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**MINUTES OF THE SPECIAL MEETING OF THE PRESIDENT  
& BOARD OF TRUSTEES OF THE VILLAGE OF BEECHER  
HELD AT THE BEECHER VILLAGE HALL,  
625 DIXIE HIGHWAY, BEECHER, ILLINOIS  
WEDNESDAY, MARCH 18, 2020 -- 4:00 P.M.**

All present joined in the Pledge to the Flag.

President Szymanski called the meeting to order.

**ROLL CALL**

**PRESENT** (in person): President Szymanski and Trustees Mazurek, Basile, Wehling, Kypuros, Meyer and Kraus.

**ABSENT:** None.

**STAFF PRESENT** (in person): Clerk Janett Conner, Administrator Robert Barber, Public Works Superintendent Matt Conner, Chief Greg Smith and Public Works Foreman Jim Pratl.

**GUESTS:** None.

President Szymanski read the attached prepared statement explaining the circumstances of this special meeting and changes needed to conduct Village business due to the Covid-19 pandemic.

ORDINANCE #1325 – An Ordinance amending Title I, Chapter 15 of the Beecher Municipal Code pertaining to civil emergencies. Administrator Barber explained the need to update the code relating to civil emergencies and how business would be conducted until a regular Board meeting can be held again. Meetings may be done by teleconference until an in-person meeting can be held. Trustee Wehling made a motion to approve Ordinance #1325. Trustee Meyer seconded the motion.

**AYES:** (6) Trustees Mazurek, Basile, Wehling, Kypuros, Meyer and Kraus.

**NAYS:** (0) None.

Motion Carried.

RESOLUTION #2020-06 – A Resolution adopting an amended policy for the hiring of full-time sworn Police officers in the Village of Beecher. Trustee Kraus made a motion to adopt Resolution #2020-06. Trustee Wehling seconded the motion.

**AYES:** (6) Trustees Mazurek, Basile, Wehling, Kypuros, Meyer and Kraus.

**NAYS:** (0) None.

Motion Carried.

Trustee Kraus made a motion to approve appointment of Ryan Drew as a full-time Police officer replacing Officer Ron Mazurek. Trustee Wehling seconded the motion.

**AYES:** (6) Trustees Mazurek, Basile, Wehling, Kypuros, Meyer and Kraus.

**NAYS:** (0) None.

Motion Carried.

Trustee Basile made a motion to approve delaying the budget review and appropriation process for 90 days as provided by law. Trustee Mazurek seconded the motion. After some discussion, Trustee Basile and Trustee Mazurek rescinded their motion and second. The Board decided to wait on taking action on delaying the budget process at this time.

Trustee Basile made a motion to cancel Village Board meetings up to April 13<sup>th</sup>. Trustee Meyer seconded the motion.

AYES: (6) Trustees Mazurek, Basile, Wehling, Kypuros, Meyer and Kraus.

NAYS: (0) None.

Motion Carried.

Staff will continue to follow usual procedures of providing the Board with timely relevant information such as the list of bills, Treasurer's report and monthly reports for review and make comment before anything is paid or action is taken.

### **NEW BUSINESS**

Trustee Kraus asked if anything could be done to help local businesses to support them during the pandemic. Information will be provided to local businesses as staff becomes aware of any resources that become available.

Trustee Kypuros asked about fuel bids to be opened on Thursday.

The following reports were provided in the packet for review:

1. Sewer Department Monthly Report
2. Water Billing Register

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

NAYS: (0) None.

Motion Carried.

Meeting adjourned at 4:30 p.m.

Respectfully submitted by:

  
\_\_\_\_\_  
Janett Conner  
Village Clerk

3-18-18  
Special Board Meeting  
President Szymanski's Comments

Welcome this is a special board meeting on 3-18-2020. Under these circumstances we have been advised by our attorney that we can only discuss and approve items on the agenda.

Our seating arrangements look different to comply with the social distancing guidelines

The Village Board including myself, our staff, police fire and EMA departments are closely monitoring the COVID-19 pandemic and are implementing recommendations released by the Center for Disease Control (CDC), the Illinois Department of Health (IDPH), the Will County Health Department, as well as The office of The President of the United States and the Governor's Office. For any updated information I would recommend you visit any one of those websites.

We will continue to provide all essential services, but changes are being made to minimize exposure to our first responders, staff and members of the Village Board. First responders and other employees may be wearing protective equipment. Business may be conducted by phone.

We have stopped replacing Water meters unless absolutely necessary and we have closed our municipal buildings to the general public.

All regularly scheduled meetings of Village committees and commissions are suspended until further notice.

All Village Board Meetings after this date are cancelled at least until April 13<sup>th</sup>. Special Board Meetings will be called as needed. If one is called, we will continue to post the meeting notice, video tape it, and post it on our U Tube Channel, even tho the meeting may be conducted by a conference call.

The Village is suspending late fees on dog tags until further notice so dog tags continue to be \$10 each and may be purchased online through our E-Pay system, and beginning March 19<sup>th</sup> the drive-up window will be used for communications only

We are suspending late fees for water bills until the next billing cycle. Water shut offs are suspended until July 1<sup>st</sup> 2020. As always, if anyone needs help, please contact the Village Hall and we will be happy to work with you to make payments.



We have extended for 60 days any Village issued, business, liquor, and vending machine license, as well as contractors licenses.

We are encouraging our residents and customers to use the drop box located just outside the front door of the Village Hall, the United States Mail and the E-Pay system on the Village's website for municipal payments. The drive up window will be used for communications only.

Anyone using the E-Pay system will have the convenience fees refunded to you on your water billing account.

We are asking anyone who needs to conduct business with the village with a physical presence should call the village hall, make an appointment and guide you from there

Anyone that feels ill should, stay home, call their doctor and follow their instructions or in an emergency dial 911

Practice good hygiene, clean commonly used surfaces often, and practice social distancing, avoiding any type of group gathering

If you must purchase supplies, do not overbuy. So there enough for everyone

seated dining in our bars and restaurants has been prohibited, but I encourage you to take advantage of those restaurants that are providing carry outs.

If we work as a team, we will get through this national emergency

We will continue to review how we do business, and update you of any changes. Once again for information on the virus itself, visit the CDC, IDPH and the Will County Health Departments websites.

If you have any questions please call the Village Hall. The Village hall is currently fully staffed and will be conducting business during normal businesses.

Greg Szymanski  
Village President  
03/18/2020

