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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  
SEPTEMBER 27, 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 and Chief Terry Lemming.

**GUESTS:** David Harrison and George Schuitema.

President Meyer asked for consideration of the minutes of the September 13, 2021 Board meeting. Trustee Kypuros made a motion to approve the minutes as written. Trustee Gianotti seconded the motion.

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

NAYS: (0) None.

Motion Carried.

**CLERK'S REPORT**

The Clerk asked Board members if they would like to order Trustee polo shirts with the Village logo for attending Village events. All indicated they would like to have the shirts. Board members were asked to email the Clerk with their sizes.

**RECOGNITION OF AUDIENCE**

None.

**VILLAGE PRESIDENT REPORT**

Chief Lemming and Administrator Barber interviewed a candidate for a new Code Compliance Officer. The current Code Officer was hired full-time and will be going to midnights on October 1<sup>st</sup>. The Code Officer will also handle special projects for the Police Department as assigned by the Chief. President Meyer appointed David Harrison as Code Compliance Officer. Trustee Kraus made a motion to approve President Meyer's appointment. Trustee Tieri seconded the motion.

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

NAYS: (0) None.

Motion Carried.

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

An update was provided on the \$254,000 loan for the splash pad. The Treasurer asked that we wait until the next meeting to formally consider a loan offer. The Treasurer is trying to obtain three formal offers before drafting the loan agreement and ordinance so is asking for deferral until the October 13<sup>th</sup> meeting.

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

A splash pad update was provided. The change order discussed at the last meeting was under \$5,000 and there was a need to push the project along before the first frost, so the Village Administrator approved a \$2,878 change order for the new walkway. A copy of the change order was enclosed for review. The walk came in at 42 feet in length to meet the 2% slope requirements which made it more expensive than previously thought. Remaining Quiet Zone funds will be used to pay for this.

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

An Administrative Hearing on an appeal to sprinkler requirements for the building at 610 Gould Street has been scheduled to come before the Planning and Zoning Commission on Wednesday, September 29<sup>th</sup>.

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

The new full-time officer will begin on October 1, 2021.

Several applications were received and interviews will be conducted this week and next week for part-time Police Officers.

A Public Safety Committee meeting was held at 6 p.m. to review the initial comments from the architect for the Police station feasibility. The Committee went over the five different options, narrowing it down to the two most realistic options and will get some costs for the two options. The Committee is working with the architect on this.

Chief Lemming reported on the Police Chaplain program. He advised that there are three pastors in town who would like to serve as Police Chaplains. Pastor Ronald Rock from Zion, Pastor Brian Dennert from Faith Church and Pastor Mike Stein from St. Paul's Church. The Chaplain program helps hone an officer's moral compass according to Chief Lemming. The Chaplains will be present at community events and ride along with officers.

The Chief learned that the Police Department network does not have the redundancy necessary to keep the Wi-Fi and phone system up and running in the event of a power failure and needs to add equipment to get this problem fixed. Trustee Kraus made a motion authorizing the purchase of network protection equipment for the Police Department in the amount of \$3,643.44. Trustee Tieri seconded the motion.

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

NAYS: (0) None.

Motion Carried.

The Chief explained the need for the purchase of a chain of evidence software package after auditing the evidence locker. The vault has not been audited in approximately 29 years and needs to be audited. The vault needs to be audited yearly. Trustee Kraus made a motion to authorize the purchase of a chain of evidence software package in the amount of \$5,249. Trustee Tieri seconded the motion.

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

NAYS: (0) None.

Motion Carried.

The Chief explained a proposal for the purchase of five new in-car video systems for patrol vehicles. Chief Lemming identified this project as a very urgent need for the safety of officers and those they come in contact with. The amount of \$10,300 will come from the current budget and \$10,000 from the asset forfeiture account left over from the sale of the Humvees. Trustee Kraus made a motion to approve the purchase of five new in-car video systems for patrol vehicles for \$8,133 in the first year and \$9,183 for the next four years. Trustee Stacey seconded the motion.

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

NAYS: (0) None.

Motion Carried.

