

**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  
September 24, 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 Mazurek, Basile, Wehling, Meyer and Kraus.

**ABSENT:** Trustee Kypuros.

**STAFF PRESENT:** Clerk Janett Conner, Administrator Robert Barber, Public Works Superintendent Matt Conner, Public Works Crew Leader Jim Pratl and Chief Greg Smith.

**GUEST:** George Schuitema and Joe Tieri.

President Szymanski asked for consideration of the minutes of the September 10, 2018 Board meeting. Trustee Wehling made a motion to approve the minutes as written. Trustee Basile seconded the motion.

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

**NAYS:** (0) None.

Motion Carried.

**CLERK'S REPORT**

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

**RECOGNITION OF AUDIENCE**

George Schuitema reported that both the Beecher boys' and girls' golf teams won their tournaments.

**A. FINANCE AND ADMINISTRATION COMMITTEE**

Trustee Basile made a motion authorizing a request for proposals for auditing services for a three-year period beginning the year ending April 30, 2019. Trustee Meyer seconded the motion.

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

**NAYS:** (0) None.

Motion Carried.

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

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Trustee Wehling provided a Tot Lot update. There is \$10,000 in escrow for the project. It was estimated that the park equipment would cost approximately \$18,000 and an additional \$15,400 for cement, plastic border and mulch. Trustee Wehling asked for any input on information provided at last meeting with photos provided and location. Trustee Basile indicated that he preferred the location be near the ball diamonds. Trustee Mazurek asked how hard it would be to add equipment to benefit older children, so the equipment for younger children isn't damaged by older kids. It was explained that this would cost much more and we would like to add on to the equipment in stages so some equipment can be put in sooner for the kids that currently attend ball games and use the park.

Superintendent Conner reported that the generator project at the Police Station has been completed.

It was reported that the Lions Park lights are repaired and now working, but a street light at the corner of Miller and Gould is out and needs to be repaired by ComEd.

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

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

The Planning and Zoning Commission (PZC) will meet on Thursday, September 27<sup>th</sup>. The PZC will hold a workshop on a special use permit request for a proposed self-contained crematorium at Hack Funeral Home and continue work on the comprehensive plan.

**D. PUBLIC SAFETY COMMITTEE**

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

Trustee Kraus reported that the Police Department will be conducting a fraud prevention seminar for local businesses at 6:00 p.m., Wednesday, September 26<sup>th</sup> at Midland States Bank. Skimmers, fake bills, and other fraud prevention issues will be discussed.

A joint Fire Department and Police Department open house will be held on Friday, October 12<sup>th</sup>, 5:30 to 8:30 p.m. Penfield Street will be closed from Maxwell to Woodward during this period.

Halloween trick or treat hours will be from 4-7 p.m. on Wednesday, October 31<sup>st</sup>. The Lions Club will be serving hot dogs in Firemen's Park from 6-8 p.m.

Superintendent Conner reported that Public Works will spray for mosquitoes for approximately another week, depending on the weather. A new machine will be needed next year.

The Board discussed establishing a policy for the hiring of full-time sworn officers. Trustee Kraus reported on the process that was done to put together this policy. This policy closely resembles what the Village will have to follow when it goes over 5,000 in population. It establishes the

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process for the creation of a hiring list. An outside service is used to conduct most of the testing with the exception of the oral interviews which are done by a special committee. This committee will be the Public Safety Committee and one resident appointed by the Village President.

RESOLUTION #2018-10 – A Resolution establishing a policy for the hiring of full-time sworn Police officers. Trustee Kraus made a motion to adopt Resolution #2018-10. Trustee Mazurek seconded the motion.

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

NAYS: (0) None.

Motion Carried.

President Szymanski appointed Joseph Tieri to the Board of Police Commissioners for a one-year term. Trustee Kraus made a motion to approve President Szymanski's appointment. Trustee Mazurek seconded the motion.

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

NAYS: (0) None.

Motion Carried.

#### 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 July and August were provided in the packet for review. The Village is getting a better handle on non-billed water and a list of the sources of unbilled water was provided.

An update on construction at the sewer treatment plant was provided. Administrator Barber said digging, pouring cement and putting in linings is being done.

Trustee Mazurek made a motion approving payment in the amount of \$489,974.79 to IHC, pending receipt of Illinois Environmental Protection Agency (IEPA) loan funds as a progress payment #1 on the wastewater treatment plant project. Trustee Basile seconded the motion.

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

NAYS: (0) None.

Motion Carried.

An update was provided by Superintendent Conner on the Dunbar Street watermain improvements. The pressure test failed in the 500 block of Dunbar and passed in the 600 block of Dunbar. Contractor is working on finding a leak.

A crack sealing update was provided by Trustee Mazurek. Bids were solicited by advertisement and direct mail and no bids were received. The Committee has decided to defer the project until the next budget year and take bids in the spring for a larger dollar amount to be determined later.

Trustee Mazurek made a motion to authorize the payment of \$8,922 to Perino Brothers Concrete from the Nantucket Cove escrow account for the installation of concrete foundations for cluster

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mail boxes. This work was never completed by the developer and when new homes are being built there is no box available to deliver the mail to. The post office is ready to install the boxes, but someone has to put in the concrete. Trustee Meyer seconded the motion.

