7:52 p.m.), Ahrendt, Meyer, Kuhlman and Wehling.

ABSENT: Trustee Kypuros.

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

GUESTS: George Schuitema and John Boersma.

President Szymanski asked for consideration of the minutes of the February 10, 2014 Board meeting. Trustee Wehling made a motion to approve the minutes as written. Trustee Meyer seconded the motion.

AYES: (4) Trustees Ahrendt, Meyer, Kuhlman and Wehling.

NAYS: (0) None.

ABSENT: (2) Trustees Cleary, Kypuros.

Motion Carried.

CLERK'S REPORT: 1) A report on income received since the last meeting was provided.
2) Clerk Conner stated that dog tags will increase in price on Monday, March 17th.

RECOGNITION OF GUESTS: John Boersma representing Faith Church at 201 East Church Road was present to request a temporary use permit to allow an 8' x 40' storage container in the rear of Faith Church. The container will be approximately 8-9' tall with a fence around it to be located in the rear of the church, 10' from the building and 16' west of the southeast corner of the building. The permit was requested for a period of three years. It will be a semi-type container that will be painted the color of the building. According to Mr. Boersma it will be used to store furniture, stage props and other items from the church. The type of fence to be placed around the container was discussed. The consensus of the Board preferred the fence to be PVC/vinyl 6' tall shadow box type

AC

with some type of airflow. Trustee Meyer made a motion to grant a temporary use permit to allow an 8' x 40' storage container in the rear of Faith Church, 201 East Church Road, according to Section 4.17 of the Zoning Ordinance for a period of three years on the condition that they put up a 6' shadowbox fence. Trustee Kuhlman seconded the motion.

AYES: (4) Trustees Ahrendt, Meyer, Kuhlman and President Szymanski.

NAYS: (0) None.

ABSENT: (2) Trustees Cleary and Kypuros.

ABSTAIN: (1) Trustee Wehling.

Motion Carried.

REPORTS OF VILLAGE COMMISSIONS

Trustee Ahrendt reported that the Beautification Commission is scheduled to meet March 11th at 7:00 p.m. at the Village Hall. Sixty-five flower baskets have been ordered.

Trustee Kuhlman reported that the Fourth of July Commission met the previous week and approved a bid for a 2014 Chevy Camaro from Dralle Chevy in Peotone for the 2014 raffle car. Six bids were received. The Dralle bid was the only bid that met bid specifications. Dralle will again furnish the raffle tickets and provide the sign to be displayed on the raffle car. Trustee Kuhlman made a motion to purchase a 2014 Chevy Camaro from Dralle Chevrolet in Peotone in the amount of \$23,854. Trustee Wehling seconded the motion.

AYES: (4) Trustees Ahrendt, Meyer, Kuhlman and Wehling.

NAYS: (0) None.

ABSENT: (2) Trustees Cleary and Kypuros.

Motion Carried.

President Szymanski reported that the Youth Commission's Mom-Son Dance was held the previous Saturday. Attendance was estimated at 100-150 people. It was a nice event and well-attended.

Trustee Wehling reported that the Ribbon of Hope Commission hasn't held another meeting, and is still looking for donations.

The Finance and Administration Committee report was deferred until later in the meeting when Trustee Cleary is present. (The Committee report was provided after the Economic Development Committee.)

A. PUBLIC BUILDINGS AND PROPERTIES, PARKS AND RECREATION COMMITTEE

Trustee Wehling reported that the Attorney is still working on the Park Rules Ordinance update. This project needs to move along now that the weather is getting warmer.

Beecher Recreation is having a company evaluate the field and determine what needs to be done in Welton Stedt Park. They are working with Superintendent Cowger on this.

An update was provided on electrical connections in Firemen's Park. Administrator Barber reported that it was learned all we have to do is get the connection from the box to the pole and ComEd will make the connection free of charge. There will be a meter on each pole and the box will be shared. The electrician will get the wires run. It will need to be determined where Ribbon of Hope will need to have their electrical box. It was unsure if the scoreboard will be temporary or permanent but Beecher Rec is pushing towards a permanent scoreboard for safety reasons, according to Trustee Wehling.

A report was provided on the bid award for the remodeling of 625 Dixie Highway. Only one bid was received from Luecke Construction which was in the amount of \$303,890 plus \$6,950 for the interior perimeter wall for a total bid price of \$310,840. The bid came in much higher than anticipated. It was felt that maybe the 30 day bid period was not enough time for contractors to submit their bids, therefore it was recommended to rebid project. Trustee Wehling made a motion to reject the bid received for the remodeling of 625 Dixie Highway. Trustee Meyer seconded the motion.

