

**MINUTES OF THE REGULAR MEETING OF THE PRESIDENT  
& BOARD OF TRUSTEES OF THE VILLAGE OF BEECHER  
HELD AT THE BEECHER DEPOT,  
620 REED STREET, BEECHER, ILLINOIS  
MARCH 9, 2015 -- 7:00 P.M.**

All present joined in the Pledge to the Flag.

President Szymanski called the meeting to order and noted that this meeting in the depot/museum is to bring awareness to the museum. President Szymanski recognized and thanked volunteers Don Sala, Arnold Cooper and Virginia Bath for their work on the depot/museum.

**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, Treasurer Kim Koutsky, Deputy Treasurer Nelson Collins and Superintendent of Public Works Bud Cowger.

**GUESTS:** George Schuitema, Roberta Patzer, Virginia Bath, Don Sala, Arnold Cooper, Dan Walsh, Linda Thompson and Thomas Brislane.

**RECOGNITION OF GUESTS:** President Szymanski reported on the closing of Cardinal Creek Golf Course stating that the bank has informed the Village that it was not going to open this season. The bank plans to continue marketing the sale of the golf course. President Szymanski discussed with the bank maintenance of the property and of the ponds but he has no answers on this as of now. He stated that there are still no plans for development of the golf course property and the Board will let residents know if this is proposed. It is the intent of the Village Board to keep the property as open space. A resident asked about the grass getting too tall. President Szymanski noted that the land is zoned as open space so it is not subject to the Village's high weed ordinance. The Village is trying to work with the bank and homeowner's associations to try and get some of the property mowed. President Szymanski felt there is much more of a chance for the golf course coming back if the grass is maintained. The existing PUD is in effect until 2021 which doesn't allow development. There were some questions about some empty lots and ownership and zoning. A resident in the audience questioned about the aeration of the ponds and President Szymanski said he will be asking the bank to keep up the aeration on the ponds. Since there would be no activity on the golf course, police protection was questioned. Some residents felt if it becomes abandoned it will attract nuisances and possible illegal activity and kids will be attracted to it. The matter will be discussed

with the bank and Chief Weissgerber. Chief Weissgerber noted that the Village needs to get permission from the property owners to do enforcement of the property. President Szymanski referred residents to check the Village website and updates will be provided there or call the Village Hall if they have any questions.

### **REPORTS OF VILLAGE COMMISSIONS**

Trustee Ahrendt reported that the next Beautification Commission meeting will be held on March 10<sup>th</sup>.

Trustee Kuhlman reported on the Fourth of July Commission. Bid notices have gone out for the 2015 raffle car and one bid has been received.

Trustee Kypuros reported on the Mom-Son Dance held on Saturday. Approximately 225 people attended. The next event is scheduled for April at the Lynwood Roller Rink.

There was nothing to report on the Ribbon of Hope Commission or the Historic Preservation Commission.

### **A. FINANCE AND ADMINISTRATION COMMITTEE**

**TREASURER'S REPORT:** A copy of the Treasurer's report was provided to the Board for review and the Treasurer was present to answer questions. Trustee Cleary made a motion to approve the Treasurer's Report and the Report of Financial Activity in the prior month. Trustee Meyer seconded the motion.

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

NAYS: (0) None.

Motion Carried.

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

A list of bills totalling \$78,979.05 to be paid was available for review. A summary of the list of bills was provided. Trustee Cleary noted that he held the bill on page 8 of the bills to Staybridge Suites because the expense hasn't been incurred yet. Superintendent Cowger reported that the check is to pay for the hotel for his water conference this month and he takes the check to the hotel when he goes to pay for the room, since he doesn't have a Village credit card. There were no objections to paying this bill.

Trustee Cleary also asked Superintendent Cowger about the Associated Technical Service bill for water leak detection. Trustee Cleary asked if Superintendent Cowger received the report and if it's complete and the bill can be paid. Superintendent Cowger said he has finally received a copy of the report. Trustee Kypuros noted that he and Administrator Barber spoke to the company and told them the Village was unhappy with how long it took to get the project going and the timeliness of getting

g

the report. Trustee Kypuros wouldn't recommend using them again. There was a limited selection on the companies that do this kind of work but it was decided to try a different company that was used in the past to get a different set of eyes to look at our water loss problem. The Village has worked with ME Simpson in the past and was happier with their work. The bill will be paid as shown on the bill list.

Trustee Cleary made a motion to approve payment of the list of bills in the amount of \$78,979.05 as presented. Trustee Meyer seconded the motion.

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

NAYS: (0) None.

Motion Carried.

The Board considered payment of a bill from the 625 Dixie Highway Account. Trustee Wehling made a motion to approve payment of a bill to Midwest Glass in the amount of \$746.30 for a new one-way window for the Police Department lobby. Trustee Ahrendt seconded the motion.

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

NAYS: (0) None.

Motion Carried.

The Board considered a Resolution urging the Governor and General Assembly to protect full funding of Local Government Distributive Fund (LGDF) revenues. Trustee Cleary explained the Resolution in the packet that Governor Rauner is threatening to cut our LGDF money in his proposed state budget. The Governor has threatened this action, but hasn't done it yet. The Village could annually lose \$215,770.50 if the Governor takes half. There is also a chance the Governor could take the full amount (\$431,541). A hearing was held in Chicago earlier in the day pertaining to this matter, but President Szymanski couldn't attend and hasn't heard the results.

RESOLUTION #2015-01 - A Resolution urging the Governor and General Assembly to protect full funding of Local Government Distributive Fund revenues. Trustee Cleary made a motion to adopt Resolution #2015-01. Trustee Kypuros seconded the motion.

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

NAYS: (0) None.

Motion Carried.

The Board considered a proposal to conduct a quiet zone feasibility study by HR Green in the amount of \$2,750. The Village President requested proposals from four engineering firms for the completion of a feasibility study for a quiet zone through Beecher. Three firms submitted proposals, and one declined. The proposals were provided in the packet for review. Staff does not have factual information on this yet. President Szymanski asked the Board if they wish to inquire further into this matter. Staff would like to have this in place in case some grant funds may be available at some time in the future, but the Village will not use money that may be set aside for infrastructure improvements. Trustee Kypuros questioned drastic differences in proposals, and if the Village is getting the same types of services. Administrator Barber reported that some firms will do a full-blown package, but HR Green's proposal was a more basic proposal since it is still preliminary and the Village is not yet ready to move forward. Trustee Cleary asked if the Village went back to any

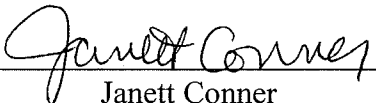
of the other firms to verify what type of proposal we are looking for. Some issues were discussed about the Indiana Avenue crossing and the farm vehicles that need to cross there and how this could affect the quiet zone. Previously, when the Board looked into this, it appeared to be much more costly because it appeared to be a larger project. More information has been obtained since then so the costs are more realistic. Trustee Kypuros made a motion to approve a proposal to conduct a quiet zone feasibility study by HR Green in the amount of \$2,750. Trustee Cleary seconded the motion. AYES: (6) Trustees Cleary, Ahrendt, Meyer, Kypuros, Kuhlman and Wehling. NAYS: (0) None. Motion Carried.

Administrator Barber reported that after the Board meeting, museum representatives will give a tour of the facility for those who are interested.

There being no further business, President Szymanski asked for a motion to adjourn. Trustee Cleary 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 7:35 p.m.

Respectfully submitted by:

  
\_\_\_\_\_  
Janett Conner  
Village Clerk