

**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
August 26, 2019 -- 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, Kypuros and Meyer.

ABSENT: Trustee Kraus.

STAFF PRESENT: Clerk Janett Conner, Administrator Robert Barber, Public Works Superintendent Matt Conner, Chief Greg Smith and Building Inspector Tom Pahnke.

GUEST: George Schuitema.

President Szymanski asked for consideration of the minutes of the August 12, 2019 Board meeting. Trustee Wehling made a motion to approve the minutes as written. Trustee Basile seconded the motion.

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

NAYS: (0) None.

Motion Carried.

CLERK'S REPORT

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

Clerk Conner reported that the Chicago Southland Convention and Visitor's Bureau will be holding their annual awards luncheon on October 2nd. Governor Pritzker and Representative Robin Kelly will be speaking at the luncheon. Anyone interested in attending was asked to let her know.

RECOGNITION OF AUDIENCE: None.

A. FINANCE AND ADMINISTRATION COMMITTEE

RESOLUTION #2019-09 – A Resolution of participation in the State and Federal Surplus Property Program. Trustee Basile made a motion to adopt Resolution #2019-09. Trustee Mazurek seconded the motion.

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

NAYS: (0) None.

Motion Carried.

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A SWAHM/IPBC health insurance pool update was provided. The Village's current fund balance is \$100,134 with \$33,360 of this amount being unrestricted.

An IMIC Liability Insurance Pool update was provided. Beecher, as a founding member, has accumulated \$636,139 in unrestricted fund balance which is being paid back to the members over time in the form of dividends according to a formula approved by the Board last year.

The AZAVAR Government Solutions quarterly report was provided for review.

B. PUBLIC BUILDINGS AND PROPERTIES, PARKS AND RECREATION COMMITTEE

No report.

C. PLANNING, BUILDING AND ZONING COMMITTEE

The Planning and Zoning Commission will be meeting on Thursday, August 29th to review the proposed comprehensive plan in workshop session.

It was reported that Safebuilt is requesting amending the building permit fees. Inspector Tom Pahnke was present at the meeting to answer questions. The fees haven't been changed since 2014. Either a flat fee of \$1,500 per unit for all residential construction or fees calculated by square foot were considered. The company also ran a comparison between the flat fee and the square footage fee adopted by Peotone and this comparison was enclosed for review. Safebuilt indicated they would agree to either one of the fee increases. Trustee Mazurek made a motion to authorize the President and Clerk to sign a new agreement with Safebuilt to amend building permit fees including implementation of a flat fee of \$1,500 per new residential construction and increase permit fees on other permit types. Trustee Kypuros seconded the motion.

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

NAYS: (0) None.

Motion Carried.

Inspector Tom Pahnke indicated he is also available to answer any other building department questions the Board may have. Administrator Barber commented on a cement barrier that the Village put behind the gas meter behind Dunkin Donuts after the building owner failed to do so. The Fire Department is requesting that bollards be installed instead. Tom Pahnke reported that the code requires bollards be added as a barrier to the gas meter due to the drive-through that was added when the units were separated but felt the concrete barrier is sufficient. This will be worked out with the Fire Department.

Trustee Mazurek asked that the matter placing a moratorium on all fees for new residential construction on all fully improved lots be tabled until the next meeting.

The Board discussed referring a proposed Zoning Ordinance permitting the sale of recreational cannabis by special use permit in certain districts to the Planning and Zoning Commission (PZC). This referral would allow for the PZC to review the proposal and hold public hearings. Staff

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recommended the Village decide whether to prohibit or regulate the sale of recreational cannabis by January 1, 2020 when the new law takes effect. Some Board members felt that the residents of Illinois never got to vote on this issue and didn't believe selling recreational cannabis was good for Beecher. Others indicated since we cannot regulate the use or possession and people will be using it, we should get revenue to help deal with this. Some wanted to be open minded since this will affect us as a community and supported due process through the PZC for hearing. After much discussion, Trustee Mazurek made a motion authorizing the referral to the PZC of a proposed Zoning Ordinance permitting the sale of recreational cannabis by special use permit in certain zoning districts. Trustee Meyer seconded the motion.

AYES: (4) Trustees Mazurek, Wehling, Kypuros and Meyer.

NAYS: (1) Trustee Basile.

Motion Carried.

D. PUBLIC SAFETY COMMITTEE

The status of the full-time officer hiring list was deferred until the next meeting when Trustee Kraus is present.

It was reported that the Fire Department has begun its commercial building fire safety inspections.

E. PUBLIC WORKS COMMITTEE

A wastewater treatment plant project update was provided by Trustee Kypuros. Trustee Kypuros made a motion authorizing an extension of time for the completion of the wastewater treatment plant project to November 8, 2019 for substantial completion and December 27, 2019 for final completion. IHC and Baxter and Woodman have agreed to not charge the Village any additional expense for this extension. A letter of request was provided in the packet for review. Trustee Mazurek seconded the motion.

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

NAYS: (0) None.

Motion Carried.

Superintendent Conner provided a lead service line removal update. He has been working with Robinson Engineering locating watermains and b-boxes and talking with the EPA for the project. There is no timeline for the project at this time.

The Dixie Highway watermain design proposals are due in September and Superintendent Conner will present them next month for review.

Superintendent Conner provided an update on the stump removal program. BMS Landscaping has ground 40 stumps. Public Works still needs to restore those areas.

A road patching update was provided. Depending on weather, work is supposed to begin Friday.

Trustee Kypuros reported a need to replace Jake Pevion in the Public Works Department, due to his recent resignation to pursue a baseball scholarship at Kankakee Community College. The

application process will be opened up again. One person from last hiring process will be asked to return for another interview without having to apply again. Ads will be run through Indeed again. The goal is to have interviews completed by the September 23rd Board meeting.

F. ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT AND COMMUNITY RELATIONS COMMITTEE

Trustee Meyer provided a sesquicentennial update. The book is currently in the first draft and will be given to the publisher for detailed work on layout and design. There is a need to decide what to do on Sunday, August 2nd, 2020, where a community church picnic was discussed. The entire Village Board is now the committee with the new committee of the whole structure. The street dance is Friday, July 25th on Gould Street and the laser light show is the night of the Lions Summerfest on Saturday, August 1st. Trustee Basile asked if any other businesses would like to participate on Gould Street to see if they are interested in the band on the street. A letter will be sent out to food businesses in Beecher to see their interest in selling food during the street dance, or consider food trucks.

Board members were asked if they had any ideas for the fall newsletter to let staff know.

G. VILLAGE PRESIDENT'S REPORT

No report.

H. OLD BUSINESS

The following monthly reports were provided in the packet for review:

1. Building Department
2. Police Department
3. EMA
4. Code Enforcement
5. Water
6. Sewer

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

NAYS: (0) None.

Motion Carried.

Meeting adjourned at 7:33 p.m.

Respectfully submitted by:

Janett Conner
Village Clerk