

**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 24, 2022 -- 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 Terry Lemming, EMA Director Bob Heim, Attorney Tim Kuiper, and Officers Aaron Dacorte and Brian Fravel. (Officers only present for pinning ceremony.)

GUESTS: George Schuitema, George Obradovich and family members of Officers Dacorte and Fravel. (Family members of officers only present for pinning ceremony.)

President Meyer asked for consideration of the minutes of the January 10, 2022 Board meeting. Trustee Kypuros made a motion to approve the minutes as written. Trustee Juzeszyn seconded the motion.

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

NAYS: (0) None.

Motion Carried.

CLERK'S REPORT

None.

RECOGNITION OF AUDIENCE

None.

VILLAGE PRESIDENT REPORT

Chief Lemming presented two officers for promotion. Aaron Dacorte is being promoted to Sergeant and Brian Fravel is being promoted to Corporal. Clerk Conner administered Sergeant Aaron Dacorte an oath of office for his promotion to Sergeant and his wife, Kristin, pinned his new badge. Clerk Conner administered Corporal Brian Fravel an oath of office for his promotion to Corporal and his badge was pinned by his father.

There was a brief recess for photos and to congratulate the two officers.

In regards to Covid-19 prevention protocol, President Meyer reported that Board members will go back to usual seating for future Board meetings.

The Board considered amendments to the video gaming ordinance. Attorney Tim Kuiper was present and provided information on changes that could be made to the ordinance related to the change in state law. Increasing the fee for video gaming machines from \$25 per machine to \$250 per machine was discussed. It was the consensus of the Board to increase video gaming terminal fees to \$250 per machine. Attorney Kuiper will draft a new ordinance with the new fees.

Trustee Kraus made a motion approving the purchase of a new 2022 Chevrolet Malibu or Trailblazer at a cost not to exceed \$24,499.00 from Dralle Chevrolet of Peotone for the 2022 Fourth of July Commission car raffle. This matter was discussed at the last Fourth of July Commission meeting where a motion was made to allow for electronic voting by the Commission and members of the Commission voted by email 18-0 to approve the purchase, with one not responding. The Commission prefers the Trailblazer but if it cannot be delivered in time a Malibu will be purchased. President Meyer said it would be doubtful if they could get a Trailblazer, but she has spoken to Phillips Chevy and they might be able to get the Commission a vehicle. She wasn't sure as many tickets would be sold on a Malibu. Trustee Kypuros expressed concerns about leaving it open as to what can be purchased. Trustee Gianotti said the Trailblazer couldn't be ordered and weren't sure if they could get one. The Commission is more likely to get a Malibu. Committee did extensive research and couldn't find any other vehicles under the price at this time and difficult to get vehicles right now. Commission wanted to get a vehicle earlier for possible on-line sales of raffle tickets to increase sales, according to Trustee Gianotti. Trustee Gianotti seconded the motion.

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

NAYS: (0) None.

Motion Carried.

A. FINANCE AND ADMINISTRATION COMMITTEE

The Board again discussed potentially holding referendums on June 28th on Home Rule status and the issuance of General Obligation Bonds. Attorney Kuiper weighed in on the many pros and cons of Home Rule and explained referendum requirements. The referendum must be filed at least 79 days prior to the referendum date. Board members asked questions. Being able to implement crime free housing was voiced as a big pro to the Home Rule to address issues with rental properties in the Village. It was discussed that there would be a cost to implement this type of new program. Trustee Kypuros asked about the possibility of increasing the sales taxes to reduce the property taxes. Administrator Barber suggested that a gas tax could be added to repair Village roads. There were concerns about if a future Board does not act responsibly. It would be up to the Village Board to educate the residents as to why they would like to do this. Board discussed the benefits to residents. Trustee Stacey expressed some possible problems with Home Rule in his experience working in another town. Trustee Kypuros suggested to start asking Village residents what they think about the possibility of a Home Rule referendum. Attorney Kuiper recommended the Board

be clear and concise about the reasons the Board would like to do this. Administrator Barber said someone from the Illinois Municipal League could come out to a future meeting to provide information. He will reach out to IML to see when they may be available to come out and provide a presentation.

Attorney Kuiper also explained the procedures and time line for holding a General Obligation Bond referendum. Discussion will continue at future meetings regarding both referendums.

The 2021 bond disclosure report was provided in the packet for review.

RESOLUTION #2022-01 – A Resolution adopting a financial plan for fiscal years 2022-2026. This plan was presented at the last meeting. Trustee Kypuros made a motion to adopt Resolution #2022-01. Trustee Juzeszyn seconded the motion.

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

NAYS: (0) None.

Motion Carried.

Administrator Barber provided a handout of the most recent capital bill approved. Sidewalk improvements in the capital bill was dropped and unsure why. It may be funded elsewhere.

B. PUBLIC BUILDINGS AND PROPERTIES, PARKS AND RECREATION COMMITTEE

A report was provided on the summer concert series. Trustee Juzeszyn reported that the Committee has settled on bands for the concert series. They are planning to add an early September date also. Trustee Gianotti found a cost-effective sound engineer. The estimated cost for the eight shows is \$13,800 according to current information, but the cost could still drop. Tentative date for the next committee meeting to discuss the concert series is Tuesday, February 22nd at 6:30 p.m.

