

ap

**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
AUGUST 25, 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, Ahrendt, Meyer, Kypuros, Kuhlman and Wehling.

ABSENT: None.

STAFF PRESENT: Clerk Janett Conner, Administrator Robert Barber, Chief Jeffrey Weissgerber and Superintendent of Public Works Bud Cowger.

GUESTS: George Schuitema.

President Szymanski asked for consideration of the minutes of the July 28, 2014 and August 11, 2014 Board meetings. Trustee Cleary made a motion to approve the minutes as written. Trustee Kypuros seconded the motion.

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

NAYS: (0) None.

Motion Carried.

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

A. FINANCE AND ADMINISTRATION COMMITTEE

ORDINANCE #1214 - An Ordinance authorizing the borrowing of funds from First Community Bank and Trust in the amount of \$150,000 for a term of five years at an interest rate of 2.15% for the purposes of paying for engineering expenses related to the Penfield Street STP project. Trustee Cleary made a motion to approve Ordinance #1214. Trustee Kypuros seconded the motion.

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

NAYS: (0) None.

Motion Carried.

An update was provided on electrical aggregation. Administrator Barber reported that a three-year rate was locked in with Homefield Energy. The new rates will be approximately 6.5% lower than

ComEd's rate but there is a sizable increase in rates compared to the previous two years. Residents are being notified of this new rate change by mail and may opt out at any time.

B. PUBLIC BUILDINGS AND PROPERTIES, PARKS AND RECREATION COMMITTEE

Trustee Wehling made a motion to approve payment of bills for the 625 Dixie Highway Account in the amount of \$28,560.00. Trustee Cleary seconded the motion.

AYES: (4) Trustees Cleary, Meyer, Kypuros and Wehling.

NAYS: (2) Trustees Ahrendt and Kuhlman.

Motion Carried.

An update was provided on the 625 Dixie Highway project.

The Board was provided a picture of a new sign to be placed in the front of the new Village Hall at a cost of \$2,080. A more modern LED sign price has been received but is not affordable at this time.

Trustee Wehling reported that the scoreboards in Firemen's Park are all completed and operational.

An update was provided on the new beer stand, storage building and concession stand in Firemen's Park. The old beer stand was torn down the previous week. A new beer stand will be put up in its place. Only the beer stand replacement will be constructed at this time. The other buildings will be completed later.

Administrator Barber reported that staff is going to get an electrician to give a price to replace a bad light pole at Firemen's #1 ballfield. Administrator Barber stated that he has approached ComEd to try and get some financial assistance for this work but none is available at this time.

It was reported that Doug Short is asking permission to extend the infield of the two northerly fields at Welton Stedt Park to allow for Pinto Ball. Trustee Cleary asked why we would be modifying these fields thinking they belonged to the School District. Trustee Wehling reported that this is actually Village property even though the school was allowed to put the backboards on this property. There were no objections to Mr. Short's request.

C. PLANNING, BUILDING AND ZONING COMMITTEE

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

The Board discussed the MGM development agreement as it pertains to the Golf Course. Administrator Barber explained that the potential purchasers of the golf course have asked about their obligations to the original development agreement. There are now multiple owners and builders of all of this property and it's difficult to enforce the original agreement on these different owners. The property is zoned open space and would remain as open space without the agreement. Even if the golf course could opt out of the agreement, any changes to the property couldn't be made without Village approval. Trustee Wehling said if the golf course is opted out of the agreement then

J

the section that would allow development of the south nine holes would no longer apply. Trustee Cleary noted that the open space requirement could mean that the property could be changed from a golf course to grasslands without the development agreement. Administrator Barber indicated the property could still be left unutilized if the golf course was abandoned. Trustee Kypuros asked if some of the articles of the agreement could be removed instead of removing the golf course from the agreement completely. President Szymanski suggested running the potential changes by the attorney before making a decision. The Board discussed the waiver certificates for the development of the properties. The certificates expire in 2024. The consensus of the Board agreed to get an attorney's opinion on this issue.

Status was provided on the vacant buildings in the old downtown area. Staff has been told by Architect Mike Stanula that prints for the old Wehmhoffer building are almost complete and they will soon be applying for a building permit. There has been no response as of yet from the Buchmeiers regarding their building. Trustee Kuhlman asked if a deadline was given to the Buchmeiers on this matter. The deadline was September 1st.

The August 28th Planning and Zoning Commission (PZC) meeting was cancelled.

D. PUBLIC SAFETY COMMITTEE

The Police Department monthly report was provided for review.

The Code Enforcement monthly report was provided in the packet for review.

Superintendent Cowger reported that mosquito spraying is still being conducted every Thursday as weather allows. Spraying will most likely go into the beginning of October depending on the weather.

