

**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 22, 2018 -- 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 Acting Chief Rick Emerson.

GUESTS: Denis Tatgenhorst and the families of Roger Sipple, Aaron Dacorte, Jamie Hawkins and Jeff Young were present for the service awards and promotions. George Schuitema was present for the entire meeting.

President Szymanski asked for consideration of the minutes of the January 8, 2018 Board meeting. Trustee Meyer made a motion to approve the minutes as written. Trustee Basile seconded the motion.

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

NAYS: (0) None.

Motion Carried.

CLERK'S REPORT

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

RECOGNITION OF AUDIENCE

Representatives from the Beecher Fire Protection District were presented with certificates of appreciation for their support of the 2017 Heroes and Helpers Program.

The following Beecher Police officers were recognized for their service to the Village:

- Officer Jeff Young was pinned for 25 years of service to the department.
- Officer Jamie Hawkins was pinned for 10 years of service to the department.
- Officer Jamie Hawkins was provided a purple heart for an injury in 2014.
- Officers Sipple and Dacorte were recognized for their promotions to Corporals.

There was a five-minute recess for photos and congratulations to the officers and their families. 

A. FINANCE AND ADMINISTRATION COMMITTEE

The Board was reminded to review the five-year financial plan. The Board is expected to vote on the Resolution adopting this plan at the February 26th meeting.

A draft of the strategic plan resolution was provided in the packet for review. At the February 12th meeting the Board will go through the plan and make any changes, and then vote on the plan at the February 26th meeting. The mission statement will also be discussed.

The budget process has begun. On March 5th, the Finance Committee will first review the budget then the entire Village Board will meet to review the budget. The hearing for the budget is scheduled for April 23rd.

Trustee Basile made a motion authorizing a public hearing on the proposed budget for Monday, April 23, 2018 at 7:00 p.m. Trustee Meyer seconded the motion.

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

NAYS: (0) None.

Motion Carried.

B. PUBLIC BUILDINGS AND PROPERTIES, PARKS AND RECREATION COMMITTEE

Trustee Wehling provided a Firemen's Park playground update. He provided a copy of a drawing for the playground. He will meet with Trustee Kraus to discuss the playground and then schedule a meeting with other taxing bodies.

Superintendent Cowger provided an ice rink update. The rink has been closed since the weekend because of the warmer weather. Public Works will determine re-opening the rink, dependent on the weather. After some questions were raised by residents, it was explained that the lights get turned on before Public Works goes home at the end of the work day, and turned off by the Police Department at the end of the night. The Public Works duty man turns them on in the morning on weekends, and they are turned off by the Police Department at the end of the night. It is more cost effective to run the lights a few extra hours than to pay a Public Works employee overtime to come in and turn them on.

It was reported that one of staff's winter projects was to complete an inventory of Village-owned property. The Village owns 35 separate parcels throughout town, all of which have to be annually reviewed for tax exempt status.

The Village received a \$10,000 grant from CSX Railroad and a \$5,000 grant from Illinois Public Risk Fund (IPRF) to install a generator at the Police station. Project is scheduled for completion in the spring.



C. PLANNING, BUILDING AND ZONING COMMITTEE

The Building Department monthly and annual reports were provided in the packet for review. 138 building permits were issued including six permits for new homes.

A Planning and Zoning Commission (PZC) meeting is scheduled for Thursday, January 25th. Petitioner will be present for a discussion of an 18-acre solar farm one mile east of the Village limits on Indiana Avenue, since a letter of no objection is required for Will County consideration. The PZC will also continue its review of the trailer and RV ordinance.

A CMAP LTA grant update was provided. We have received the draft RFP for the \$130,000 grant project but do not expect to begin actual planning until this summer.

D. PUBLIC SAFETY COMMITTEE

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

The animal control annual report was provided in the packet for review. The 2017 program cost the Village \$1,810.

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 were provided in the packet for review. Trustee Kypuros reported that the billed to pumped ratio is now close to 72% and a long-time water leak was recently found and repaired on Linden Circle.

A Chestnut Street light update was provided. Lights have been installed and ComEd should be hooking up the power this week.

Trustee Kypuros provided an update on the wastewater treatment plant project. The project is back on schedule and is planned to proceed around March 15th.

Superintendent Cowger provided a valve turning report. He is still waiting for the physical report. The valves will be mapped and put into the system.

The Village was notified by Illinois Department of Transportation (IDOT) that they plan to make improvements to the intersection of Pasadena and Dixie sometime in the summer or fall of 2018. The intersection doesn't meet ADA standard and ramps will be installed and curb corners widened.

Trustee Kypuros reported that the Village has received an engineer estimate for the proposed watermain replacement project on Dunbar from Hodges to Indiana. The estimate came in high at \$475,000 for construction and \$74,100 for design and management. The Committee will work with the engineer to come up with a more reasonable estimate of costs. There appears to be fewer conflicts with other utilities and less restoration than the Maxwell Street project in the past so it isn't clear why the estimate came in so high.

F. ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT AND COMMUNITY RELATIONS COMMITTEE

Trustee Meyer provided a TIF district update. The Village President has talked informally with all of the taxing bodies regarding the Village Board's proposal. The Village President met with one of the largest property owners in the proposed district but outside the Village to discuss annexation before any TIF designation on the property. The Village also received a proposal from Teska for \$18,000-\$20,000 to get the TIF district approved by the State and up and running with a TIF Board. This will be in the proposed budget for the next fiscal year. A TIF educational presentation is scheduled with the Intergovernmental group meeting on January 29th at the Washington Township Center.

Trustee Meyer provided a Facebook page update. The page has been up and running for more than 30 days and is going well.

G. VILLAGE PRESIDENT'S REPORT

President Szymanski reminded the Board that there is an Intergovernmental meeting on January 29th at 7:00 p.m. at the Washington Township Center.

President Szymanski requested an Executive Session be held to discuss Police Chief candidates.

A recess was held until the Board was ready to begin the executive session.

Trustee Kypuros made a motion to adjourn into Executive Session to discuss Police Chief selection at 7:53 p.m. Trustee Meyer seconded the motion.

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

NAYS: (0) None.

Motion Carried.

Trustee Kraus made a motion to return from Executive Session at 10:06 p.m. Trustee Basile seconded the motion.

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

NAYS: (0) None.

Motion Carried.

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

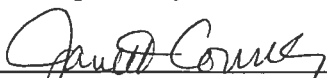
AYES: (6) Trustees Basile, Meyer, Kraus, Mazurek, Kypuros and Wehling.

NAYS: (0) None.

Motion Carried.

Meeting adjourned at 10:06 p.m.

Respectfully submitted by:



Janett Conner, Village Clerk