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**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  
SEPTEMBER 22, 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 Ahrendt, Meyer, Kuhlman and Wehling.

ABSENT: Trustees Cleary and Kypuros.

**STAFF PRESENT:** Clerk Janett Conner, Administrator Robert Barber, Chief Jeffrey Weissgerber and Treasurer Kim Koutsky.

**GUESTS:** Mitch and Teresa Darabaris.

President Szymanski asked for consideration of the minutes of the August 25, 2014 and September 8, 2014 Board meetings. Trustee Wehling made a motion to approve the minutes as written, with the correction to the August 25<sup>th</sup> minutes, Page 2, under Public Buildings and Properties, seventh paragraph, changing the work "scoreboards" to "backboards". Trustee Ahrendt seconded the motion.

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

NAYS: (0) None.

Motion Carried.

**CLERK'S REPORT:** 1) A report on income received since the last meeting was provided. 2) A thank you letter from the Beecher Community Library was read aloud thanking Public Works for their help in repairing a sewer in their parking lot. 3) Clerk Conner announced that election packets for the April 7, 2015 election are available at the Village Hall beginning September 23<sup>rd</sup>. Three Trustee seats will be up for election at that time.

**A. FINANCE AND ADMINISTRATION COMMITTEE**

The field work for the audit has been completed and the audit will be presented at the October 11<sup>th</sup> Board meeting.

Closing for the \$150,000 loan is scheduled for October 15<sup>th</sup>. The opinion letter has been approved by the bank.

jc

**B. PUBLIC BUILDINGS AND PROPERTIES, PARKS AND RECREATION COMMITTEE**

Trustee Wehling made a motion to approve a list of bills for payment from the 625 Dixie Highway Account in the amount of \$38,075.59. Trustee Meyer seconded the motion.

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

NAYS: (2) Trustees Ahrendt and Kuhlman.

Motion Carried.

Trustee Wehling provided a status on the 625 Dixie Highway project. Move-in date is estimated for mid-November.

A beer stand update was provided. Concrete work has been completed. The contractor is forming up aprons around the building. Electric, sewer and water have been run into the pad. Building materials will be delivered by the end of the week.

It was believed that no work has been done yet at Welton Stedt Park.

A Firemen's Park ballfield lighting project update was provided. Staff will be obtaining an estimate from ComEd to test the structural integrity of the poles and then we would replace at least some of the older lighting to take the load off the panel in Firemen's Park. The State has given the Village \$20,000 to complete this work, which has to be spent by May, 2016.

The Village will begin weekly park inspections as a requirement of our insurance company. Trustee Wehling reported that there are a lot of parks that will have to be inspected.

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

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

The Board again discussed a request to detach the Golf Course from The Preserves at Cardinal Creek. The Ordinance has not yet been drafted. Staff is awaiting a legal description on what is being purchased. Matter was deferred until a legal description is obtained.

A status was provided on vacant downtown buildings. Buchmeiers have made progress on the items on the list of concerns provided by the Village. The old Wehmhoffer building is in the process of being repaired. Staff is still trying to set up a meeting with Glen Abney to discuss his building, but an extended illness has preventing this meeting from happening.

President Szymanski stated that he has contacted Cardinal Creek Golf Course about the conditions of some of their buildings.

**D. PUBLIC SAFETY COMMITTEE**

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

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

Administrator Barber reported that Public Works will probably spray for mosquitoes for another one to two weeks due to the warmer weather.

President Szymanski reported that area mayors are pushing to convert older railcars to newer railcars so they don't leak and are safer in local communities and requested approval of a Resolution regarding this.

RESOLUTION #2014-12 -A Resolution supporting enhanced regulations of rail transports of flammable materials. Trustee Kuhlman made a motion to adopt Resolution #2014-12. Trustee Wehling seconded the motion.

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

NAYS: (0) None.

Motion Carried.

Chief Weissgerber reported that the Police Department is still accepting applications for the "Citizens Police Academy" through the end of the week. There are still a few openings.

