



**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
MAY 22, 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 Basile, Meyer, Kraus, Mazurek, Kypuros and Wehling.

ABSENT: None.

STAFF PRESENT: Clerk Janett Conner, Administrator Robert Barber, Superintendent of Public Works Bud Cowger and Treasurer Donna Rooney.

GUESTS: George Schuitema and Kim Koutsky.

President Szymanski asked for consideration of the minutes of the May 8, 2017 Board meeting. Trustee Meyer made a motion to approve the minutes as written. Trustee Kypuros seconded the motion.

AYES: (6) Trustees Basile, Meyer, Kraus, Mazurek, Kypuros and Wehling.

NAYS: (0) None.

Motion Carried.

CLERKS'S REPORT

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

A. FINANCE AND ADMINISTRATION COMMITTEE

ComEd has notified the Village of rate increases.

ORDINANCE#1263 - An Ordinance authorizing the Village President and Clerk to sign an extension of an intergovernmental agreement for the aggregation of residential electric bills in the Village of Beecher for an electrical supplier. The Will County Governmental League is going to bid again for up to a three year agreement for the joint purchase of electricity. This time an option of a price guarantee which will not allow the fixed price to be higher than the comEd rate is being bid out. Trustee Basile made a motion to approve Ordinance #1263. Motion seconded by Trustee Meyer.

AYES: (6) Trustees Basile, Meyer, Kraus, Mazurek, Kypuros and Wehling.

NAYS: (0) None.

Motion Carried.

The quarterly report from the Illinois Municipal Insurance Cooperative was provided in the packet for review.

B. PUBLIC BUILDINGS AND PROPERTIES, PARKS AND RECREATION COMMITTEE

A park rules update was provided. Trustee Wehling reported the Village Attorney is working on the proposed rules and application for use of the park and working through some constitutional issues so the Village cannot be challenged if it denies a permit for use of the park. The Attorney is recommending changing the term for the agreement for allowing use of the park from “rental” to “permit”.

A Depot Park maintenance update was provided. Public Works is working with the Beautification Commission to keep up maintenance of the park. Public Works has taken down trees, removed weeds, painted the bell as well as other improvements to the park.

The appraisals of Village buildings and properties is almost complete.

C. PLANNING, BUILDING AND ZONING COMMITTEE

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

A solar panel ordinance update was provided. The PZC has authorized a public hearing on an amendment to the zoning code as it pertains to the use of solar panels and this ordinance but the hearing date has not been set yet.

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.

Superintendent Cowger provided a mosquito abatement update. Larvaciding was done last week and regular sprayings will be done every Thursday evening depending on the weather. Staff will put information on the website and send out notifications on the app and Nixle.

Chief Weissgerber provided an update on Safe Routes to School enforcement in response to questions raised at the last meeting. The Chief provided flyers to be distributed to the schools and provided them to some of the frequent truck drivers that come through town explaining the procedures for stopping and crossing. The Police Department has also posted the information on Facebook. The Secretary of State police is doing enforcement of the zones also. Trustee Kraus asked about how close the signs are supposed to be located in school zones and expressed safety concerns. The Chief said most problems have been on Route #1.

E. PUBLIC WORKS COMMITTEE

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

The water billing register for March and April were provided in the packet for review. Trustee Kypuros reported the water bill pumped to billed ratio is slightly better than the last billing but Public Works is still working on finding ways to improve this.

Trustee Kypuros provided a sewer plant rehabilitation update. A meeting was held with the engineer design team on May 9th and a process plan has been approved. The Engineer is working on an estimate of the project cost. It will need to be decided if the old sewer plant control building will need to be torn down. There are still three-phase electrical panels in this old building. An \$8,000,000 loan is the goal.

Superintendent Cowger reported the 2017 tree planting program has been completed. A couple of the trees are questionable as to whether they need to be removed. 14 trees were planted.

The sidewalk and curb repairs programs are in the design phase and bids will be obtained for the work. Superintendent Cowger said they working on numbers now. Mudjacking will start north working through Prairie Crossings. Sidewalks will be replaced after curbs with money left over. Some curbs are collapsing so they need to be replaced.

Superintendent Cowger provided a report on watermain patch repairs. The breaks on Penfield will only be cold patched since they will be torn out soon for the watermain project. Trustee Kypuros felt Penfield shouldn't be cold patched.

