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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  
JANUARY 13, 2020 -- 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 Kraus.

ABSENT: Trustee Meyer.

**STAFF PRESENT:** Clerk Janett Conner, Administrator Robert Barber, Public Works Superintendent Matt Conner and Chief of Police Greg Smith.

**GUESTS:** George Schuitema.

President Szymanski asked for consideration of the minutes of the December 9, 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 Kraus.

NAYS: (0) None.

Motion carried.

**VILLAGE CLERK REPORT**

Clerk Conner reported on income received since November 25, 2019.

**REPORTS OF VILLAGE COMMISSIONS**

There was no report for the Beautification Commission or Fourth of July Commission.

Trustee Mazurek reported that the next Youth Commission event is bowling on Martin Luther King Day. Their next meeting is this Wednesday.

Trustee Wehling reported that the next Historic Preservation meeting will be held on January 15<sup>th</sup> at 6 p.m. at the Depot.

**VILLAGE PRESIDENT REPORT**

Board members considered referring the fence ordinance to the Planning and Zoning Commission (PZC) for a workshop to consider permitting solid fences in the rear and side yards not exceeding six feet in height. President Szymanski explained privacy issues have changed in time and he

would like this issue looked at again. Trustee Wehling expressed concerns about solid fences and safety. He asked for opinion from Chief Smith. Chief Smith said it can go either way. It could help avoid some neighbor disputes even though they would like open fences for police visibility. The history of the fencing issue was discussed. After some discussion, Trustee Mazurek made a motion to refer the fence ordinance to the PZC for a workshop to consider permitting solid fences in rear and side yards not to exceed six feet in height. Trustee Kraus seconded the motion.

AYES: (4) Trustees Mazurek, Basile, Kypuros and Kraus.

NAYS: (1) Trustee Wehling.

Motion carried.

**A. FINANCE AND ADMINISTRATION COMMITTEE**

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

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

NAYS: (0) None.

Motion carried.

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

A list of bills totaling \$168,494.25 to be paid was available for review. A summary of the list of bills was provided. Trustee Basile made a motion to approve payment of the list of bills as presented. Trustee Mazurek seconded the motion.

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

NAYS: (0) None.

Motion carried.

A workshop will be held to discuss the five-year financial plan at the end of the Board meeting.

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

A referendum to determine interest in establishing a park district will be on the March 17<sup>th</sup> ballot. Information to go out to residents before the referendum.

Trustee Wehling has set up a meeting with a splash pad vendor on Wednesday. He will let the Board know what comes out of the meeting.

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

The Building Department annual report was included in the packet for review. Only one new home permit was issued and 230 miscellaneous permits for home improvements.

The next PZC meeting is scheduled for January 23<sup>rd</sup> at 7:00 p.m.

#### **D. PUBLIC SAFETY COMMITTEE**

Trustee Kraus provided a new full-time hiring list for police officers. The list will be good for two years upon approval.

The Police Department's new 2020 pick-up truck has arrived and is being set up with equipment.

The 2019 animal control annual report was provided in the packet for review. This year's program cost \$1,830.

Trustee Kraus requested an Executive Session be held at the end of the meeting to consider a candidate for full-time employment replacing Officer Sipple who joined the auto theft task force.

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

Administrator Barber provided a wastewater treatment plant improvement project update. A meeting will be held on Tuesday. There are some issues with the new SCADA system that are being worked through. Restoration at the plant will not occur until April. A May or June ribbon cutting is being anticipated.

A Gould Street watermain project update was provided. The project low bid of \$880,000 was extended to June 15, 2020 for a 2% surcharge. We are still waiting to hear how the State is going to fund these projects they have committed to in the capital bill.

A water loss update was provided. Public Works, using the leak detection equipment purchased in 2017, found two substantial leaks in Nantucket Cove Subdivision due to failed service lines. The lines have been dug up and repaired. Superintendent Conner reported that he found an additional leak in Nantucket Cove which will be repaired this week. Public Works will be looking at Prairie Crossings and Prairie Crossings South next.

Trustee Kypuros made a motion to approve payment to Baxter and Woodman in the amount of \$19,521.52 for construction management services at the Beecher wastewater treatment plant pending the receipt of Illinois Environmental Protection Agency (IEPA) load funds. Trustee Mazurek seconded the motion.

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

NAYS: (0) None.

Motion carried.

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

The Economic Development and Community Relations Committee report was tabled until Trustee Meyer could be present.

#### **ADJOURN INTO EXECUTIVE SESSION**

Trustee Wehling made a motion to adjourn into Executive Session at 7:22 p.m. to consider a candidate for full-time police officer to replace Roger Sipple. Trustee Basile seconded the motion.

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

NAYS: (0) None.

Motion carried.

Trustee Kraus made a motion to return to regular session at 7:46 p.m. Trustee Kypuros seconded the motion.

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

NAYS: (0) None.

Motion carried.

Trustee Kraus made a motion to authorize hiring of Brian Fravel as new full-time Police officer as a lateral transfer. Trustee Wehling seconded the motion.

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

NAYS: (1) Trustee Basile.

Motion carried.

### **NEW BUSINESS**

President Szymanski indicated that the Buchmeier building on Penfield will need to be addressed in the near future due to the condition of the building. The building does have historical significance. He wanted to make the Board aware of the issue.

The Board reviewed the five-year financial plan. Administrator Barber went over the eight points in the cover memo of the plan. After some discussion, Trustee Basile made a motion to approve five-year plan for fiscal years 2020-2024. Trustee Kypuros seconded the motion.

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

NAYS: (0) None.

Motion carried.

The following reports were provided in the packet for review:

1. Building Department – November
2. Building Department – December
3. Police Department – November
4. Police Department – December
5. Water Department – November
6. Water Department – December
7. Sewer Department – November
8. Sewer Department – December
9. Sewer Plant Annual Report – 2019
10. Water Billing Register – November-December, 2019

There being no further business, President Szymanski asked for a motion to adjourn. Trustee

Kypuros made a motion to adjourn the meeting. Trustee Kraus seconded the motion.  
AYES: (5) Trustees Mazurek, Basile, Wehling, Kypuros and Kraus.  
NAYS: (0) None.  
Motion carried.

Meeting adjourned at 8:02 p.m.

Respectfully submitted by:



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Janett Conner  
Village Clerk