



**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  
MARCH 8, 2021 -- 7:00 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 Meyer, Wehling, Kypuros, Kraus and Juzeszyn.

**PRESENT REMOTELY:** Trustee Mazurek.

**ABSENT:** None.

**STAFF PRESENT:** Clerk Janett Conner, Administrator Robert Barber, Public Works Superintendent Matt Conner, Chief Greg Smith and Treasurer Donna Rooney. All observed COVID mitigations and stayed at least 6' apart.

**GUESTS:** Jonathan Flowers and Joe Tieri.

President Szymanski asked for consideration of the minutes of the February 8, 2021 Board meeting. Trustee Wehling made a motion to approve the minutes as written. Trustee Meyer seconded the motion.

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

**NAYS:** (0) None.

Motion Carried.

**CLERK'S REPORT**

1) A report on income received since the last meeting was provided. 2) Clerk Conner announced that the dog tag deadline is March 15<sup>th</sup>. 3) Clerk Conner read aloud a thank you letter from the U.S. Census Bureau recognizing Beecher for Census efforts and for having the highest response rate among all regions.

**VILLAGE PRESIDENT REPORT**

A COVID update was provided by President Szymanski. Our local area communities have been working with the Will County Health Department to suggest a place to hold a mass vaccination site in Eastern Will County. Recommendations were provided and we were told a site will be announced soon but we have heard nothing yet.

## **RECOGNITION OF AUDIENCE**

The Board considered bids for the replacement of lead service lines pending approval of a grant agreement with the Illinois Environmental Protection Agency (IEPA). This project is 100% funded by the IEPA with the exception of the meter installation portion of the project, which is funded by a 20-year IEPA loan at 1.2%. Jonathan Flowers from Robinson Engineering was present and explained the discrepancy on how the bids were made out relating to the meter replacement portion of the bid. Mr. Flowers recommended the best option would be to rebid the project. This would put the project back by approximately a month. He also proposed some other options to minimize costs. Trustee Kypuros said the Village would see significant savings if the Village purchased the meters and dedicated two Public Works employees to do the meter installs instead of having the contractor do it. After much discussion, Trustee Meyer made a motion to table awarding of the bid for the replacement of lead service lines and direct the engineer to instruct the contractors to remove the meter installation portion of their bid or withdraw their bid. This issue will be discussed at the March 22, 2021 budget workshop. Trustee Kypuros seconded the motion.

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

NAYS: (0) None.

Motion Carried.

## **A. FINANCE AND ADMINISTRATION COMMITTEE**

Trustee Kypuros made a motion to approve the Treasurer's Report of financial activity in the prior month. Treasurer Rooney was present and provided a report. Trustee Meyer seconded the motion.

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

NAYS: (0) None.

Motion Carried.

Variance reports for the previous month were included in the packet for review.

Trustee Kypuros read aloud bills that were added since the bill list was sent out. The petty cash bill for the Police Department in the amount of \$200 will be pulled from payment until next month, pending receipts. Trustee Kypuros made a motion to approve payment of the list of bills in the amount of \$101,252.62. Trustee Meyer seconded the motion.

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

NAYS: (0) None.

Motion Carried.

The Finance Committee held a workshop on Saturday to review the budget for Fiscal Year 2021/2022. A budget workshop of the full Village Board will be held on Monday, March 22<sup>nd</sup> at 7 p.m. at the Public Works facility, 30251 S. Cardinal Creek Boulevard. This workshop is in lieu of the regular meeting scheduled for the same time and date.

Trustee Kypuros made a motion to donate \$15,000 to the Beecher 4th of July Commission for the first installment on the 2020 fireworks show which was cancelled in 2020 and to be rescheduled for 2021. The Fourth of July Commission had to pay \$15,000 in exchange for not holding the

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show in 2020, but Melrose Pyrotechnics agreed to allow all of their clients to use the cancellation fee as a down payment for next year's show. The Village applied for CARES Act funding to cover this initial fee and it was awarded. Trustee Wehling seconded the motion.

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

NAYS: (0) None.

Motion Carried.

Trustee Kypuros requested an Executive Session be held at the end of the meeting to discuss a tentative collective bargaining agreement with UIOE Local #399 Clerical.

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

Trustee Wehling provided a splash pad update. The Village has been given a loan offer of 1.8% for ten years on \$175,000 from First Community Bank and Trust for a splash pad which requires an annual payment of \$19,075 from the General Fund. The Committee is in the process of obtaining new pricing and specifications and a bid opening on the project will have to be held due to the scope of the project. Staff will check with the bank and see how long this interest rate is good and if it can be locked in. This project will be discussed further at budget time.

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

The Planning and Zoning Commission will hold a meeting on March 25<sup>th</sup> to consider a variance for a fence in a front yard setback at 320 Mallards Cove (corrected from 300 Mallards Cove).

**D. PUBLIC SAFETY COMMITTEE** - No report.

## **E. PUBLIC WORKS COMMITTEE**

The Board discussed a four-year maintenance agreement with Concentric Integration, LLC in the amount of \$9,065 per year for servicing and updating the computerized mechanization of the Beecher wastewater treatment plant. It was questioned whether it would be better to pay for service as needed for time and materials instead of approving a four-year maintenance contract. Superintendent Conner recommended not spending the money on the maintenance agreement and in the next year it can be determined if a maintenance agreement would be more beneficial. The Board agreed to pay as we go for servicing and updating on the system at this time instead of approving the maintenance agreement.

It was reported that the Gould Street watermain bid process is still on hold because the State has not released the grant agreement due to the many changing regulations pertaining to minority contracting passed by the General Assembly.

An update was provided on the Dixie Highway watermain replacement project. One segment has been added to this design at Indiana Avenue since there was more sandcast main at that intersection than thought. Bids will be solicited after we learn the results of the Gould Street watermain project.

## F. ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT AND COMMUNITY RELATIONS COMMITTEE

The Board again discussed the Spring newsletter. It was also decided that any business that advertised in the last two newsletters would be offered a free ad of the same size as previously purchased. Trustee Juzeszyn recommended items of interest to the residents, a contact information corner for vaccine scheduling, reminder about e-recycling in Peotone, spotlight on Village employees by department to build rapport with community members, updates on projects, quiet zone, and maybe a community contest like a photo contest to engage the community.

The Board was asked about the Sesquicentennial and what to do about a celebration since it was cancelled last year. Board members voiced that this type of celebration doesn't happen very often so something should be done if it is allowed under Covid guidelines.

## G. OLD BUSINESS – None.

## I. NEW BUSINESS

There being no further business to discuss in regular session, Trustee Kypuros made a motion to adjourn into Executive Session at 8:05 p.m. to discuss a tentative collective bargaining agreement with UIOE Local #399 Clerical and discuss potential new part-time hire in the Police Department. Trustee Kraus seconded the motion.

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

NAYS: (0) None.

Motion Carried.

Trustee Kypuros made a motion to return to regular session at 9:32 p.m. Trustee Meyer seconded.

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

NAYS: (0) None.

Motion Carried.

The Board discussed whether to put flower baskets up at all this year and whether to put them up on Dixie Highway. It was the consensus to do flower baskets this year.

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

1. Building Department monthly report
2. Water Department monthly report
3. Sewer Department monthly report
4. Police Department monthly report
5. AZAVAR quarterly report
6. Phosphorous removal reports – Beecher wastewater treatment plant

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

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

NAYS: (0) None.

Motion Carried.

Meeting adjourned at 9:38 p.m.

Respectfully submitted by:

  
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Janett Conner  
Village Clerk