

48

**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  
FEBRUARY 14, 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, Treasurer Donna Rooney, EMA Director Bob Heim and Code Enforcement Officer David Harrison.

**GUESTS:** George Schuitema, Tom Slattery from Baxter and Woodman and Jim Maciejewski from JMA Architects.

President Meyer asked for consideration of the minutes of the January 24, 2022 Board meeting. Trustee Kraus 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.

**RECOGNITION OF AUDIENCE**

None.

**CLERK'S REPORT**

1) A report was provided of tax income received in January, 2022. 2) Clerk Conner reported that the Will County Clerk sent out notices about the Statement of Economic Interest filings. Board members will need to complete by May 1, 2022.

**REPORTS OF VILLAGE COMMISSIONS**

There was nothing to report for Beautification Commission.

Trustee Kraus reported that the next Fourth of July Commission meeting is this Wednesday at 6:30 p.m. at the Village Hall.

Trustee Juzeszyn reported that the Youth Commission's Daddy-Daughter Dance was held and went well. The event had a large turnout. He thanked all of the Youth Commission volunteers who came out and helped, and Trustee Tieri for his DJ services.

The Youth Commission's storage needs were also discussed. The current storage container has some moisture issues which has caused damage to some of their supplies. They are looking for more climate-controlled storage. If items are stored at the garage, they would only be able to access storage during regular working hours. Administrator Barber mentioned storage area that has an outside door at the Police station, but would need to check if that is currently being used, but will continue to look at options for them. The Commission will also be meeting this week and will discuss further.

Trustee Kypuros reported that the next Historic Preservation Commission meeting will be held this Wednesday at 6 p.m. at the Depot. A clean-out day for the Depot basement will be held March 16-17. The Commission needs to determine what size dumpster is needed.

### **VILLAGE PRESIDENT REPORT**

President Meyer reported on a request for a cannabis craft grower special use permit. She met with the applicant to obtain an update on the project. The Illinois Supreme Court is hearing arguments in a class action suit over unfairness in issuing licenses and until the suit is settled there is a moratorium on the issuance of any new licenses. They can't do anything until they can be licensed by the State.

A Will County Governmental League synopsis of the impacts of the Governor's proposed budget was provided in the packet for review.

### **PUBLIC SAFETY COMMITTEE**

Jim Maciejewski from JMA Architects provided a report on the feasibility study for a new police station. He provided handouts and provided a Power Point presentation on the space needs for the department, proposed site locations and cost estimates. The cost estimates are for the development and construction of the building and does not include furniture or any other equipment. The Village would need to pick a site and go for a bond referendum to pay for the project. Architect indicated he could come up with an estimate for furniture cost for planning purposes. Also will need to decide what to do with the existing building once they move into the new station. An appraisal will need to be obtained. The Board discussed the site options and costs of options B and D. The Board needs to decide which site to move forward with and then speak with the property owners.

Trustee Kypuros reported that the Village will need to do a lot of work on any future referendums to see it is done right and has the full Board's support. The police station referendum is more urgent at this time than the home rule referendum being discussed. The current facilities are not adequate or in good shape. Consensus of the Board agreed to move forward with the bond referendum for a new police station. Administrator Barber recommended doing the referendum in November to have adequate time to prepare for it. Need to talk to the property owners to determine the costs of the property. Administrator Barber recommended an elected official be an ombudsman for

CA

negotiation with the property owners. President Meyer and Finance Chair Kypuros were designated to handle the negotiations on behalf of the Village Board. Will determine whether to put on June or November ballot when more information is obtained on how long it will take to put all of the information together and educate the public.

The Police Department monthly report was provided in the packet for review. Chief Lemming reported that a women's self-defense class will be held again, taught by Officer Hanson. There's a small handful of people signed up right now. He urged people to sign up before the class is full.

The EMA and Code Enforcement monthly reports were provided in the packet for review.

RESOLUTION #2022-2 – A Resolution approving participation and support of the Will County All-Hazards Mitigation Plan. A copy of the plan was sent out to the Board by email the previous week. Trustee Tieri made a motion to adopt Resolution #2022-2. Trustee Kypuros seconded the motion.

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

NAYS: (0) None.

Motion Carried.

The results of a presentation to high school students and parents on social media impacts on youth was provided by Chief Lemming. He said it was a great presentation and was for all of the students at the High School. Trustee Kraus asked if it could be presented to the Junior High also. Chief Lemming reported that there is a cost to this. Trustee Tieri suggested that Officer Hanson could do a presentation to the kids based on what he has learned from this presentation.

Administrator Barber reported that the Board for the Laraway Communications Center held its first quarterly meeting two weeks ago where it was learned that they have \$5 million on hand in their account with a positive fund balance for the end of the fiscal year of \$1.3 million. This is because the Center cannot get to full staffing and positions are funded, but not expended. Administrator Barber reported that they had a difficult time with staffing during Covid, but it is better now. A risk assessment was also conducted of the Center and a brief report was provided.

A joint Public Works/Public Safety Committee meeting was held prior to the meeting to discuss amendments to the on-street overnight parking ban after a snowfall. Trustee Tieri summarized to leave the ordinance as it is for this season and maybe reconsider after the snow season. The Board discussed whether to change the enforcement times after a snowfall. Ordinance will be enforced as it is now.

### 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 Juzeszyn seconded the motion.

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

NAYS: (0) None.

Motion Carried.