C. PLANNING, BUILDING AND ZONING COMMITTEE

The next Planning and Zoning Commission meeting will be held on Thursday, January 27th. A copy of the agenda was provided in the packet for review.

D. PUBLIC SAFETY COMMITTEE

The Police Department Annual Report for 2021 was provided in the packet for review and Chief Lemming provided a report.

- The five cameras approved by the Board have been installed.
- Officer Drew is working on an automated records system for evidence vault.
- Later in the meeting a recommendation for replacement of Officer Leroy will be provided.
- The Department lost a part-time officer the previous week.
- Chief Lemming reported he is proud of work that the Code Enforcement Officer is doing.
- Chief Lemming is proud of the EMA Director Bob Heim and the volunteer time he is

- putting in.
- Ten flock license plate reader (LPR) cameras have been approved but IDOT is taking time to approve permits. Village doesn't have to pay for cameras until all has been completed.
 - Chief Lemming thanked the Board for support of his idea of purchasing a golf cart. He is working on finding one.

The EMA Annual Report for 2021 was provided in the packet for review.

The Code Enforcement Annual Report for 2021 was provided in the packet for review.

The Animal Control Annual Report for 2021 provided by Dr. Dan McKay was provided in the packet for review.

Trustee Tieri made a motion approving a monthly stipend of \$150 for the Code Enforcement Officer to use his own vehicle for Village duties. Trustee Kraus expressed concerns about use of a personal vehicle. Chief Lemming said the Code Enforcement Officer has checked with his insurance and addressed any other questions and is okay with this. Trustee Kypuros seconded the motion.

AYES: (5) Trustees Kypuros, Juzeszyn, Gianotti, Tieri and Stacey.

NAYS: (1) Trustee Kraus.

Motion Carried.

Trustee Tieri made a motion approving the 2011 Crown Vic as surplus property. This car is currently being used by the Code Enforcement Officer and would be sold and the funding would go into the new Police CESFA. Trustee Stacey seconded the motion.

AYES: (5) Trustees Kypuros, Juzeszyn, Gianotti, Tieri and Stacey.

NAYS: (1) Trustee Kraus.

Motion Carried.

The Board again discussed amending the current sound ordinance. An opinion was provided in the packet along with ordinances from other communities. Administrator Barber asked the objective for amending this noise ordinance. Trustee Kypuros explained that it was previously brought up as an issue last summer with a child almost getting run over due to being distracted by music blocks away. Trustee Tieri suggested looking at how many tickets have been issued for noise violations in the past and see if it is needed.

Trustee Tieri requested an Executive Session be held at the end of the meeting to discuss a candidate for full-time police officer.

E. PUBLIC WORKS COMMITTEE

The Public Works Department Annual Report for 2021 was provided in the packet for review. Superintendent Conner provided a summary. He went through the major projects accomplished by the department in the last year, improved pumped to billed ratio, number of watermain breaks, lead service line program, as well as regular maintenance and other things accomplished.

OK

A Gould Street watermain project update was provided. The project has been bid and the bid opening will occur on Wednesday, February 9th at 11 a.m.

A Penfield Street S.T.P. project update was provided. The project is still on target for a March 11th bid opening. We are in the process of completing the acquisition of all of the necessary easements. IDOT still needs to sign the agreement before we can go to bid.

The annual report on the water and sewer system for 2021 was provided in the packet for review. The pumped to billed ratio was 62% for the year, which is better than last year.

The Sewer Department Annual Report for 2021 was provided in the packet for review.

F. ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT AND COMMUNITY RELATIONS COMMITTEE

The spring newsletter will go out in April so the Board was asked for any ideas for articles.

G. OLD BUSINESS

Administrator Barber reported that the architect will be attending the February 14th meeting on new police station options.

I. NEW BUSINESS

Trustee Kraus thanked the Police Commission and Chief Lemming for all of their hours they put in for new hiring.

Trustee Tieri commended the Public Works Department on their snow plowing.

There being no further business to be discussed in regular session, Trustee Tieri made a motion to adjourn into Executive Session at 8:32 p.m. to discuss a candidate for full-time police officer. Trustee Kraus seconded the motion.

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

NAYS: (0) None.

Motion Carried.

Trustee Tieri made a motion to return to regular session at 9:16 p.m. Trustee Kypuros seconded the motion.

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

NAYS: (0) None.

Motion Carried.

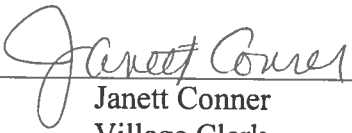
Trustee Tieri made a motion authorizing a conditional offer of employment to Sergio Garcia for full-time police officer position, subject to background check, psych, polygraph and medical screening. Trustee Stacey seconded the motion.

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 Juzeszyn seconded the motion.
AYES: (6) Trustees Kypuros, Juzeszyn, Gianotti, Tieri, Stacey and Kraus.
NAYS: (0) None.
Motion Carried.

Meeting adjourned at 9:17 p.m.

Respectfully submitted by:



Janett Conner
Village Clerk