



**MINUTES OF THE REGULAR MEETING OF THE PRESIDENT
& BOARD OF TRUSTEES OF THE VILLAGE OF BEECHER
HELD AT THE BEECHER VILLAGE HALL,
625 DIXIE HIGHWAY, BEECHER, ILLINOIS
JUNE 22, 2015 -- 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 Kypuros, Wehling, Kuhlman, Basile and Meyer.

ABSENT: Trustee Ahrendt.

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

GUESTS: Erica Dodt, Lenore Fink, Don Sala, Brian Cleary and Stacy Mazurek.

President Szymanski asked for consideration of the minutes of the June 8, 2015 Board meeting. Trustee Kypuros made a motion to approve the minutes as written. Trustee Meyer seconded the motion.

AYES: (5) Trustees Kypuros, Wehling, Kuhlman, Basile and Meyer.

NAYS: (0) None.

Motion Carried.

CLERK'S REPORT: 1) A report on income received since the last meeting was provided.
2) Board members were asked who planned to ride in the Fourth of July parade.

RECOGNITION OF GUESTS: Ms. Erica Dodt from the Sierra Club was present and asked the Board to pass a Resolution opposing the Illiana Expressway and asking the State to rescind the record of decision on the Illiana so the people affected by this aren't kept in limbo. She explained her organization's reasons for opposition to the Illiana. The Governor has put the project on hold. President Szymanski asked why they didn't also ask for opposition to the airport. He also explained that the Village previously passed a Resolution that it should only be built if it is financially feasible and has no negative impacts, so essentially the Village no longer supports it under the current circumstances. Trustees Kypuros and Meyer spoke in opposition to passing this resolution. A survey was done of Village residents in 2011 and 65% voted in favor of the Illiana. All Board members expressed concerns about the truck traffic that goes through the Village and how the Illiana could alleviate some of this traffic and accidents on Route #1. The Board members agreed that it is most important that a decision be made so the affected residents know what will happen.

Resident Stacy Mazurek asked about tree removal. A tree in her parkway was marked to be removed last year. She asked for a timeline for when it will be removed. Administrator Barber said it probably won't be removed until after the 4th of July. Superintendent Cowger also explained it depends on the size of the tree since Public Works isn't able to take down some of the larger trees. A contractor would have to be hired for the larger trees.

A. FINANCE AND ADMINISTRATION COMMITTEE

ORDINANCE #1226 - An Ordinance establishing a prevailing rate of wage for Fiscal Year 2015/2016. Trustee Meyer made a motion to approve Ordinance #1226. Trustee Kypuros seconded the motion.

AYES: (5) Trustees Kypuros, Wehling, Kuhlman, Basile and Meyer.

NAYS: (0) None.

Motion Carried.

The Village audit of Fiscal Year 2014/2015 is scheduled to begin on July 9th.

B. PUBLIC BUILDINGS AND PROPERTIES, PARKS AND RECREATION COMMITTEE

Trustee Wehling provided an update on the "due to" from Park Fund to General Fund.

The Firemen's Park ballfield lighting project has been completed. There is one light that still needs to be adjusted.

Firemen's #2 scoreboard is up and operating. Trustee Wehling thanked everyone involved with this project.

Superintendent Cowger reported on the Welton Stedt Park ballfield. Beecher Recreation requested the Village restore the fields so they were playable. Two fields were made playable but the two north fields still need to be done to make them usable. He would also like to put up a 4 foot fence in the outfield. There are still some holes and uneven ground so one field's not usable for games but can be used for practice. The Parks Committee will continue to work on this in the future.

An update was provided on the Buddy Bench program. Ten new benches have arrived. Trustee Wehling met with Kayla Dousias this morning. Public Works has decided on locations for the ten benches and a volunteer will install them.

C. PLANNING, BUILDING AND ZONING COMMITTEE

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

The Illiana Expressway project has been placed on a more permanent hold, for perhaps at least five years. This removes any hopes of the Village renewing the land use planning process with the IDOT grant that the State cancelled.

The Board considered an application for a community planning program and local technical assistance program funds for the completion of a comprehensive land use plan for the Village of Beecher. Administrator Barber explained the positives and negatives of the program which is done through CMAP. There were concerns previously about CMAP doing these plans because they are more involved in urban planning and we are a much more rural community and have different planning ideas. Trustee Kypuros felt if it's something we need to do that he'd rather have someone of our choosing do it instead of being told who we have to use. Teska had started on a plan until the State pulled funding when the new Governor took office. President Szymanski felt we should wait on this for now.

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. Trustee Kuhlman and Administrator Barber commented that the monthly code enforcement report was excellent.

ORDINANCE #1227 - An Ordinance adopting an amended Emergency Response Plan for the Village. Trustee Kuhlman made a motion to approve Ordinance #1227. Trustee Wehling seconded the motion. This Plan was last updated in 2011.

AYES: (5) Trustees Kypuros, Wehling, Kuhlman, Basile and Meyer.

NAYS: (0) None.

Motion Carried.

