



**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
JUNE 28, 2021 -- 7:00 P.M.**

All present joined in the Pledge to the Flag.

President Meyer called the meeting to order.

ROLL CALL

PRESENT: President Meyer and Trustees Kypuros, Juzeszyn, Gianotti, Tieri, Stacey and Kraus.

ABSENT: None.

STAFF PRESENT: Clerk Janett Conner, Administrator Robert Barber, Public Works Superintendent Matt Conner, Chief Greg Smith and Attorney Tim Kuiper.

GUESTS: George Schuitema, Dale Murray, Bob Heim and Janet Paulmeier.

President Meyer asked for consideration of the minutes of the June 14, 2021 Board meeting. Trustee Kypuros made a motion to approve the minutes with one correction; a wrong name listed on one of the appointments made last meeting. Trustee Gianotti seconded the motion.

AYES: (6) Trustees Kypuros, Juzeszyn, Gianotti, Tieri, Stacey and Kraus.

NAYS: (0) None.

Motion Carried.

VILLAGE CLERK'S REPORT - No report.

RECOGNITION OF AUDIENCE

Janet Paulmeier spoke about a car in their cul-de-sac earlier in June that did donuts on the street. She called dispatch, and said it took 15 minutes for an officer to show up and when the officer came they said the plate number didn't come up with an owner. She said she called someone else and they were able to run it successfully. She felt this was unacceptable.

VILLAGE PRESIDENT REPORT

Administrator Barber provided an update of the strategic plan. He is still waiting for a few of the surveys to come in so he can compile the results.

President Meyer requested an Executive Session be held at the end of the meeting to discuss employee contracts, appointments and pending litigation.

A. FINANCE AND ADMINISTRATION COMMITTEE

The Village Treasurer's annual report was provided in the packet for review.
The Village Treasurer's vendor payment report was provided in the packet for review.

ORDINANCE #1351 – An Ordinance adding compliance provisions for all contractors having work valued at over \$100,000 in the Village. Trustee Kypuros made a motion to approve Ordinance #1351. Trustee Tieri seconded the motion.

AYES: (6) Trustees Kypuros, Juzeszyn, Gianotti, Tieri, Stacey and Kraus.

NAYS: (0) None.

Motion Carried.

It was reported that the Finance Committee met to discuss the Penfield STP financing plan and other matters. A copy of the plan was provided for review. The Committee also discussed the selection process for auditing firms, cash balances in accounts, future tax levies, and the need for a combined debt schedule. Trustee Kypuros reported on a discussion about auditing firms. He felt the need to go out for bids again for a new auditor as has been done in the past. There was also discussion of the tax levy. He would like to consider the levy on a year by year basis to determine what is needed each year.

Trustee Kypuros made a motion approving the transfer of two accounts from Midland States Bank to First Community Bank and Trust. Trustee Stacey seconded the motion.

AYES: (6) Trustees Kypuros, Juzeszyn, Gianotti, Tieri, Stacey and Kraus.

NAYS: (0) None.

Motion Carried.

Trustee Kypuros made a motion approving the combining of the Ehlers and Ribbon of Hope accounts into one account called Memorials. There is only \$400 in one account and about \$11,000 in the other. Both memorials will be maintained with these funds. Trustee Gianotti seconded.

AYES: (6) Trustees Kypuros, Juzeszyn, Gianotti, Tieri, Stacey and Kraus.

NAYS: (0) None.

Motion Carried.

Trustee Kypuros made a motion creating a new checking account called the American Rescue Plan Account. This account is for the escrow of federal COVID money coming to the Village in the next year. Trustee Juzeszyn seconded the motion.

AYES: (6) Trustees Kypuros, Juzeszyn, Gianotti, Tieri, Stacey and Kraus.

NAYS: (0) None.

Motion Carried.

B. PUBLIC BUILDINGS AND PROPERTIES, PARKS AND RECREATION COMMITTEE

Superintendent Conner provided a splash pad update. M&J Underground hopes to get infrastructure put in by mid-July. Work was delayed due to the wet weather.

C. PLANNING, BUILDING AND ZONING COMMITTEE

The Planning and Zoning Commission (PZC) held a meeting to discuss the proposed Illiana Crossroads Business Park of Beecher. The petitioner, Art VanBaren of Dutch American Foods, has secured approximately 100 acres of property south of Church Road, west of Dixie Highway and east of the Union Pacific railroad tracks and is proposing to construct a business park consisting of approximately 49 one-acre lots and 51 acres of open space/detention area. The preliminary plan and a request for a final PUD for the first phase was presented at the PZC meeting. This property is in the Village's TIF District and in the enterprise zone. It is currently zoned R-1 Residential and would need to be rezoned to I-1 Limited Industrial. The petitioner is willing to create an association which would maintain the 51 acres of open space with each lot paying into the association for this maintenance. Concerns regarding buffering from neighboring residential, the Beecher Fellowship Baptist Church, turning movements, and traffic control were discussed at the workshop. Administrator Barber stated that the PZC will hold a Public Hearing July 28th at 7 p.m. at the Washington Township Center on this project. The Public Hearing notice will be published on the website, Facebook and neighbors of the property will be sent letters. Anyone who can't attend the meeting will be urged to provide written comments to be submitted to the PZC at the Public Hearing.