AYES: (3) Trustees Meyer, Wehling and President Szymanski.

NAYS: (2) Trustees Ahrendt and Kuhlman.

ABSENT: (2) Trustees Cleary and Kypuros.

Motion Carried.

Rebidding of the 625 Dixie Highway project was discussed. The design specifications will be modified to exclude all of the alternates and the Village will more aggressively pursue bids from all over the area. The time period to submit bids will be extended to 45 days. Bids will be formally advertised on March 20th, be opened on May 21st and be considered at the May 28th meeting. Trustee Wehling made a motion authorizing re-letting of bids for the 625 Dixie Highway project. Trustee Meyer seconded the motion.

AYES: (3) Trustees Meyer, Wehling and President Szymanski.

NAYS: (2) Trustees Ahrendt and Kuhlman.

ABSENT: (2) Trustees Cleary and Kypuros.

Motion Carried.

The Board discussed the letting of bids for the roof replacement at 625 Dixie Highway. Trustee Wehling made a motion authorizing the letting of bids for the replacement of the roof at 625 Dixie Highway. Trustee Meyer seconded the motion.

AYES: (3) Trustees Meyer, Wehling and President Szymanski.

NAYS: (2) Trustees Ahrendt and Kuhlman.

ABSENT: (2) Trustees Cleary and Kypuros.

Motion Carried.

The Board will also need to consider pursuing the replacement of the furnace/air conditioner prior to replacing of the roof so that the holes through the roof are sized correctly. Keeping the existing units are still an option but unlikely because they are original units.

B. PLANNING, BUILDING AND ZONING COMMITTEE

The Building Department monthly report was provided in the packet for review.

Trustee Ahrendt made a motion to approve an expense of \$2,017.00 from the MGM Escrow Account to Brandon Industries for the installation of four missing street name poles in the subdivision. Trustee Wehling seconded the motion.

AYES: (4) Trustees Ahrendt, Meyer, Kuhlman and Wehling.

NAYS: (0) None.

ABSENT: (2) Trustees Cleary and Kypuros.

Motion Carried.

Trustee Ahrendt made a motion authorizing the Village President and Clerk to sign a new agreement with Independent Inspections for Building Department services. Trustee Kuhlman seconded the motion.

AYES: (4) Trustees Ahrendt, Meyer, Kuhlman and Wehling.

NAYS: (0) None.

ABSENT: (2) Trustees Cleary and Kypuros.

Motion Carried.

ORDINANCE #1207 - An Ordinance amending the fees charged on building permits. Trustee Ahrendt made a motion to approve Ordinance #1207. Trustee Wehling seconded the motion.

AYES: (4) Trustees Ahrendt, Meyer, Kuhlman and Wehling.

NAYS: (0) None.

ABSENT: (2) Trustees Cleary and Kypuros.

Motion Carried.

ORDINANCE #1208 - An Ordinance requiring firm footing and foundation on all structures exceeding 144 square feet in size. Trustee Ahrendt made a motion to approve Ordinance #1208. Trustee Wehling seconded the motion.

AYES: (4) Trustees Ahrendt, Meyer, Kuhlman and Wehling.

NAYS: (0) None.

ABSENT: (2) Trustees Cleary and Kypuros.

Motion Carried.

DeJong Equipment would like to build a new storage building in the rear of their property. The back property would have to be re-zoned from R-1 to B-3 and drainage concerns would need to be addressed. DeJong Equipment will submit an application for rezoning if they can solve the drainage concerns.

Trustee Ahrendt reported that the Planning, Building and Zoning Committee met to discuss special use permit and variance fees, the fence ordinance and an architectural code. It was decided to keep the special use permit and variance fees at \$750 to cover current costs to the Village associated with these requests. It was discussed that there is no rationale as to allowing a solid fence only for yards with pools and it was discussed to allow a six foot fence in lieu of the current five feet as long as the top one foot was different than the bottom. The Committee also discussed whether to decrease the open space requirements between the boards of a fence. The Committee will meet again to discuss this further. Trustee Wehling asked for input from other Board members on these issues. Trustee Ahrendt asked what other towns do with their fence ordinances. Staff will get some information on what some surrounding towns are doing with their fence ordinance.

Teska Associates has been asked to provide a proposal for a meeting with the Committee regarding developing new architectural code standards for commercial property and architectural guidelines for all new developments.

C. PUBLIC SAFETY COMMITTEE

The Police Department monthly report was provided for review.

