

**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
JANUARY 9, 2017 -- 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, Treasurer Lynne Orr, Public Works Crew Leader Matt Conner and Superintendent of Public Works Bud Cowger.

GUEST: George Schuitema, Chris Snedeker, Stacy Mazurek and Matthew Schwartz.

President Szymanski asked for consideration of the minutes of the December 12, 2016 Board meeting. Trustee Kypuros made a motion to approve the minutes as written. Trustee Basile seconded the motion.

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

NAYS: (0) None.

Motion Carried.

REPORTS OF VILLAGE COMMISSIONS

Trustee Ahrendt reported that the Beautification meeting for January 10th has been cancelled and rescheduled for March 14th.

Trustee Kuhlman reported on the Fourth of July Commission. The next meeting is scheduled for February. The Commission is still looking for commissioners.

Trustee Kypuros reported that the next Youth Commission event is bowling at Pin and Tonic on January 16th.

Trustee Basile reported the next Ribbon of Hope Commission meeting is scheduled for January 12th at the Village Hall.

Trustee Wehling reported that the next Historic Preservation Commission meeting will be held on the third Tuesday of the month at 10:00 a.m. at the Depot.

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 Meyer made a motion to approve the Treasurer's Report and the Report of Financial Activity in the prior month. Trustee Kypuros seconded the motion.

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

NAYS: (0) None.

Motion Carried.

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

A list of bills totalling \$190,885.83 to be paid was available for review. A summary of the list of bills was provided. Trustee Meyer made a motion to approve payment of the list of bills as presented. Trustee Wehling seconded the motion.

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

NAYS: (0) None.

Motion Carried.

Administrator Barber provided a report on the issue of General Obligation Bonds using MidState Bank in Bloomington. Midstate will recommend a proposal and structure for this. The plan is to refinance for a 15-16 year time frame. The Finance Committee met with MidState Bank to go over the options they presented. The total cost of the bonds if refinanced will be less than if the bonds are not refinanced. Overall savings were estimated at \$22,000-\$30,000. Administrator Barber noted that this is not issuing new debt, just refinancing old debt.

ORDINANCE #1254 - An Ordinance providing for the issue of not to exceed \$1,050,000 General Obligation Refunding Bonds, Series 2017, of the Village of Beecher, Will County, Illinois for the purpose of refunding certain outstanding bonds of said Village, providing for the levy and collection of a direct annual tax sufficient to pay the principal and interest on said refunding bonds, authorizing and directing the execution of an escrow agreement in connection with the issue of said bonds, and authorizing the sale of said bonds to the purchaser thereof. Trustee Meyer made a motion to approve Ordinance #1254. Trustee Kypuros seconded the motion.

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

NAYS: (0) None.

Motion Carried.

Trustee Meyer reported on the five-year financial plan which was recommended for approval by the Committee.

President Szymanski provided details of the proposed Crete Intermodal. CSX Railroad put in a bid to buy the property west of Balmoral Race Track for the intermodal project. This project was proposed ten years ago and was dropped due to the economy. A letter was sent to CSX expressing concerns about the impact of this project on Beecher including the staging of trains, blocking crossings, truck traffic and noise as well as other concerns. The letter to CSX has been posted on the Village website for anyone interested in reading. President Szymanski has been in contact with Crete Mayor Einhorn and nothing new is happening at this time, but it is being monitored. A rendering of the proposed intermodal plan was available for review. It was discussed that Crete's industrial development has been proposed for the south end of Crete which will be near the north side of Beecher and we need to look at ways to buffer this to minimize the impact. President Szymanski said he intends to ask Crete for a boundary agreement. However, the Village hasn't been able to get a boundary agreement with Crete in the past. Currently there appears to be no plans for anything south of Goodenow Road. Partial buildout is proposed to be at the year 2020. Project still has a long way to go according to President Szymanski. The Village also needs to further push a quiet zone to minimize the impacts. This was for information only at this time.

President Szymanski provided an update on creating the Laraway Communications Center. An agreement has finally been reached. There are 31 agencies involved. Communications Center will be located at Route 52 and Laraway Road.

ORDINANCE #1255 - An Ordinance authorizing the President and Clerk to sign an intergovernmental agreement creating the Laraway Communications Center. Trustee Kypuros made a motion to approve Ordinance #1255. Trustee Meyer seconded the motion.
AYES: (6) Trustees Ahrendt, Kypuros, Wehling, Kuhlman, Basile and Meyer.
NAYS: (0) None.
Motion Carried.

There being no further business to be discussed in regular session, Trustee Wehling made a motion to adjourn into Executive Session to discuss personnel pertaining to the resignation of an employee, an EEOC complaint, and a tentative agreement with Local 399 for clerical workers at 7:28 p.m. Trustee Ahrendt seconded the motion.
AYES: (6) Trustees Ahrendt, Kypuros, Wehling, Kuhlman, Basile and Meyer.
NAYS: (0) None.
Motion Carried.

Trustee Meyer made a motion to return to regular session at 9:23 p.m. Trustee Basile 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 Ahrendt seconded the motion.
AYES: (6) Trustees Ahrendt, Kypuros, Wehling, Kuhlman, Basile and Meyer.
NAYS: (0) None.
Motion Carried.

Meeting adjourned at 9:23 p.m.

Respectfully submitted by:

A handwritten signature in cursive script that reads "Janett Conner". The signature is written in black ink and is positioned above a horizontal line.

Janett Conner
Village Clerk