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**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 23, 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, Public Works Crew Leader Matt Conner, Engineer Ray Koenig and Code Enforcement Officer/Community Policing/EMA Denis Tatgenhorst.

GUESTS: George Schuitema, Sherry Murray, Karalyne Murray, Michael Rodriguez, Diane Carson, Stacy Mazurek and Joe Cackowski.

President Szymanski asked for consideration of the minutes of the January 9, 2017 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.

CLERKS'S REPORT

A report on income received since the last meeting was provided.

A. FINANCE AND ADMINISTRATION COMMITTEE

RESOLUTION #2017-01 - A Resolution adopting a five-year financial plan for the Village of Beecher. Trustee Meyer made a motion to adopt Resolution #2017-01. Trustee Kypuros seconded the motion.

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

NAYS: (0) None.

Motion Carried.

The budget preparation schedule was provided. The budget workshop will be held on March 27th. The first draft of the budget will be available on February 27. The Finance Committee will meet at 7 a.m. on March 4, and the Public Hearing and approval of budget is scheduled for April 24. Trustee Meyer made a motion authorizing a Public Hearing for consideration of a proposed budget for Fiscal Year 2017/2018 to be held at 7:00 p.m. on Monday, April 24, 2017. Trustee Wehling seconded the motion.

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

NAYS: (0) None.

Motion Carried.

RESOLUTION #2017-02 - A Resolution authorizing the participation in the Northern Illinois Municipal Electric Cooperative (NIMEC) and authorizing the Village Administrator to approve a contract with the lowest cost electric provider for a period of up to 36 months. Trustee Meyer made a motion to adopt Resolution #2017-02. Trustee Basile seconded the motion.

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

NAYS: (0) None.

Motion Carried.

A letter was received from ComEd explaining recent power failures and changes to delivery rate tariffs on electric power.

Trustee Meyer provided a summary of a report from Village auditor Lauterbach and Amen, which was a copy of a comparative data survey comparing Beecher to four similar sized communities to see how we benchmark.

B. PUBLIC BUILDINGS AND PROPERTIES, PARKS AND RECREATION COMMITTEE

Trustee Wehling provided an ice rink update. With the recent warm weather the ice rink is currently closed. Matt Conner reported that the rink has been repaired and will be reopened when weather permits. Some kids recently broke in but didn't do any damage so the fence was secured and no trespassing signs have been put up.

Administrator Barber provided an update on the Village Hall generator. The generator is not currently working. The contractor that had previously tested the generator and said it would work has offered to provide us with another used generator currently located in Minneapolis and will service it and hook it up for us at no charge.

The Committee will be meeting to discuss park rules and rental policies. Trustees Wehling and Kuhlman will be working on scheduling a date and time to meet.

C. PLANNING, BUILDING AND ZONING COMMITTEE

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

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The Building Department annual report was provided in the packet for review. In 2016, 155 building permits were issued and 12 of those were for new homes, increasing our assessed value by \$4,938,764.

Will County has asked the Village to review our land use plans and determine if they need updating prior to the development of the new Crete rail yard. Administrator Barber reported that he believes the 2005 Land Use Plan still adequately covers the proposed south suburban airport and rail yards to the north of town and recommended holding with this plan. Some Trustees have recommended a few text amendments to the plan so it was decided to present the plan and the text amendments to the Planning and Zoning Commission (PZC) and have them work on it.

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.

The annual report of the animal control program from Dr. McKay was included in the packet for review. The cost of this year's program is \$2,260.

Trustee Kuhlman reported that staff held a meeting with the Beecher Fire Protection District, Public Works Department and Police Department to come up with procedures for calling out emergency management personnel and how they are to be used. Chief Weissgerber said that the program is still in early stages and some policies are being formulated. EMA Director Denis Tatgenhorst reported that they have four vehicles up and running. Some of the EMA volunteers were present and showed the Board the new reflective jackets paid for by the volunteers, and vests. They will be attending a certification class. Mr. Tatgenhorst also showed some books donated to give to children in a crisis situation. President Szymanski thanked Mr. Tatgenhorst and the EMA volunteers for their hard work.

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 November and December was provided in the packet for review. The water loss for this billing cycle was 68%. Loss was most likely due to the many recent watermain breaks.

The water pumping, sewer treatment and water billed annual report was provided in the packet for review. 151,373,000 gallons of water were pumped in 2016. 111,215,000 gallons were billed for in 2016. This equates to 40,158,000 gallons of water loss or a pumped to billed ratio of 74% for the year.