Chief Weissgerber provided a summary on his Police Department annual report for 2013 which was provided for review. Administrator Barber asked the Chief why the total incidents has dropped. There was administrative changes to the way security checks are reported which resulted in the drop in security checks. There was also a drop in traffic related incidents. Trustee Kuhlman asked about the uninsured motorists violations and how those are handled. The Chief reported that many of the uninsured tickets are dismissed in court because some people forget to carry their card with them when stopped, and charges are dismissed when they show proof of insurance. Administrator Barber commented on problems with possible collisions in the center turn lane on Route #1 if a car gets into the lane too early.

ORDINANCE #1209 - An Ordinance authorizing the President and Clerk to sign an intergovernmental agreement for the Will/Grundy Major Crimes Joint Task Force. A copy of the agreement was provided in the packet for review. Trustee Kuhlman made a motion to approve Ordinance #1209. Trustee Wehling seconded the motion.

AYES: (4) Trustees Ahrendt, Meyer, Kuhlman and Wehling.

NAYS: (0) None.

ABSENT: (2) Trustees Cleary and Kypuros.

Motion Carried.

Chief Weissgerber reported that there are some things scheduled for this month on school safety. Trustee Kuhlman asked if we had any more information on patrolling the mausoleum. It was previously decided not to do this.

D. PUBLIC WORKS COMMITTEE

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

The Water and Sewer billing register for the months of January and February were provided in the packet for review. Administrator Barber stated that Staff continues to monitor the water loss situation.

Discussion of the Public Works Department Annual Report was deferred until next meeting since the report was just received, to give the Board a chance to review.

Superintendent Cowger reported that he has a meeting scheduled with Randy from M.E. Simpson on Thursday and will have more information after that time on the valve turning.

A report was provided on the cost of installing the variable speed drives at the booster station. 92

Superintendent Cowger reported that the Miller Street forcemain televising is being delayed until Fiscal Year 2015/2016. He reported some problems with rags, baby wipes and other materials getting stuck in the pumps.

Superintendent Cowger reported that work should begin on the Prairie Avenue watermain installation within the next two weeks if the weather cooperates.

Superintendent Cowger provided an update on repairs made at the sewer plant to the #1 influent pump and R.A.S. lift station. The wet wells of the lift stations were also vactored clean by M & J Sewer. There has been some difficulties with the pumps after being repaired due to not being installed properly.

Superintendent Cowger reported that pothole patching has begun and is ongoing.

Trustee Wehling made a motion to approve an agreement with Baxter and Woodman to apply for a five-year permit for land application of sludge at a cost not to exceed \$5,000. Trustee Ahrendt seconded the motion.

AYES: (4) Trustees Ahrendt, Meyer, Kuhlman and Wehling.

NAYS: (0) None.

ABSENT: (2) Trustees Cleary and Kypuros.

Motion Carried.

A letter of response was provided in the packet for review regarding concerns about the left turn lane on Dixie Highway. Administrator Barber also talked to the resident about this matter.

E. ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT AND COMMUNITY RELATIONS COMMITTEE

An update was provided by Trustee Meyer on the Bernard Welding request to connect to the Village's sewer system. The Committee has met with one of the property owners regarding an easement and annexing property between the Village and Bernard Welding. Discussions are continuing.

Trustee Meyer provided a report on the municipal smart phone app. A contract has been signed and a meeting is scheduled with COC on Wednesday to discuss the details. Trustee Meyer will be making a presentation to the Chamber of Commerce on March 17th asking Chamber members to submit information for their businesses and organizations. There is a need to get this project started since it takes time to design the app and obtain approval from Apple.

The Spring newsletter publication date is scheduled for April 17th.

An Intergovernmental meeting has been scheduled for Thursday, May 29th at 7:15 p.m. at the Washington Township Center. Teska will lead a discussion on TIF districts.

AC

F. FINANCE AND ADMINISTRATION COMMITTEE

Trustee Cleary arrived at 7:52 p.m.

TREASURER'S REPORT: A copy of the Treasurer's report was provided to the Board for review and Treasurer Koutsky was present to answer questions. Deputy Treasurer Collins provided a brief report on the Fourth of July Commission's budget activity. Trustee Cleary made a motion to approve the Treasurer's Report and the Report of Financial Activity for the prior month. Trustee Ahrendt seconded the motion.

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

NAYS: (0) None.

ABSENT: (1) Trustee Kypuros.

Motion Carried.

Variance reports for the preceding month were provided in the packet for review.

A list of bills totalling \$99,409.37 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 Meyer seconded the motion.

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

NAYS: (0) None.

ABSENT: (1) Trustee Kypuros.

Motion Carried.

Trustee Cleary provided a summary of the eight-hour Finance and Administration Committee meeting to discuss the budget. One outstanding item to consider for the budget is an incentive program for Public Works employees to obtain their water and sewer licenses. This will be presented at the budget workshop. All Board members were provided with a copy of the proposed budget and were asked to review it.