The Board considered an Ordinance creating new noise regulations for the Village after it was found that the municipal code only regulated construction noise. This will give the Police Department guidance as to what they can enforce relating to noise. The Chief felt it was a good Ordinance but expressed concerns about the decibel meters and whether a smartphone app would measure noise accurately or whether we would need to buy a noise meter.

ORDINANCE#1228 - An Ordinance creating new noise regulations. Trustee Kuhlman made a motion to approve Ordinance #1228. Trustee Basile seconded the motion.

AYES: (5) Trustees Kypuros, Wehling, Kuhlman, Basile and Meyer.

NAYS: (0) None.

Motion Carried.

Chief Weissgerber reported that the Police Department is finishing up enforcement of the dog tag ordinance. Final enforcement is being planned. The Department is also planning for the 4th of July festival. There should be 5-6 officers from Will County for the festival.

E. PUBLIC WORKS COMMITTEE

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

Superintendent Cowger reported about the water leak found on Ash Street. There seems to be some confusion that this had been leaking for a few years but it wasn't leaking that long. Superintendent

Cowger is still working on listening for leaks on individual service lines which will take some time, stating such leaks can be difficult to find.

The Board was reminded about the water rate increase effective with the July water bill. The increase will help fund the replacement of watermains.

Superintendent Cowger provided an asphalt restoration update. The paving company was out last week and did asphalt restorations at locations in the Village where patching and repairs needed to be done, such as where water main breaks had occurred. Another bill will be forthcoming for two more patches. Everything is done.

A report on Fairway Drive resurfacing was provided. Administrator Barber said he is waiting for the pre-con meeting for a schedule.

The ComEd 2014 Annual Report was provided in the packet for review.

The Village's application for storm water discharge (MS4) permit from the Illinois Environmental Protection Agency (IEPA) was provided in the packet for review.

RESOLUTION #2015-07 - A Resolution regarding Village work in State rights of way and the assurance of property safety procedures and restorations. Trustee Kypuros made a motion to adopt Resolution #2015-07. Trustee Wehling seconded the motion.

AYES: (5) Trustees Kypuros, Wehling, Kuhlman, Basile and Meyer.

NAYS: (0) None.

Motion Carried.

The Board considered a formal parkway tree planting policy for residents. This would allow residents to plant trees in parkways to replace the many dead trees that have been taken down. The Village is three years behind on replacing parkway trees due to the cost. This policy will allow residents to plant their own parkway trees as long as it is within the Village's approved tree list and the size designated by the Village. Trustee Kuhlman asked about the wording in the policy relating to the trees being five feet from the sidewalk, which may place it too close to the curb in some circumstances. This policy is mirrored after Naperville's policy. It was decided to remove the requirement under #1 in the policy relating to the tree being five feet from the sidewalk, and create an application that residents should fill out before the tree is purchased. All tree locations must be approved by Public Works prior to purchasing and planting of the tree. Trustee Kypuros made a motion to approve the tree policy as amended. Trustee Wehling seconded the motion.

AYES: (5) Trustees Kypuros, Wehling, Kuhlman, Basile and Meyer.

NAYS: (0) None.

Motion Carried.

F. ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT AND COMMUNITY RELATIONS COMMITTEE

Trustee Basile reported on the Village's new Communication Policy established for Village officials and staff. This is a policy that affects how NIXLE, Code Spear, the Smartphone app, Facebook and

the Village's website are to be used. Administrator Barber encouraged residents to sign up with NIXLE to receive fast notification of weather warnings.

Trustee Basile provided a report on Gould Street buildings. It is believed that Bill Salmen purchased the Somewhere in Time and Teapots Café buildings, in addition to the old Wehmhoefer hardware store building. The hardware store building has been blueprinted and permitted for a ceramic arts center and a living unit. The Teapots Café and Somewhere in Time buildings are planned to be a restaurant/bar venue, perhaps being joined by a common hallway.

It was reported that Village staff met with representatives of Rinky's Café who expressed an interest in locating a small restaurant with beer and wine and five video poker machines on Dixie Highway. They would serve breakfast, lunch and sandwiches for dinner, and were asked to consider gourmet coffees. This type of business meets Village zoning and business regulations and President Szymanski would need to consider the liquor license.

G. VILLAGE PRESIDENT'S REPORT

President Szymanski provided an update on the golf course. He met with the prospective manager and owner and is encouraged by what was said at that meeting. It is still hoped that the golf course would open in six weeks, depending on the weather. The new owners hope to provide an upscale banquet hall once renovations are done.