Chief Weissgerber reported on the Nixle Engage. He urged residents to go to the Village website and enroll in the notifications.

Chief Weissgerber reported that there was no update at this time regarding the Starcomm radio conversion. Radios may be obtained the last week in August.

Chief reported that the Police Department is looking to hire William Boettger as a new part-time officer. The Department is low on part-timers right now. Current part-timers are running out of their maximum hours allowed to work per year due to two officers being out on worker's comp and the loss of a few part-timers that received full-time positions elsewhere. Trustee Kuhlman asked about Aaron Dacorte's availability and urged the Chief to keep on the code enforcement since many residents have been coming to him with their concerns.

Chief Weissgerber reported on the Citizens Police Academy being offered by the Police Department. Information is available on the Village website and notifications were sent out through Nixle asking for residents who would like to participate. It is open to only 12 participants. The Department plans to do this annually.

OC

Trustee Kuhlman made a motion to approve a contract in the amount of \$28,500 with Melrose Pyrotechnics for the 2015 fireworks display. Trustee Kypuros seconded the motion.

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

NAYS: (0) None.

Motion Carried.

E. PUBLIC WORKS COMMITTEE

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

A watermain restoration update was provided. More restorations will be needed before winter for damage from spring and summer watermain breaks.

Superintendent Cowger reported that the leak detection paperwork was sent to M.E. Simpson. Simpson will be coming out this week to meet with Superintendent Cowger on the leak detection.

Administrator Barber asked Superintendent Cowger when the concrete work would be done on the corner of Melrose and Prairie. Superintendent Cowger is waiting to call the concrete company to do this project along with some other work in town.

The Board discussed a crack sealing program. Trustee Kuhlman asked if this is really helping, and felt that there are some gaping holes in the road where some of the crack sealing had been done. Trustee Kuhlman asked if there was any product more flexible or something different that could be used. There was some discussion of different materials. Trustee Kypuros felt the crack sealing was working in order to get more life out of the roads, and that crack sealing was the most financially feasible solution for the Village's budget to extend the life of our roads. After some discussion Trustee Kypuros made a motion to award a bid to Perm-A-Seal in the amount of \$0.85 per linear foot for a crack sealing program for 2014. Trustee Cleary seconded the motion.

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

NAYS: (0) None.

Motion Carried.

A salt supply update was provided. The Village's request for a state bid price was not accepted due to the lowest bidder not being able to meet all of the demands of the collective bid. The Village obtained a qualified proposal from Central Salt in the amount of \$109.50 per ton, which was \$60 more per ton than last year's price. Administrator Barber said Public Works may have to modify the salting program for this year.

Trustee Kypuros and Superintendent Cowger reported that a new F350 has been ordered. A new utility box will be put on it.

F. ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT AND COMMUNITY RELATIONS COMMITTEE

Trustee Meyer reported that the engineer for the Bernard Welding project has completed their work and surveying of the property and they are now in the process of obtaining appraisals for the value of the easement.

Trustee Meyer reported on the website re-design. The photographer has taken some pictures and she is happy with the way they turned out.

An update was provided on the way finding signs. A tentative spot has been chosen for a sign on Route #1.

ORDINANCE #1215 - An Ordinance providing incentives for new businesses locating in the old downtown area. Trustee Meyer made a motion to approve Ordinance #1215. Trustee Ahrendt seconded the motion.

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

NAYS: (0) None.

Motion Carried.

A copy of the new housing incentive letter was provided in the packet for review. Letters have been mailed to builders and press releases have been issued.

President Szymanski provided an update on Tax Increment Finance (TIF). President Szymanski provided copies of articles about downtown Urbana, Illinois TIF District and asked the Board to read these articles and be prepared to continue discussing if this is something that could be pursued for the old downtown area.

G. VILLAGE PRESIDENT'S REPORT

Eastcom has finally signed the contract with Steger Estates for dispatching.

It was reported that the potential buyers of the golf course are still negotiating. Staff sent an email to the current owner of the golf course that once the current negotiations close the Village will need to talk to them about two of their buildings that need to come down.

Representative Elgie Sims will have office hours from 10 a.m. to noon on Thursday, August 28th at the Village Hall. Officials and residents were encouraged to meet with Representative Sims to ask questions or express concerns.

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

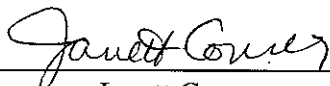
AYES: (6) Trustees Cleary, Ahrendt, Meyer, Kypuros, Kuhlman and Wehling.

NAYS: (0) None.

Motion Carried.

Meeting adjourned at 8:03 p.m.

Respectfully submitted by:



Janett Conner
Village Clerk