Trustee Cleary made a motion authorizing the specific time of the Budget Workshop meeting on Monday, March 24th at 6:00 p.m. Trustee Ahrendt seconded the motion.

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

NAYS: (0) None.

ABSENT: (1) Trustee Kypuros.

Motion Carried.

Trustee Cleary made a motion authorizing a Public Hearing on the proposed budget for 7:00 p.m. on Monday, April 28th. Trustee Meyer seconded the motion.

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

NAYS: (0) None.

ABSENT: (1) Trustee Kypuros.

Motion Carried.

The Board discussed the dates and times for Village Board meetings. Trustee Cleary recommended moving forward with having the regular meeting the fourth Monday of the month. There is a need

AC

to determine what time to have the regular meetings. April and May need to have meetings to pay the bills to get through this budget year and change the due dates for vendors for accounts payable. President Szymanski recommended having all meetings at the same time and not have different meeting times on the two different meeting dates of the month. There would be a limited agenda only on the first meeting of the month to get the bills paid and shift all other agenda items to the second meeting of the month. It was questioned if the meeting time is changed only for April, May and June. Some confusion was expressed from the Board as to the meeting dates and times. Clerk Conner noted by law she needs to notify the press and post on the website all meeting dates and times and it's easier to have consistent dates and times for the meetings to avoid confusion. President Szymanski noted that all of our meetings are open to the public, are on tv and our offices are open to the public, so he asked if there is a need to change our meetings to accommodate the residents. President Szymanski was not opposed to Board members who are also parents that need to attend the School Board meeting. President Szymanski asked how the Board wants to proceed on whether to change our Board meeting dates or times. Trustee Wehling made a motion to move regular Board meetings to 6:30 p.m. for the second Mondays of April and May. Trustee Meyer seconded the motion.

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

NAYS: (0) None.

ABSENT: (1) Trustee Kypuros.

Motion Carried.

Trustee Meyer made a motion moving the May 26th Board meeting to Wednesday, May 28th due to the Memorial Day holiday. Trustee Cleary seconded the motion.

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

NAYS: (0) None.

ABSENT: (1) Trustee Kypuros.

Motion Carried.

President Szymanski asked what we need to do for meeting dates and times for June onward. There is a need to determine if we will shift the paying of bills to the fourth Monday of the month. Administrator Barber noted that there may be holiday conflicts certain times of the year if the Board changes meetings to the fourth Monday of the month. Many different options were discussed at length. The Board may need to pay bills twice in May to switch over to the new schedule. Trustee Cleary made a motion to move the scheduled meeting to 7:00 p.m. for the fourth Monday beginning in June, 2014 forward. Trustee Meyer seconded the motion. It was discussed that we already have this meeting scheduled by ordinance. Trustee Cleary amended the motion and Trustee Meyer seconded to cancel the meetings scheduled for the second Monday of the month in June, July and August. All regular meetings will remain at 7 pm. Trustee Meyer seconded the motion.

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

NAYS: (0) None.

ABSENT: (1) Trustee Kypuros.

Motion Carried.

G. VILLAGE PRESIDENT'S REPORT

President Szymanski reported on the Illiana Expressway.

President Szymanski provided an update on the South Suburban Airport. He recently attended a Will County airport meeting and said there was some disagreement on their mission statement.

An update was provided on the Eastcom Board. Steger and South Chicago Heights are joining Eastcom effective April 1, 2014, but Steger Estates is pursuing other options at this time.

Will County Governmental League Lobby Day is scheduled for March 26th and 27th and President Szymanski and Administrator Barber plan to attend.

Administrator Barber provided an update on the Route #1/#394 Corridor Plan. A finalist was picked and a contract was approved with Trans Systems.

President Szymanski reported that a new group plans to organize the Housewalk since the Beautification Commission doesn't plan to do it anymore. Further discussions are needed before announcing this.

President Szymanski appointed Trish Moran to the vacant seat on the Fourth of July Commission. Trustee Meyer made a motion to approve Trish Moran's appointment. Trustee Ahrendt seconded the motion.

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

NAYS: (0) None.

ABSENT: (1) Trustee Kypuros.

Motion Carried.

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

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

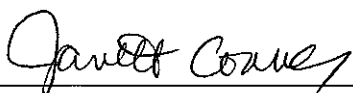
NAYS: (0) None.

ABSENT: (1) Trustee Kypuros.

Motion Carried.

Meeting adjourned at 8:34 p.m.

Respectfully submitted by:



Janett Conner
Village Clerk