

**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  
JULY 27, 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 Ahrendt, Kypuros, Wehling, Kuhlman, Basile and Meyer.

**ABSENT:** None.

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

**GUESTS:** George Schuitema, Nelson Collins, Christine Szymanski, Stacy Mazurek and Ray Koenig.

President Szymanski asked for consideration of the minutes of the July 13, 2015 Board meeting. Trustee Wehling made a motion to approve the minutes as written. Trustee Ahrendt seconded the motion.

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

**NAYS:** (0) None.

Motion Carried.

**RECOGNITION OF GUESTS:** None.

**A. FINANCE AND ADMINISTRATION COMMITTEE**

An audit update was provided. Field work is nearing completion and the audit will be considered at the October 12<sup>th</sup> Board meeting.

The five-year financial plan process is set to begin. The plan will be released around Thanksgiving.

The annual Treasurer's report was published in the paper the first week of July, 2015.

Dashboard reports for the Illinois Personnel Benefits Cooperative (IPBC) were provided in the packet for review.

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

An update was provided on vandalism to Village Parks. Replacement parts have been ordered for the damaged swings. The Police Department had no new information on this matter.

According to Trustee Wehling, Buddy Benches have been installed in Water Tower Park, Prairie Crossings, Nantucket Cove and at Buddys.

Trustee Wehling reported that the Firemen's #1 ballfield lighting project has been completed. The final grant check has not yet been received from the State of Illinois.

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

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

Administrator Barber reported on the Planning and Zoning Commission meeting. Bill DeJong was approved for a public hearing on August 20<sup>th</sup> regarding his request for display of agricultural equipment across the street from DeJong Equipment on Dixie Highway. DeJong has submitted plans for drainage and for a planned entrance off of Route #1.

Administrator Barber provided an update on the Beecher Manor Nursing Home expansion project. The blueprint has already been approved but a meeting will be held between the Beecher Manor architect and an engineer with Baxter and Woodman. There is a need to get some issues resolved that couldn't be agreed upon, in regards to water detention, water service and hydrants.

ORDINANCE #1229 - An Ordinance amending the Municipal Code for a five foot (5') setback for pools. Trustee Ahrendt made a motion to approve Ordinance #1229. Trustee Kuhlman seconded the motion.

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

NAYS: (0) None.

Motion Carried.

## **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.

Chief Weissgerber reported on security over the 4<sup>th</sup> of July weekend. There was nothing major to report. A few minor incidents were reported and handled. Beecher Police did their own traffic control this year. Chief Weissgerber felt the way the carnival was set up this year helped in moving traffic out of town faster. Questions were asked about parking issues on Penfield Street in front of the Police Department and Post Office due to the change of carnival location. Chief Weissgerber felt it worked well.

Administrator Barber reported on the results of a regional ESDA meeting. Will County is looking at creating a regional emergency management operations plan involving surrounding communities. Some issues between the different plans of Will County and Cook County communities are being worked out. It will probably be at least a year until this issues are resolved.

Administrator Barber reported that mosquito spraying occurs every Thursday night unless it rains, then it is conducted the next day. Spraying will continue.

The Board discussed authorizing a letter be sent to the Illinois Department of Transportation (IDOT) requesting the posting of signs for no left turns on Dixie Highway, north of Church Road. Northbound left turn movements into the Circle K gas station are very dangerous. Trustee Wehling asked where the signage would be since there is already a lot going on in that area. Chief Weissgerber reported that State would need to put some type of barrier in the road for this. Chief Weissgerber stated that he would like it to be done because it is a safety issue and traffic gets bottlenecked when someone tries to turn left into the north entrance when going northbound. Trustee Kuhlman made a motion to approve authorizing a letter be sent to IDOT requesting the posting of signs for no left turns on Dixie Highway, north of Church Road. Trustee Ahrendt seconded the motion.

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

NAYS: (0) None.

Motion Carried.

The Village has been denied a ComEd/NSC grant for installation of a generator. President Szymanski said he is looking for alternatives.

#### **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 May and June were provided in the packet for review.

Trustee Kypuros tabled items pertaining to leak detection, Fairway Drive resurfacing and ash tree removal until Superintendent Cowger would be present to provide a report.

Trustee Kuhlman asked when the Fairway Drive resurfacing would be done. The construction signs have gone up but hasn't seen any work being done. Administrator Barber said there is a separate contractor that puts up the signs. It is anticipated that work will begin the last week in July.

The street banner change from patriotic banners to summer banners is underway.

Administrator Barber reported on the Safe Routes to Schools grant. The project is still on target for an April, 2016 letting of bids.

The Village has received a five-year operating permit for the wastewater treatment plant. Administrator Barber said this is good news since staff was concerned our permit would have conditions placed on it.

