

**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  
FEBRUARY 26, 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, Mazurek, Kypuros and Wehling.

ABSENT: Trustee Kraus.

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

**GUEST:** George Schuitema and Justin Bakker.

President Szymanski asked for consideration of the minutes of the February 12, 2018 Board meeting. Trustee Meyer made a motion to approve the minutes as written. Trustee Basile seconded the motion.

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

NAYS: (0) None.

Motion Carried.

**CLERK'S REPORT**

1) A report on income received since the last meeting was provided. 2) Clerk Conner stated that dog tags are due to be purchased by March 15<sup>th</sup>.

**RECOGNITION OF AUDIENCE**

President Szymanski and Lieutenant Emerson presented the family of Police Chief Jeff Weissgerber a memorial shadow box on behalf of the Village and Police Department in honor of Chief Weissgerber who passed away in October, 2017.

**A. FINANCE AND ADMINISTRATION COMMITTEE**

The proposed budget for Fiscal Year 2018/2019 was provided to the Board, which will be used for the budget workshop to be held on March 5<sup>th</sup>.

An Illinois Municipal Insurance Cooperative status report was provided. Administrator Barber explained that the Village is retaining six figure reserves each year. Every year the fund appears to be doing better.

The Illinois Personnel Benefits Cooperative quarterly report was included in the packet for review. Beecher has retained \$31,154 in terminal reserve this fiscal year.

A financial comparison report provided by the Village auditor was in the packet for review. The report was a comparison of our financial data to other municipalities of similar size.

**B. PUBLIC BUILDINGS AND PROPERTIES, PARKS AND RECREATION COMMITTEE**

As discussed by the Board during strategic planning, the creation of a park district was considered. Trustee Wehling reported that the Attorney provided an opinion that a park district referendum question must be done by petition of at least 100 voters within the district and cannot be initiated by any action of the Village Board. It would need to be a grass roots effort.

Gallagher Bassett has conducted safety inspections of Village properties and a detailed report on the status of corrective actions that need to be made were included in the packet for review. Superintendent Cowger said the maintenance issues at the Public Works building have been corrected and some of the park issues have been taken care of that could be. The rest will be done in the coming months.

Trustee Wehling made a motion approving a partnership agreement between the Village and the Will County Forest Preserve for 2018. Trustee Mazurek seconded the motion.

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

NAYS: (0) None.

Motion Carried.

**C. PLANNING, BUILDING AND ZONING COMMITTEE**

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

Trustee Mazurek reported on the PZC's discussion on amendments to the RV, trailer and camper ordinance. A report and survey conducted by Teska Associates on current ordinances in effect in surrounding jurisdictions was provided in the packet. After review, the PZC felt the current ordinance is substantially similar to other ordinances and they decided to table the matter and review the subject again in one year.

**D. PUBLIC SAFETY COMMITTEE**

Trustee Wehling reported that the new Chief of Police will assume his duties on March 1<sup>st</sup>. A formal swearing in will occur at the March 12<sup>th</sup> Board meeting.

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

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

#### **E. PUBLIC WORKS COMMITTEE**

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

The annual report of the Water and Sewer system was provided in the packet for review. Trustee Kypuros reported on the annual billed to pumped ratio. Improving this ratio is something that is being worked on.

The Public Works Department annual report was provided in the packet for review.

A Penfield Street STP project update was provided. The target letting date is January 1, 2020.

Superintendent Cowger provided a Chestnut Street lighting update. We are waiting on ComEd to come out and tie in the electric and then the project will be done.

The surveying for the Dunbar Street watermain has been scheduled and the project is proposed to be bid out in mid-April or May.

A report was provided on the wastewater treatment plant rehabilitation. We are awaiting to receive the loan offer and then will execute the loan agreement and proceed. Work should begin around April 1<sup>st</sup> and continue through summer of 2019.

#### **F. ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT AND COMMUNITY RELATIONS COMMITTEE**

Trustee Meyer reported that Village staff will begin economic development work on the updated Location One platform provided by the Illinois DCEO. Staff will upload sites and buildings to the LOIS site which should make searching for desirable sites and buildings easier.

Trustee Meyer provided a Sesquicentennial update. Some ideas being discussed include publishing a new chapter for the 1995 Quasiquicentennial book and make it as an insert for the old book. Shirley Biery, the author of the 1995 book, has been approached and is willing to serve on a book committee if the Village wishes this project to be done. The Village has also discussed the possibility of having a series of events over a weekend, possibly on Lions' Summerfest weekend, as opposed to having the event during the Fourth of July. Another idea is to have special street banners made for that year and perhaps the Chamber of Commerce could head up that project. Lions Club President Trustee Basile reported that the Lions are excited about participating.

President Szymanski asked if there was an end date for the Village app. The Village no longer wishes to use it and the Chamber of Commerce isn't interested in taking it over.

## G. VILLAGE PRESIDENT'S REPORT

President Szymanski provided a report on the Eastern Will County Mayor's meeting held earlier in the day with Will County officials to discuss truck movements through Will County. This is the second meeting with the County for how to steer the trucks coming out of the new intermodal and other development that comes in the area, and handle the existing traffic that is currently coming through Beecher. All the surrounding towns are having a traffic survey done to determine where all the trucks are coming from and going to. Beecher is in the worst area because of limited roadways compared to Crete and Monee. Will County municipalities are going to look into implementing the Oxcart Program for truck routes.

The Board considered the strategic plan for 2018-2022.

RESOLUTION 2018-03 – A Resolution adopting a strategic plan for 2018-2022. Trustee Kypuros made a motion to adopt Resolution #2018-03. Trustee Wehling seconded the motion.

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

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.

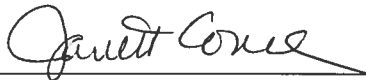
AYES: (5) Trustees Basile, Meyer, Mazurek, Kypuros and Wehling.

NAYS: (0) None.

Motion Carried.

Meeting adjourned at 7:27 p.m.

Respectfully submitted by:



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Janett Conner  
Village Clerk