

AC

**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 27, 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, Wehling, Kypuros, Meyer and Kraus.

ABSENT: Trustee Basile.

STAFF PRESENT: Clerk Janett Conner, Administrator Robert Barber, Public Works Superintendent Matt Conner, Public Works Foreman Jim Pratl, Chief Greg Smith, and Ray Koenig and Nicole Schaeffer from Baxter and Woodman.

GUEST: Edward Hiller and George Schuitema.

President Szymanski asked for consideration of the minutes of the January 13, 2020 Board meeting. Trustee Kypuros made a motion to approve the minutes as written. Trustee Kraus seconded the motion.

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

NAYS: (0) None.

ABSTAIN: (1) Trustee Meyer.

Motion Carried.

CLERK'S REPORT

No report.

RECOGNITION OF AUDIENCE

Ed Hiller was present and requested a change to the Village Ordinance to allow an additional liquor license to be issued. There are currently no liquor licenses available. Mr. Hiller has been working with staff on a proposal for a high end wine bar with food for the building at 436 Dixie Highway in association with Orchid Development. The information was previously provided to the Economic Development Committee. He plans to have pool tables and pool leagues, entertainment, video gaming and also offer breakfast, lunch and tapas at dinner time. Board members were provided a copy of the business plan. He will need the main area to be 1,500 sf or less or will be required to install sprinklers. Questions were asked about possible noise from entertainment. Mr. Hiller said he would offer more low key music such as acoustic guitar, karaoke, etc. Entertainment will be geared towards age 40+. The Board discussed whether they

would be willing to increase the liquor licenses to accommodate his business. He is needing some type of approval of the liquor license so he can move forward with purchase of the building from the bank. There were no objections to letting Mr. Hiller proceed subject to compliance with the Village ordinances and see where the project goes once more detailed plans are provided. It was the consensus of the Board to have the Village Attorney draft an ordinance adding one Class A liquor license to the ordinance.

REPORT OF THE VILLAGE PRESIDENT

A railroad quiet zone update was provided. The Notice of Intent Letter comment period expired January 24th with no comments received. The Village will apply for a permit from the railroad to make required improvements and apply for a permit from Will County to move the grain elevator driveway. This work will be done in the spring and it's hoped to have a final inspection of the work from the FRA in the summer to get the quiet zone approved. Staff received a certified letter from railroad that agrees to the terms of the quiet zone. The Village still needs engineer review and approval from FRA.

A legislative breakfast will be held in Homewood on February 7th. Board members were asked to let President Szymanski know if anyone is interested in attending.

PUBLIC WORKS COMMITTEE

Nichole Schaeffer from Baxter and Woodman made a presentation on an application for a permit for a Class I wastewater treatment plant permit. The Village has to be in compliance with all special conditions to construct a Class I facility. The engineer was asked to explain to the Board why it needs to spend another \$60,000 in engineering fees to achieve compliance with the Class I facility permit. The application involves surveying the industrial users in town for their use of phosphorous, drafting an O + M plan for phosphorous removal at the plant, and continuation of monitoring and compliance reporting over the coming five years.

The water and sewer pumping, billing and treatment report for 2019 was provided in the packet for review. The gallons billed appears to be trending downward every year to the point that the \$0.10 increase each year for the water and sewer departments is not keeping up with the rate of inflation. Staff felt this trend needs to be monitored. Trustee Kypuros felt this is a concern and needs to be addressed at budget time because the \$0.10 increase each year is not keeping up with expenses.

A Gould Street watermain project update was provided. The Will County Governmental League has been asked to intervene on the Village's behalf to see if Beecher's project funding can be pushed along. Our project is ready to go while almost every other project has not even been designed yet.

Trustee Kypuros made a motion authorizing payment to I.H.C. in the amount of \$479,500.30 as a progress payment at the Beecher wastewater treatment plant upon receipt of I.E.P.A. loan funds. A copy of the invoice was provided in the packet for review. Trustee Mazurek seconded the motion.

AYES: (5) Trustees Mazurek, Wehling, Kypuros, Meyer and Kraus.
NAYS: (0) None.
Motion Carried.

FINANCE AND ADMINISTRATION COMMITTEE

RESOLUTION #2020-01 – A Resolution adopting a drug and alcohol policy for Village employees which now includes cannabis. Trustee Meyer made a motion to adopt Resolution #2020-01. Trustee Kraus seconded the motion.

AYES: (5) Trustees Mazurek, Wehling, Kypuros, Meyer and Kraus.
NAYS: (0) None.
Motion Carried.

PUBLIC BUILDINGS AND PROPERTIES, PARKS AND RECREATION COMMITTEE

Trustee Wehling provided a report on a meeting with a vendor regarding a splash pad. He should have some type of rendering by the next meeting. The planned location is in Firemen’s Park.

PLANNING, BUILDING AND ZONING COMMITTEE

A report on the results of the first PZC workshop on the issue of fences was provided. A public hearing will be held on February 27th at the Washington Township Center. Trustee Kypuros felt the biggest issue may be privacy fences.

PUBLIC SAFETY COMMITTEE

Trustee Kraus made a motion declaring a 2007 Ford Expedition as surplus property. This was a former EMA vehicle. Trustee Wehling seconded the motion.

AYES: (5) Trustees Mazurek, Wehling, Kypuros, Meyer and Kraus.
NAYS: (0) None.
Motion Carried.

A Laraway Communications Center Board of Directors meeting has been scheduled for Thursday, January 30th. Trustee Kraus and Administrator Barber plan to attend.

The Public Safety Committee met to discuss the code enforcement program for 2020. Trustee Kraus reported it was decided the program should be removed from the Police Department and moved back to the Village Hall.

ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT AND COMMUNITY RELATIONS COMMITTEE

Trustee Meyer reported that the Committee is considering having an open house for potential residential builders, which could also include local realtors. No date has been set yet. Committee will work on this.

A Sesquicentennial update was provided. The Committee has booked a band for the street dance on Saturday, July 25th. This will include food vendors. Events are also being planned for the Beecher Lions Club Summerfest on Saturday, August 1st, including a skit on the stage by the Beecher Part-Time Players, a huge birthday cake, and the laser light show. The history book on the past 25 years is also progressing along. \$17,000 has been raised to fund the printing of the book with any remaining funds being used to fund the rest of the celebration.

NEW BUSINESS

Trustee Meyer commented that people have been posting on Facebook about a TV show on HGTV that is holding a contest to help redo old downtowns or parks. Trustee Meyer is working on getting some video and pictures to submit for the contest.

President Szymanski said a videographer will be making a film on Beecher for the Census Bureau this week.

President Szymanski reported that he received a call from Lacey's. They currently have a beer and wine license and want to expand to a full liquor license. Board members were asked their opinion on this. President Szymanski said there were some previous code violations and he would like to require a condition of issuing this license be confirmation that those code violations have been corrected. The Village Attorney will be directed to draft an ordinance expanding the number of liquor licenses by two. One license for Lacey's and one for the business proposed by Ed Hiller earlier in the meeting.

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

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

NAYS: (0) None.

Motion Carried.

Meeting adjourned at 8:06 p.m.

Respectfully submitted by:



Janett Conner
Village Clerk