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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
DECEMBER 11, 2017 -- 7:00 P.M.**

All present joined in the Pledge to the Flag.

In the absence of President Szymanski, President Pro-Tem Wehling called the meeting to order.

ROLL CALL

PRESENT: Trustees Basile, Meyer, Mazurek, Kypuros and Wehling.

ABSENT: President Szymanski and Trustee Kraus.

STAFF PRESENT: Clerk Janett Conner, Administrator Robert Barber, Superintendent of Public Works Bud Cowger and Acting Chief Rick Emerson.

GUESTS: None.

President Szymanski asked for consideration of the minutes of the November 27, 2017 Board meeting. Trustee Basile made a motion to approve the minutes as written. Trustee Meyer seconded the motion.

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

NAYS: (0) None.

Motion Carried.

CLERKS'S REPORT

1) A report on income received since the last meeting was provided. 2) State law now requires the Village to annually approve the regular Board meeting and Planning and Zoning Commission (PZC) meeting dates for the coming year. A list of scheduled meetings was provided for review. Trustee Meyer made a motion to approve the Board meeting and PZC meeting schedules for 2018. Trustee Kypuros seconded the motion.

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

NAYS: (0) None.

Motion Carried.

REPORTS OF VILLAGE COMMISSIONS

There was nothing to report on the Beautification or Fourth of July Commissions.

Trustee Mazurek provided an update on Youth Commission activities. The next event is bowling on Martin Luther King Day. Some of the Youth Commission kids helped out at the Christmas Bazaar with letters to Santa.

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Trustee Basile reported the plaques and benches for the Ribbon of Hope are done and installed.

Trustee Wehling provided an update on the Historic Preservation Commission. The meeting for this month has been cancelled.

A. FINANCE AND ADMINISTRATION COMMITTEE

TREASURER'S REPORT: A copy of the Treasurer's report was provided to the Board for review. Administrator Barber provided Treasurer's report in the absence of Treasurer Rooney. Trustee Basile made a motion to approve the Treasurer's Report and the Report of Financial Activity in the prior month. Trustee Meyer seconded the motion.

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

NAYS: (0) None.

Motion Carried.

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

A list of bills totaling \$230,365.54 to be paid was available for review. A summary of the list of bills was provided. Trustee Kypuros asked some questions on the bills. Trustee Basile made a motion to approve payment of the list of bills as presented. Trustee Meyer seconded the motion.

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

NAYS: (0) None.

Motion Carried.

It was reported that the Village will need to extend the \$350,000 interest loan for the sewer plant engineering. The loan is due February 1st and the Illinois Environmental Protection Agency (IEPA) funding will not come through in time to pay the balloon loan off. The bank has agreed to extend the loan for one year with no penalty. An Ordinance regarding this will be adopted in January.

B. PUBLIC BUILDINGS AND PROPERTIES, PARKS AND RECREATION COMMITTEE

An update was provided on the Firemen's Park playground equipment. Trustee Wehling met with a vendor of playground equipment. Proposals were received and they are working on narrowing down the options and will provide a recommendation when available.

Superintendent Cowger reported on the ice rink. The rink has been framed and the liner installed. Public Works is planning on filling it with water the beginning of next week.

C. PLANNING, BUILDING AND ZONING COMMITTEE

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

The PZC is scheduled to meet on Thursday, December 21st. The Dunkin' Donuts drive-thru and a discussion on proposed zoning ordinance amendments to the trailer parking ordinance are on the agenda for this meeting.

D. PUBLIC SAFETY COMMITTEE

The Police Department, EMA and Code Enforcement monthly reports were provided in the packet for review.

Lieutenant Emerson provided information on “Coffee with a Cop” and “Shop with a Cop” events being planned. “Coffee with a Cop” is scheduled to be done at Beecher Manor and one in February at McDonalds. “Shop with a Cop” has received generous donations. Plans are to take approximately 25 kids shopping at Target in St. John on December 16th and they will be taken for lunch at McDonalds afterwards. Target is donating \$500 to the program.

E. PUBLIC WORKS COMMITTEE

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

Trustee Kypuros provided a Wastewater Treatment Plant update. Certain environmental groups have expressed concerns regarding the plant’s new operating permit and believe that the effluent limits are not sufficient to support the ecology of Trim Creek or the Kankakee River. If an agreement cannot be reached, these groups reserve the right to file an objection and request hearings which will add several months to the project time line. Baxter and Woodman is working on this negotiation process. An extension of 60 days is needed making the total extension 180 days which means we have until May 10, 2018 to resolve all of these matters and begin construction. We will not be able to receive reimbursement of our engineering design fees (\$600,000) until we submit our first pay request on the construction and this could now be delayed until July. This is why the loan needs to be extended. The Engineer is confident that we can get this all resolved.

Superintendent Cowger provided an update on the Chestnut Street lighting. The lights have been received. Power lines have been augered in. Lights should be installed and possibly lit by the end of the week.

Superintendent Cowger reported that brush collection was done that day due to damage from the high winds last week. Leaf collection will end in approximately a week.

Superintendent Cowger provided a valve turning update. Simpson has completed the program and the Village will be getting new maps from Simpson. All went well.

The Village now has 900 tons of road salt on hand for the upcoming snow removal season. A new truck and spreader for snow removal and salting has also been put into service.

Trustee Kypuros provided a report on the Public Works Committee meeting held the previous week. Capital projects, the five-year financial plan for the water and sewer utility, and water loss concerns were discussed. There was also discussion on a need to increase the sewer rate to fund the increased operating costs of the new sewer treatment plant in 2019. At the meeting a plan was discussed for the next areas for watermain replacement and the replacement of lead service lines. More information will be available after the next five-year financial plan.

F. ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT AND COMMUNITY RELATIONS COMMITTEE

Trustee Meyer provided a Facebook page update. We have reached 500 likes and all is going smooth.

The Board discussed the future of the smart phone app now that the Village's Facebook page has gone live. The cost of this program is \$2,750 per year at this time. Trustee Meyer asked if Board members felt if this was worth continuing or not. Some people find it useful as a phone book. The Village can give the Chamber of Commerce an opportunity to take it over since it benefits them more than the Village now. It is difficult to keep up to date. Trustees Kypuros and Wehling felt it may be better to end the app, and Trustee Mazurek said to offer it to the Chamber of Commerce.

G. VILLAGE PRESIDENT'S REPORT

Administrator Barber asked the Board when to continue Strategic Planning meetings. The consensus of the Board agreed that the next Strategic Planning meeting will be held after the January 8th Board meeting.

H. OLD BUSINESS

I. NEW BUSINESS

Trustee Meyer brought up the issue of senior housing. After speaking to Trustee Kypuros, who is in construction, she is scheduled to tour a site in Orland Park that is currently under construction, to see what they offer.

There being no further business, President Pro-Tem Wehling asked for a motion to adjourn. Trustee Meyer made a motion to adjourn the meeting. Trustee Basile seconded the motion.
AYES: (5) Trustees Basile, Meyer, Mazurek, Kypuros and Wehling.
NAYS: (0) None.
Motion Carried.

Meeting adjourned at 7:33 p.m.

Respectfully submitted by:



Janett Conner
Village Clerk