#### **E. PUBLIC WORKS COMMITTEE**

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

The Water Billing Register for the months of July and August were provided in the packet for review.

Administrator Barber provided a report on leak detection. Two proposals have been received. A pre-con meeting is scheduled for Thursday.

A report was provided on watermain patch repairs. A proposal has been signed from All Pro Paving to finish the patch repairs.

There is a need to do two valve replacements on Penfield Street. This will be a night time dig with water being turned off in the overnight hours and service restored by morning if all goes well. No date is set but affected residents will be notified. It was discussed that it is possible that a problem with one of the valves may be causing jetting in the main and contributing to the watermain breaks in the area.

A report was provided on replacement of the 2004 utility truck. A new truck has been ordered but not yet built. The other truck is currently in Bartlett getting the bed replaced. The existing blue truck will then be only used as a barricade truck.

The 2001 mini-dump will soon be going in for a paint job.

Leaf pickup is scheduled to begin Monday, October 13<sup>th</sup>.

Administrator Barber provided a report on the Penfield Street STP project. The project has been funded by the Will County Governmental League Transportation Committee. Our project scored 58.6 out of 120 points and will be placed into the fourth or fifth year of the program. Phase I engineering will be completed this coming year, Phase II will have to begin in 2017, with construction occurring in 2018 or 2019.

About 2:30 p.m. on Saturday, September 20<sup>th</sup> there was a storm that caused a lot of tree damage. That day Public Works came out to clean up storm damage to clear roads and today they picked up the large amount of storm damage. All cleanup should be completed on Tuesday.

#### **F. ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT AND COMMUNITY RELATIONS COMMITTEE**

Clerk Conner reported on the website redesign. An overall look of the website has been approved and Webfoot is moving forward with the basic design. Staff will be working with Webfoot to determine the navigation buttons and pages that will be placed on the site. The Clerk would like to have pictures taken of the Village Board for the website.

Trustee Meyer provided a fall newsletter update. There has been some discussion that the newsletter is becoming stale with repeating the same articles over and over. Trustee Meyer said people would like to see some new news and information. President Szymanski said maybe an article should be done about our permanent bathrooms in Firemen's Park and the vandalism problems. President Szymanski discussed the suggestions of putting a camera in and expressed concerns about an invasion of privacy of those coming and going from the bathrooms. Administrator Barber suggested an "Ask the Village" column or Village President's corner and address some questions of interest residents are asking around town or on Facebook. President Szymanski will have a column answering those types of questions. Trustee Wehling noted not to forget the Veteran's Memorial or Ribbon of Hope bricks for sale to support those causes.

A way-finding sign update was provided. Trustee Meyer showed some examples of signs for Indiana Avenue and also on Dixie Highway. The Committee is still looking for locations and looking at the costs for these signs.

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

President Szymanski reported that he attended a Mayor's roundtable with Governor Quinn. Issues discussed included Illiana Expressway and South Suburban Airport among other items. Nothing new was learned at the meeting.

Results of a meeting with State Representative Elgie Sims was provided. Several residents came in and talked to Mr. Sims about pension issues, etc. President Szymanski talked to Representative Sims about needing money for various projects in the Village including ballpark lights, sidewalks, streets, generator, and a sign for the Village Hall. Mr. Sims will be sent a priority list.

There has been much discussion that Cardinal Creek Golf Course has been sold. Staff doesn't believe it has been sold yet but there is confidence that it will be sold.

President Szymanski reported that he, Administrator Barber, Trustee Kypuros and Clerk Conner went to the Illinois Municipal League (IML) conference. Discussions were held during the conference with ComEd on ballfield lights and with Sensus about water meter problems. Many sessions were attended. Board members were encouraged to go to the IML website and download conference materials. Administrator Barber also provided to the appropriate Trustees a copy of some materials he obtained at the conference.

Administrator Barber noted that he may not be able to attend the next Board meeting due to his son's sectionals, and wanted to inform the Board.

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

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

NAYS: (0) None.

Motion Carried.

Meeting adjourned at 7:31 p.m.

Respectfully submitted by:



Janett Conner  
Village Clerk