President Szymanski provided a copy and read aloud the rest of his appointments of Village officials and Commissions, as follows:

Village President Pro-Tem: Scott Wehling

Finance and Administration Committee:

Chair: Marcy Meyer
Co-Chair: Jonathan Kypuros

Public Safety Committee:

Chair: Ron Kuhlman
Co-Chair: Gayle Ahrendt

Public Works Committee:

Chair: Jonathan Kypuros
Co-Chair: Frank Basile

Economic Development and Community Relations Committee:

Chair: Frank Basile
Co-Chair: Marcy Meyer

Public Buildings and Properties, Parks and Recreation:

Chair: Scott Wehling
Co-Chair: Ron Kuhlman

Planning, Building and Zoning:

Chair: Gayle Ahrendt
Co-Chair: Scott Wehling

ESDA Coordinator: Robert Barber
Village Administrator and Zoning Administrator and Economic Development: Robert Barber
Village Clerk: Janett Conner
Village Prosecutor: Tom Knuth
Village Corporate Counsel: Tim Kuiper, Austgen and Kuiper, P.C.
Village Treasurer: Kim Koutsky
Deputy Treasurer: Donna Rooney
Code Enforcement Officer: Aaron DaCorte
IML Delegate: Greg Szymanski
Chief of Police: Jeff Weissgerber
Public Works Supt.: Harold "Bud" Cowger
Building Department Services: Independent Inspection Services, Inc.
Deputy Treasurer: Nelson Collins (Fourth of July Commission only)
EASTCOM Board of Directors: Member: Greg Szymanski, Alternate: Robert Barber
Planning and Zoning Commission Secretary: Patty Meyer
Joint Fuel Committee: Greg Szymanski and Robert Barber
Village Engineer: Baxter and Woodman: (project engineers TBD on a case by case basis)

Planning and Zoning Commission:

Gayle Ahrendt: Village Liaison
Paul Lohmann (term expires 5/1/17)
Althea Machtemes (term expires 5/1/17)
Bill Hearn (term expires 5/1/18)
Phil Serviss (term expires 5/1/18)
George Schuitema (term expires 5/1/18)
Denis Tatgenhorst (term expires 5/1/16)
Kevin Bouchard (term expires 5/1/16)

Beautification Commission (12 members):

Gayle Ahrendt, Village Liaison
Steve Weishaar
George Obradovich
Jessica Treco
Andrew Ahrendt
Melissa Ohlendorf
Sandy Lohmann
Paula Weishaar
Paul Lohmann
Jean Smith
Christine Coats
Amy Smith

Fourth of July Commission (7 to 20 members):

Brad Coats	Larry Cox	
Ron Kuhlman, Village Liaison	Bill Voss	Barb Hodgett
Jonathan Kypuros	Chuck Hoehn	Steve Koehn
Jerry Meyer	Greg Ohlendorf	
Patty Meyer	Nelson Collins	Robert Barber
Joe Gardner	Bruce Becker	Laura Voss
Kevin Bouchard	Marcy Meyer	George Obradovich

Beecher Youth Commission (7 to 12 members):

Jonathan Kypuros, Village Liaison	Laura Irwin
Kyle Mose	Ben Jones
Elizabeth Delgado	Jeanette Chose
Teri Kasput	Roger Sipple, ex-officio
Heather Graham	
Trish Moran	
Brandy Flores	

Historic Preservation Commission (7 members):

Scott Wehling, Village Liaison
Paul Lohmann
Ken Hameister
Don Sala
Arnie Cooper

Ribbon of Hope Commission (7 to 11 members):

Frank Basile, Village Liaison	Howard Perry
Dean Bettenhausen	Chris Szymanski
Barbara Hodgett	Myra Kocsis
Susan Sebastian	
Mike Stanula	

Trustee Wehling made a motion to approve President Szymanski's 2015/2016 appointments.

Trustee Kypuros seconded the motion.

AYES: (5) Trustees Kypuros, Wehling, Kuhlman, Basile and Meyer.

NAYS: (0) None.

Motion Carried.

State Representative Elgie Sims will be holding office hours at the Village Hall from 10 am to noon on July 30th.

President Szymanski requested an executive session at the end of the meeting to discuss pending litigation pertaining to Pine Street flooding.

Administrator Barber informed the Board about a house going up on Forest Drive that doesn't have all first floor brick. All first floor brick was agreed to by five previous builders but the property is now in the hands of another builder. There was an intention at one time to approve a covenant in this subdivision to require all first floor brick but it never was done and now the Village has no legal grounds to require it. Administrator Barber has had some residents expressing concerns about this home and wanted to keep the Board informed.

There being no further business to be discussed in regular session, Trustee Kypuros made a motion to adjourn into executive session at 8:11 p.m. to discuss pending litigation pertaining to Pine Street flooding. Trustee Wehling seconded the motion.

AYES: (5) Trustees Kypuros, Wehling, Kuhlman, Basile and Meyer.

NAYS: (0) None.

Motion Carried.

Trustee Wehling made a motion to return to regular session at 8:27 p.m. Trustee Kuhlman seconded the motion.

AYES: (5) Trustees Kypuros, Wehling, Kuhlman, Basile and Meyer.

NAYS: (0) None.

Motion Carried.

H. NEW BUSINESS

Trustee Wehling commented that the mosquitoes are bad and asked Superintendent Cowger about the status of mosquito spraying. Public Works will drop more briquets and will do additional sprayings if necessary.

President Szymanski is now the Secretary/Treasurer of the Will County Governmental League and is now on the Executive Board of the South Suburban Mayors and Managers organization.

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

AYES: (5) Trustees Kypuros, Wehling, Kuhlman, Basile and Meyer.

NAYS: (0) None.

Motion Carried.

Meeting adjourned at 8:31 p.m.

Respectfully submitted by:



Janett Conner
Village Clerk