Trustee Kypuros made a motion and Trustee Wehling seconded to approve an agreement with Baxter and Woodman to complete an assessment of the sanitary sewer collection system (CMOM) as required by the Village's operating permit at a cost not to exceed \$12,500. This evaluation is required by the IEPA as a condition of our operating permit.

AYES: (6) Trustees Basile, Meyer, Kraus, Mazurek, Kypuros and Wehling.

NAYS: (0) None.

Motion Carried.

F. ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT AND COMMUNITY RELATIONS COMMITTEE

President Szymanski and Trustee Basile met with H.I.T.S. on the future of Balmoral Park and were given a tour of the new facility. Trustee Basile reported they opened and everything looked beautiful. On Saturdays there may be a \$5 charge that would be donated to a non-profit organization. President Szymanski said they are also hoping to have other events during the year such as weddings, banquets, etc. Board members have been encouraging them to visit Beecher and patronize our

businesses. A rumor was heard they are considering a 4th of July celebration but unsure when and if they would do that.

Trustee Meyer asked for a motion of reconsideration of the Gould Street boardwalk bids as discussed at the last meeting. Trustee Kypuros made a motion of reconsideration of the Gould Street boardwalk bids. Motion seconded by Trustee Meyer.

AYES: (5) Trustees Basile, Meyer, Kraus, Mazurek and Kypuros.

NAYS: (1) Trustee Wehling.

Motion Carried.

The Board again considered authorizing awarding of a bid for the Gould Street boardwalk. Trustee Meyer provided a summary of the history of Gould Street, how it has been changing and how the idea of the boardwalk came about for the new Board members. Trustee Meyer got a quote of \$60,000 for stamped concrete and railings for \$18,000. There is still a maintenance issue like the wood would need maintenance but wood is still the least expensive way to go. The new businesses are doing a lot of work downtown investing in their businesses and the Village previously promised them if they invested money in the old downtown the Village would also invest in the area. The two lowest bids for the projects had come within \$50 within each other. The two lowest compliant bidders agreed to extend their bids to this meeting to see if the Board wishes to proceed with this project. Trustee Wehling asked if the Village could just repair the existing concrete and steps, adding a railing and putting a face on the concrete to make it look better. Trustee Meyer said after looking at it needs more than just patching. Trustee Mazurek asked who would be responsible for maintenance. Public Works would most likely be responsible for maintenance. There were concerns about installing a wood boardwalk and maintaining it but safety was a main concern now that all of the properties have been sold and businesses are opening. After much discussion, Trustee Meyer made a motion authorizing the award of a bid for the Gould Street boardwalk to T&K Construction in the amount of \$42,900 which includes a warranty for 2 years of labor. Motion seconded by Trustee Basile.

AYES: (5) Trustees Basile, Meyer, Kraus, Mazurek and Kypuros.

NAYS: (1) Trustee Wehling.

Motion Carried.

G. VILLAGE PRESIDENT'S REPORT

President Szymanski reported the ground for the CSX Crete Intermodal has closed on the property in Crete. CSX is continuing their planning phases and now wants to sit down with the Village to discuss the quiet zone. It is unknown if they have a development agreement with Crete at this time.

President Szymanski and Administrator Barber provided a report on the lobby day they attended in Springfield.

The Board discussed closing the Hodges Street railroad crossing. The UP/CSX Railroad has verbally offered the Village \$50,000 if we agreed to close Hodges Street and the ICC has a program where it may offer up to \$50,000 for such a closure. Board members were asked if they thought closing the Hodges Street crossing would be a good idea. Trustee Wehling had concerns about closing the crossing and didn't feel it should be closed. Resident Koutsky felt it would quiet the area due to less traffic and would be a few less train horns but there are a lot of people who walk and drive that route and it wasn't clear how the closing would effect the pedestrian crossing. Trustee Kypuros said he would like to see info on putting in an underpass at Miller and supported closing Hodges crossing.

After much discussion the consensus of Board agreed to obtain more information about the impacts of closing the crossings. A survey of the residents in the area can also be done.

President Szymanski asked the Board for consideration of establishing a Sesquicentennial Commission for the Village's 150th birthday in 2020 for organization of a celebration. Asked if anyone would be interested in being on that commission to let him know.