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The Board considered an engineering services agreement for a Phase I feasibility study for the expansion and rehab of the Beecher wastewater treatment plant. Ray Koenig from Baxter and Woodman was present to answer any questions. Mr. Koenig said this is required to move forward with this project. The project was budgeted using water and sewer debt service funds and was discussed by the Public Works Committee, Finance Committee and at the Village Board budget workshop. Trustee Kypuros made a motion to approve an engineer services agreement in the amount of \$50,000 with Baxter and Woodman for a Phase I feasibility study for the expansion and rehab of the Beecher wastewater treatment plant. Trustee Wehling seconded the motion.

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

NAYS: (0) None.

Motion Carried.

Trustee Kypuros made a motion to approve an engineering services agreement with Baxter and Woodman in an amount not to exceed \$101,000 for the design, IEPA permit and loan application, and construction and observation for the Penfield watermain replacement project. Trustee Meyer seconded the motion.

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

NAYS: (0) None.

Motion Carried.

President Szymanski commented that the IEPA is changing the rules again on these loans. They changed from a 30-year loan to a 20-year loan so the Village needs to get this done before it changes again.

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

Administrator Barber reported that it is believed that three buildings on Gould Street have been purchased by Bill Salmen: Teapots, Somewhere in Time and the old hardware store. The old hardware store will become a ceramic shop with a rental apartment upstairs, the lean-to may be an open area to be utilized for different uses such as some type of picture gallery, consignment or place for special events. Somewhere in Time is to be made into a bar/tavern. Teapots may be joined with the bar by some type of walkway and perhaps be a restaurant. All buildings are being worked on and it will take some time to get the repairs done. President Szymanski noted that the Village may have to invest in that area in the future for items such as adding railings, lighting, etc., once the owners make improvements.

Trustee Basile made a motion authorizing an amendment to the Personnel Manual pertaining to social media. Trustee Meyer seconded the motion.

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

NAYS: (0) None.

Motion Carried.

Board members were asked for suggestions for what they would like to put in the Fall Village newsletter.

**G. VILLAGE PRESIDENT'S REPORT**

State Representative Elgie Sims will be holding office hours in the Village Hall on July 30<sup>th</sup> from 10 a.m. until noon. Anyone wishing to attend can come in and speak with him. He will also be visiting some businesses in town afterwards.

President Szymanski reported on Governor Rauner's visit to El Consuelo Ranch that he, Trustee Basile and Clerk Conner attended. It was a nationwide rodeo being held in Beecher for their finals. The Governor and Senator Sandoval was also there and the Lt. Governor attended on Sunday. It was a pleasure to attend and it was a very nice event.

President Szymanski will be traveling to Washington, DC as an officer with the Will County Governmental League the end of September for lobbying.

President Szymanski asked the Board to reconsider the meeting minutes of June 22, 2015 because the appointments made at that meeting were different than the appointments on that set of minutes, plus there needed to be a couple of changes to the appointments. Trustee Wehling made a motion to reconsider the minutes of the June 22, 2015 minutes. Trustee Ahrendt seconded the motion.

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

NAYS: (0) None.

Motion Carried.

The Board considered approving changes to the list of appointments. Some Commissioners have resigned and Jan VanRamshorst was left off the list so she needs to be added. Trustee Wehling made a motion to approve changes to the list of appointments. Trustee Kypuros seconded the motion.

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

NAYS: (0) None.

Motion Carried.

The complete list of 2015 appointments is as follows:

*(appointed 5-11-2015)*

**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, 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

*(appointed 6-22-2015)*

**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:**

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

Jan Vanramshorst (*appointed 7-27-15*)

Sandy Lohmann

Paula Weishaar

Paul Lohmann

Jean Smith

Christine Coats

Amy Smith

The next Intergovernmental Committee meeting is scheduled for Wednesday, August 26<sup>th</sup> at 7:00 p.m. at the Washington Township Center.

President Szymanski requested a closed session be held after Old and New Business to discuss land (easement) acquisition for stormwater drainage.

**H. OLD BUSINESS**

Clerks Report: Clerk Conner provided a report on income received since the last meeting.

**H. NEW BUSINESS**

President Szymanski announced the new sign installed among the flags next to the Village Hall. The sign was paid for and donated by the A's R Us group. It is a very nice sign with historical photos of the Village. Board members were encouraged to take a close look at it.

There being no further business to discuss in open session, Trustee Ahrendt made a motion to adjourn into executive session at 7:39 p.m. to discuss land (easement) acquisition for stormwater drainage. Trustee Wehling seconded the motion.

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

NAYS: (0) None.

Motion Carried.

Trustee Kypuros made a motion to return to regular session at 8:20 p.m. Trustee Ahrendt seconded the motion.

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

NAYS: (0) None.

Motion Carried.

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

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

NAYS: (0) None.

Motion Carried.

Meeting adjourned at 8:20 p.m.

Respectfully submitted by:

  

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Janett Conner  
Village Clerk