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

NAYS: (0) None.

Motion Carried.

The Gould Street boardwalk sealing has been completed.

Superintendent Conner provided a curb and sidewalk repair update. Perino Brothers has completed both the curb and sidewalk repairs for this year.

A preliminary diagram showing a proposed cul-de-sac for Hodges Street was provided for review. Trustee Meyer asked if this size would accommodate ambulances. Since Chair Kypuros wasn't present, this will be considered at a later meeting. It was also a much high cost than anticipated for the project.

An update was provided on the Penfield Street project and tentative schedule given. A public information workshop and open house is scheduled for Wednesday, November 7<sup>th</sup> at 7 p.m. at the Village Hall to engage the residents and businesses that live along Penfield Street. Administrator Barber said that residents and business owners will be personally invited to attend the meeting, to review the plans and provide comments. This will be more of an open house instead of a hearing so residents can provide their input. Administrator Barber explained logistical issues with the direction of traffic with this project. The project must be under way by 2020 or funding will be lost.

Trustee Mazurek requested an Executive Session be held at the end of the meeting to discuss the hiring of two full-time and two part-time Public Works employees.

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

Trustee Meyer provided a fall newsletter update. There have been a lot of ads sold this time which will make for a large newsletter. The newsletter is scheduled to be mailed the week of October 15<sup>th</sup> according to Clerk Conner.

President Szymanski provided a railroad quiet zone update. The Village, HR Green, Federal Railroad Agency and ICC have been provided with the quiet zone plans. Preliminary plans have been read by these groups without any comments. The next step is an onsite visit with all parties.

Trustee Meyer provided a TIF District update. The feasibility study should be completed in the next month and then the Village President will have to appoint a TIF Review Board to review the report.

A Sesquicentennial update was provided. Work is beginning on the book and the committee is working on and reviewing an ad purchase policy. Trustee Meyer said Shirley Biery is working on this project diligently and checking facts for the book.

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The Board again discussed hiring of a guest speaker to encourage communication between generations. A proposal from Bridgeworks, Inc. for the program was provided, which is \$10,000 plus expenses. The Village President is trying to obtain commitments from other local governments and the Chamber to help fund this. The Village Board could also propose a lower amount of funding if it so desires, if other matching funds are committed or a less expensive speaker is found. Administrator Barber has a conference call with another speaker this week to consider other options. Trustee Meyer said she would like to put this off until Trustee Kypuros is present since he is very committed to this project. Trustee Meyer felt it would be advantageous to learn what millennials need in the next 5-10 years. President Szymanski has been discussing this with other taxing bodies but has no commitment yet because many have not had their meetings yet to discuss this. Trustee Basile said he is looking at someone from the college which may be free, and staff is looking at other less expensive speakers. Trustee Basile said this was also a big issue at Illinois Municipal League (IML) with multiple sessions on this subject. There's a need to look at the changing things that millennials are looking for in businesses. Matter was tabled until the next meeting.

#### **G. VILLAGE PRESIDENT'S REPORT**

A report on the results of the IML conference was provided. Administrator Barber announced that President Szymanski is now an elected member of the IML Board of Directors. Board members were encouraged to go on-line and look at the handouts from the conference.

There was nothing new to report on the Crete Intermodal. President Szymanski reported that he ran into a CSX representative and word was that the Crete Intermodal isn't going to happen anymore and now may be rail-served warehousing in that area.

#### **H. OLD BUSINESS**

Administrator Barber reported that the new Public Works truck approved by the Board in May will be picked up this week.

#### **I. NEW BUSINESS**

Administrator Barber reported that the first meeting in October will be held on Tuesday, October 9<sup>th</sup> due to the Columbus Day holiday, and the first meeting in November will be held on Tuesday, November 13<sup>th</sup> due to the Veteran's Day holiday.

There being no further business to discuss in regular session, Trustee Meyer made a motion to adjourn into Executive Session at 7:36 p.m. to discuss the candidates for two full-time and two part-time employees for the Public Works Department. Trustee Wehling seconded the motion.

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

NAYS: (0) None.

Motion Carried.

Trustee Wehling made a motion to return from Executive Session at 7:52 p.m. Trustee Basile seconded the motion.

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

NAYS: (0) None.

Motion Carried.

Trustee Mazurek made a motion to approve hiring of full-time candidates Jacob Pevion and Alex Witkowsky, effective October 1<sup>st</sup>, subject to physical and drug test. Trustee Meyer seconded the motion.

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

NAYS: (0) None.

Motion Carried.

Trustee Mazurek made a motion to offer part-time Public Works positions to Carter Crandall and Jesse Kilbourn, effective October 1<sup>st</sup>, subject to drug screens. Trustee Basile seconded the motion.

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

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 Mazurek, Basile, Wehling, Meyer and Kraus.

NAYS: (0) None.

Motion Carried.

Meeting adjourned at 7:54 p.m.

Respectfully submitted by:

  
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Janett Conner  
Village Clerk