President Szymanski provided the rest of his annual appointments for 2017-18. He indicated that it has been discussed in the past to internalize the Treasurer's position and after looking into the options he decided it was time to do that. He is appointing Donna Rooney as Treasurer and Maria Alexychuck is being hired as an outside accounting firm to review the bank reconciliations to have outside review of the accounts. Below is a list of all 2017-18 appointments:

(Appointed 5-08-2017)

Village President Pro-Tem: Scott Wehling

Finance and Administration Committee:

Chair: Frank Basile
Co-Chair: Marcy Meyer

Public Safety Committee:

Chair: Todd Kraus
Co-Chair: Scott Wehling

Public Works Committee:

Chair: Jonathan Kypuros
Co-Chair: Stacy Mazurek

Economic Development and Community Relations Committee:

Chair: Marcy Meyer
Co-Chair: Frank Basile

Public Buildings and Properties, Parks and Recreation:

Chair: Scott Wehling
Co-Chair: Todd Kraus

Planning, Building and Zoning:

Chair: Stacy Mazurek
Co-Chair: Jonathon Kypuros

ESDA Coordinator: Denis Tatgenhorst

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.

Code Enforcement Officer: Denis Tatgenhorst

IML Delegate: Greg Szymanski

Chief of Police: Jeff Weissgerber

Public Works Superintendent: Bud Cowger

Building Department Services: Safebuilt

EASTCOM and Laraway Communications Board of Directors: Member: Bob Barber,
Alternate: Todd Kraus

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:

- Bob Heim (term expires 5/1/20)
- Diane Carson (term expires 5/1/20)
- 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 5/1/19)
- Kevin Bouchard (term expires 5/1/19)

(Appointed 5-28-17)

Village Treasurer: Donna Rooney

Beautification Commission:

Bud Cowger (Village Liaison)	George Obradovich	Sandy Lohmann
Steve Weishaar	Jean Smith	Jessica Treco

Fourth of July Commission:

Marcy Meyer (Village Liaison)		
Kim Coleman		
Ron Kuhlman	Bill Voss	Barb Hodgett
Ray Smith	Chuck Hoehn	Steve Koehn
Jerry Meyer	Cameron Ohlendorf	Nicholas Hoehn
Patty Meyer	Robert Barber	Mike Lau
Bruce Becker	Laura Voss	Marge Cook
Kevin Bouchard	Ken Bobowski	Howard Perry
Mary Lou Cooper (ex-officio)		

Beecher Youth Commission:

Stacy Mazurek, (Village Liaison)	Laura Irwin	Teri Kasput
Roger Sipple, ex-officio	Heather Graham	Emanuel Gonzalez
Trish Moran	Diana Jerkatis	Brandy Flores
Amy Kramer	Joe Tieri	Mary Rose Gianotti
Phil Salmen	Elizabeth Rapacz	

Historic Preservation Commission:

Scott Wehling, (Village Liaison)
Virginia Bath
Don Sala

Marilyn Ohlendorf
Ken Hameister
Arnie Cooper

Ribbon of Hope Commission:

Frank Basile, (Village Liaison)
Dean Bettenhausen
Barbara Hodgett
Myra Kocsis

Howard Perry
Chris Szymanski
Susan Sebastian
Mike Stanula

Trustee Kypuros made a motion to approve the appointments. Motion seconded by Trustee Wehling.

AYES: (6) Trustees Basile, Meyer, Kraus, Mazurek, Kypuros and Wehling.

NAYS: (0) None.

Motion Carried.

H.I.T.S. will be holding a VIP luncheon at Balmoral Park on Saturday, June 10th from 12-3 p.m. during one of their premier events. President Szymanski asked who plans to go to this. President Szymanski is unable to attend.

H. OLD BUSINESS

Administrator Barber said the Village Attorney will be at the next Board meeting.

Trustee Basile announced Laurie Summers and Judy Ogala will be having a community discussion on opiate use disorders and suicide on June 7th from 7-9 p.m. This is open to the public.

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

AYES: (6) Trustees Basile, Meyer, Kraus, Mazurek, Kypuros and Wehling.

NAYS: (0) None.

Motion Carried.

Meeting adjourned at 8:34 p.m.

Respectfully submitted by:



Janett Conner
Village Clerk