A demolition order was issued for the foreclosed property at 648 Penfield by the Building Inspector. Since the demolition order was issued, Administrator Barber received a phone call that the property has been taken over by Fannie Mae. The attorney for the bank indicated that since foreclosures, etc. were delayed due to COVID they needed an extension until August 5th on the demolition proceedings. At that time a meeting will be held to authorize demolition of the home.

D. PUBLIC SAFETY COMMITTEE

A full-time officer hiring status was provided. The applicant was sent for a physical and blood test which came back ok. Now he will move forward with the psychological and polygraph testing.

A Code Enforcement program update was provided. The Code Enforcement Officer appointed last month resigned last week for personal reasons. Village Hall staff and the Police Department are working together on code enforcement complaints until a new code officer is found. A previous candidate for the position was interviewed again by the Committee and he is looking for more benefits for the position than what we are offering. For now a part-time officer can be assigned to do the code enforcement. One officer has already expressed interest. This will still need to be discussed further to see how this would work.

E. PUBLIC WORKS COMMITTEE

A railroad quiet zone update was provided. Administrator Barber said the Village is waiting for final inspection from the FRA. Quiet zone should be completed around July 13th.

A Gould Street watermain replacement update was provided. Staff is still working on a Will County permit to go under the road. Only one bid for construction management from Baxter and Woodman was received. The Committee will be meeting to review the bid.

A Dixie Highway watermain replacement update was provided. Staff is waiting to get grants of easement. Once the grants are obtained they will be brought to the Board for approval. The design is almost complete. It's scheduled to be bid out shortly after Gould Street is bid.

Administrator Barber provided an update on the Route #1 resurfacing. In-town grinding is estimated to occur the week of July 4th. The project is supposed to be completed by August 1st.

A 2021 curb and sidewalk replacement program update was provided. Superintendent Conner has been compiling a list from resident complaints and then will also do his own list of needed repairs. He hopes to obtain proposals at the end of July with construction occurring in August or September.

F. ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT AND COMMUNITY RELATIONS COMMITTEE

A report of the results of a meeting with the Finance Chair to discuss plans for use of TIF funds pertaining to the Illiana Crossroads Business Park of Beecher was provided by Trustee Juzeszyn. Although not much can be said right now pending the results of the PUD approval process, progress was made at identifying the needs and the resources available. A redevelopment agreement will be considered after the PUD process is completed.

The Board was asked if they were comfortable with selling ads for the fall newsletter. It was the consensus of the Board that it would be reasonable to solicit ads again at this time.

The Beecher Wastewater Treatment Plant open house plans are underway for Saturday, August 28th from 9 a.m. to noon.

A report was provided on Buddys and Pin and Tonic. Buddys reopened the previous week. Clerk Conner reported that Pin and Tonic is waiting for their State liquor license and gaming permit. They hope to be ready to re-open in mid-July.

A building permit was received to remodel a unit in Prairie Pointe Center at 1111 Dixie Highway for the relocation of Tony's Pizza.

G. OLD BUSINESS - None.

H. NEW BUSINESS

There being no further business to be discussed in regular session, Trustee Kypuros made a motion to adjourn into Executive Session at 7:33 p.m. to discuss employee contracts, appointments and pending litigation. Trustee Kraus seconded the motion.

AYES: (6) Trustees Kypuros, Juzeszyn, Gianotti, Tieri, Stacey and Kraus.

NAYS: (0) None.

Motion Carried.

Trustee Kraus made a motion to return to regular session at 8:26 pm. Trustee Juzeszyn seconded the motion.

AYES: (6) Trustees Kypuros, Juzeszyn, Gianotti, Tieri, Stacey and Kraus.

NAYS: (0) None.

Motion Carried.

ORDINANCE #1352 – An Ordinance authorizing the execution of an employment contract with the Village Administrator. Trustee Kypuros made a motion to approve Ordinance #1352. Trustee Gianotti seconded the motion.

AYES: (6) Trustees Kypuros, Juzeszyn, Gianotti, Tieri, Stacey and Kraus.

NAYS: (0) None.

Motion Carried.

ORDINANCE #1353 – An Ordinance authorizing the execution of an employment contract with the Office Manager. Trustee Kraus made a motion to approve Ordinance #1353. Trustee Stacey seconded the motion.

AYES: (6) Trustees Kypuros, Juzeszyn, Gianotti, Tieri, Stacey and Kraus.

NAYS: (0) None.

Motion Carried.

ORDINANCE #1354 – An Ordinance authorizing the execution of an employment contract with the Superintendent of Public Works. Trustee Juzeszyn made a motion to approve Ordinance #1354. Trustee Tieri seconded the motion.

AYES: (6) Trustees Kypuros, Juzeszyn, Gianotti, Tieri, Stacey and Kraus.

NAYS: (0) None.

Motion Carried.

Trustee Kypuros made a motion authorizing the hiring of John Henson and Brandon Gereg as new Public Works employees with a hiring date of July 6, 2021. Trustee Gianotti seconded the motion.

AYES: (6) Trustees Kypuros, Juzeszyn, Gianotti, Tieri, Stacey and Kraus.

NAYS: (0) None.

Motion Carried.

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

AYES: (6) Trustees Kypuros, Juzeszyn, Gianotti, Tieri, Stacey and Kraus.

NAYS: (0) None.

Motion Carried.

Meeting adjourned at 8:29 p.m.

Respectfully submitted by:



Janett Conner
Village Clerk