## **E. PUBLIC WORKS COMMITTEE**

A Gould Street water main project update was provided. Administrator Barber explained the contractor was asked by DCEO to submit a BEP which is a minority subcontractor commitment for 20%. Two of the four contractors wouldn't comply with this requirement. Two remaining said they would but were unable to find the minority contractors as required. This issue now has to go to an equity committee to review the two bids before the bid can be formally awarded. The Village has already awarded the bid to Brandt subject to DCEO approval. They have 30 days to review the bids.

Superintendent Conner provided a lead service line replacement program update. He talked with Brandt and they reported 338 structures have been inspected and only 53 lead service lines were found so far, which is much less than anticipated. They are looking to start drilling for the 53 service lines in a couple of weeks depending on getting the supplies. Brandt is continuing to do site inspections on the west side of town.

The Dixie Highway water main project has been completely designed and we are awaiting an IDOT permit and obtaining two easements. The project won't be bid until the Gould Street water main project has been awarded to determine funding.

The Penfield STP project is slated for January 21, 2022 bid opening. Some easements have to be signed off and permits required.

The status of the salt supply for the upcoming winter season was explained by Superintendent Conner. We currently have 600 tons in storage. Cargill has had state bid for many years. This year the Arkansas plant was forced to close due to safety concerns so Cargill was unable to get salt. They are going back out to bid. Can get salt elsewhere but the price will be a lot higher. All the municipalities on state bid are having this issue.

Leaf pick up season is scheduled to begin mid-October depending on the weather.

The water billing register was provided in the packet for review. Some leaks were detected and repaired in the last two months. Superintendent Conner reported that Public Works had two breaks in the last three weeks and made three other separate repairs that have most likely been leaking for a while. There was also a water main break that day on Pasadena. These should make a difference in the pumped to billed ratio in the future.

The Sewer Department monthly report was provided in the packet for review.

RESOLUTION #2021-12 – A Resolution endorsing an application for Safe Routes to Schools (SRTS) funds for the closing of gaps in public sidewalks throughout the Village. This is a re-application from last year where we were rejected due to the volume of applications received. The program has changed from a 100% grant with a maximum of \$750,000 to a 20% local match maximum of \$250,000. The engineer's estimate of probable cost is \$500,330 so the Village would have to fund 50% of this project or \$250,000. Trustee Juzeszyn commented on whether there are options to add on to the sidewalk list. There is an area on Fir that doesn't have sidewalks where he feels the kids walk through to go to school. Locations will be looked at when the bids come in. Trustee Gianotti made a motion to adopt Resolution #2012-12. Trustee Juzeszyn seconded the motion.

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

NAYS: (0) None.

Motion Carried.

Trustee Gianotti made a motion to approve an engineering services agreement with Baxter and Woodman in the amount of \$4,000 using MFT funds to design the SRTS sidewalk project and submit the amended application. Trustee Juzeszyn seconded the motion.

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

NAYS: (0) None.

Motion Carried.

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

Trustee Juzeszyn provided a report on the Wastewater Treatment Plant open house held on August 28<sup>th</sup>. There were approximately 80 attendees and it was a hot day. Sewer Plant Operator Hernandez and Administrator Barber provided informative tours of the facility.

October 1<sup>st</sup> is the Fall newsletter deadline and the newsletter will be mailed the week of October 12<sup>th</sup>. The Clerk reported that Washington Township decided not to publish a Fall newsletter. The Clerk said since ads are sold for the newsletter based on the distribution to both Village and Township residents that we should consider refunding some of the ad cost to the businesses. Some discussion followed regarding the selling of ads and the Board decided to reduce the price of ads and no longer partner with the Township on the newsletter when it comes to selling ads.

Trustee Juzeszyn reported on “An Evening of Music in the Park” set for Saturday, October 9<sup>th</sup>. The band has been booked, Lions Club will be providing food, pop and water, and Sit-N-Bull will provide alcoholic beverages. Bean bag games will be put out. Hoping for a good turnout and to have future events like this one.

## **G. OLD BUSINESS**

## **I. NEW BUSINESS**

After a five-minute recess, the Board went into strategic planning part #2 at 7:50 p.m.

After strategic planning discussions, President Meyer asked for a motion to adjourn. Trustee Kraus made a motion to adjourn the meeting. Trustee Juzeszyn seconded the motion.


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

NAYS: (0) None.

Motion Carried.

Meeting adjourned at 9:41 p.m.

Respectfully submitted by:



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Janett Conner  
Village Clerk