Trustee Kypuros reported on the bid award for the Penfield/Birch/Elm watermain project. Four bids were received and opened. The lowest bid was within the project budget. The IEPA must approve this bid and award the loan. Trustee Kypuros made a motion to award a bid in the amount of

\$1,050,465.89 to Brandt Excavating for the replacement of the Penfield/Birch/Elm watermain contingent on receiving a low interest loan from the IEPA. Trustee Ahrendt seconded the motion. AYES: (6) Trustees Ahrendt, Kypuros, Wehling, Kuhlman, Basile and Meyer. NAYS: (0) None. Motion Carried.

A Safe Routes to School Grant project update was provided. There is still some signage that needs to be completed and training on how to maintain the equipment. Ray Koenig from Baxter and Woodman reported that the flashing beacons have been installed and in working order. Flashing yellow lights still need to be installed and should be done in 3-4 weeks. The contractor ordered the wrong lights and have to order the correct ones.

Ray Koenig from Baxter and Woodman provided a Penfield Street S.T.P. project update. The topographic study, Trim Creek hydraulic study and plans for Penfield Street parking lots and preliminary roadway design are some of the things that have been completed. Final engineering report will be submitted in December. Bid letting is targeted for January 2019 and project should be completed by December 2019, other than restorations.

Ray Koenig provided a report on the Wastewater Treatment Plant rehab project Phase II design, IEPA loan application and the items completed on this project. Drawings are in progress. Bid opening is anticipated in August 2017 and if all goes well substantial completion is estimated for September 2018 and final completion by March or April, 2019.

A Chestnut/Willow Street light update was provided. Staff met with the ComEd field engineer on site to design and get a price for the installation of these lights. ComEd hopes to extend lines off existing street lights which will reduce cost.

President Szymanski asked Chief Weissgerber to look at enforcement of the new school crosswalk since he has seen people not stopping. Chief Weissgerber is working on this. Trustee Wehling asked about why the crosswalk lines are so close to the signs on Route #1. Ray Koenig will look into this.

F. ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT AND COMMUNITY RELATIONS COMMITTEE

Trustee Basile provided a report on the Financial Forecast Forum he attended along with President Szymanski and Administrator Barber the previous Friday. Trustee Basile said some of the items discussed included brick and mortar businesses going away, home vacation rentals, stores like Mariano's and Whole Foods growing their own foods, TIF districts, etc.

The Board discussed the Gould Street boardwalk project. The Committee met with Mike Stanula and modified the print and is prepared to take this project to bid. The estimated bid process date is May 1st. Trustee Wehling asked about potential ongoing maintenance costs and the lifetime for this boardwalk. The boardwalk will need to be regularly treated with waterproofing and occasionally boards will need to be replaced. Trustee Basile made a motion to let bids for the Gould Street boardwalk project. Trustee Meyer seconded the motion.

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

NAYS: (0) None.

Motion Carried.

A survey of communities in Illinois with old down towns, which included Beecher, was provided in the packet for review. Trustee Basile reported one of the biggest items in the survey is the need to spruce up old downtowns to bring more people in.

Trustee Basile reported on the annual reports on the use of the Village's website and smartphone app. The app seems to be going well with downloads and usage. Clerk Conner explained why Google Analytics showed so many hits from Russia on the Village website report.

G. VILLAGE PRESIDENT'S REPORT

President Szymanski provided a report on the Crete Intermodal project. A letter is on the Village website explaining the project. There are a number of rumors out there but not a lot of facts. There is a video done from a drone for an intermodal site in North Baltimore that shows how the intermodal runs and how it affects the surrounding area. A link to the video will be posted on the website for residents to look at. This reaffirms our concerns about how it will affect our area. Staff will be in contact with officials in North Baltimore to see their process for the intermodal and how it affects their area.

A South Suburban Mayors and Managers update was provided. A new executive director was recently introduced replacing Ed Paesel who has retired.

President Szymanski requested an executive session be held to discuss personnel to consider an agreement of I.U.O.E. Local 399 for clerical workers.

There being no further business to be discussed in regular session, Trustee Kypuros made a motion to adjourn into executive session at 7:47 p.m. Trustee Wehling 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 8:30 p.m. Trustee Basile seconded the motion.

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

NAYS: (0) None.

Motion Carried.

ORDINANCE #1256 - An Agreement with I.U.O.E. Local 399 for clerical workers. Trustee Basile made a motion to approve Ordinance #1256. Trustee Wehling 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 Meyer made a motion to adjourn the meeting. Trustee Basile seconded the motion.

AYES: (6) Trustees Ahrendt, 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