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

Trustee Kypuros made a motion to approve payment of the list of bills in the amount of \$152,950.37 and payrolls for the previous month. Trustee Juzeszyn seconded the motion.

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

NAYS: (0) None.

Motion Carried.

An annual statement of interest from First Community Bank and Trust for 2021 was provided in the packet for review. The Village earned \$13,952.10 in interest during the calendar year even though rates were extremely low.

Trustee Kypuros asked to table the home rule referendum discussion at this time. It may be put back on the agenda at a future date.

The Fuel Committee met on Friday to open and consider bids. Thirteen companies were solicited for bids and two bids were received. The Fuel Committee awarded the bid for fuel to Co-Alliance for a fixed fuel price of \$3.36 per gallon unleaded and \$3.63 per gallon diesel charged to each taxing body. The pricing becomes effective March 1, 2022 and runs through March 1, 2023.

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

An update was provided on the summer concert series in Firemen's Park. Trustee Gianotti reported that the Committee has some of the bands under contract. The next meeting is February 22<sup>nd</sup> at 6:30 p.m. Trustee Juzeszyn asked who should sign the band contracts. President Meyer will sign the contracts.

It was reported that Nicor Gas is now saying a gas main needs to be run down the street to be able to put natural gas into the food stand in Firemen's Park. Need to figure out a different way to get gas to the building. President Meyer and staff will work on this.

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

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

A report on the results of the January 27<sup>th</sup> Planning and Zoning Commission meeting was provided. Three amendments to the Zoning Ordinance were considered which included an administrative variance for front yard fences, parking of commercial trailers in the front yard setback and in the street, and storage containers in commercial districts. After deliberation, the Commission authorized an ordinance amendment be drafted and a hearing be held. Since the ordinance was not drafted in time for public notice, the hearing will be held on Thursday, March 24<sup>th</sup>.

An Illiana Crossroads Business Park update was provided. Formal engineering plans and the traffic study have not been submitted so the preliminary and final plat of subdivision cannot be considered at the February 24<sup>th</sup> PZC meeting. Therefore, the February 24<sup>th</sup> PZC meeting will be cancelled due to a lack of agenda items.

### PUBLIC WORKS COMMITTEE

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

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

Trustee Kraus made a motion authorizing payment to Brandt Excavating in the amount of \$287,599.50 upon receipt of I.E.P.A. loan funds as disbursement #1 on the lead service line removal project. Trustee Stacey seconded the motion.

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

NAYS: (0) None.

Motion Carried.

Trustee Kraus made a motion to award a bid to M & J Underground of Monee in the amount of \$1,222,300.00 for the replacement of watermains on Gould Street, and under the railroad tracks at Penfield Street and Indiana Avenue, pending approval from the Department of Commerce and Economic Opportunity (DCEO) grant eligibility requirements. This is the third bid opening on this project. This bid, combined with \$86,000 in construction management, brings the total cost of the project to \$1,308,300. The Village will have to pick up \$342,300 of the project cost. Staff recommends approval of the bid. Trustee Stacey seconded the motion.

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

NAYS: (0) None.

Motion Carried.

Trustee Kraus made a motion authorizing the Village President and Clerk to sign a local public agency agreement for federal participation and a preliminary engineering services agreement with Baxter and Woodman Engineers in the amount of \$20,000 for the Gould Street resurfacing project with the Village's portion of the agreement being \$4,000. This is for the resurfacing of Gould Street from Penfield Street to Indiana Avenue. Trustee Stacey seconded the motion.

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

NAYS: (0) None.

Motion Carried.

Tom Slattery of Baxter and Woodman was in attendance to provide an update on the Penfield S.T.P. project and explain the delays in the project. Right of way acquisitions delayed the bidding process. Was able to get an acquisition cost from one of the property owners so would need to consider the land acquisition in executive session later in the meeting. It could also take 3-4 months to design and build the needed culvert, so it's possible the Village may have to wait until spring of 2023 for this project.

**ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT AND COMMUNITY RELATIONS COMMITTEE**

Trustee Juzeszyn reported that President Meyer, Trustee Juzeszyn and Clerk Conner will be attending an Economic Development Training offered by the Will County Center for Economic Development at the Frankfort Village Hall on February 22<sup>nd</sup>.

An L.E.D. monument sign update was provided. This sign was discussed last month but it was decided to wait until closer to budget time to pick a favorite design. Four designs were provided with "most" of the Board desiring option A. Once a design is selected it will go to PZC on March 24<sup>th</sup> for workshop, April 28<sup>th</sup> for public hearing and the first meeting in May for Board approval. Trustee Kypuros said he trusted President Meyer to pick the sign design and the rest of the board concurred. President Meyer picked option A for the sign design.

**OLD BUSINESS** - None.

**NEW BUSINESS** - None.

There being no further business to be discussed in regular session, Trustee Kraus made a motion to adjourn into executive session at 8:22 p.m. to discuss easement acquisition with Village Engineer Tom Slattery. 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 to return from executive session at 8:31 p.m. Trustee Kraus 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 Gianotti made a motion to adjourn the meeting. Trustee Kypuros seconded the motion.

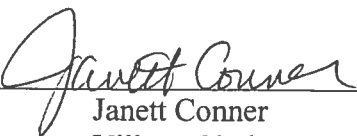
AYES: (6) Trustees Kypuros, Juzeszyn, Gianotti, Tieri, Stacey and Kraus.

NAYS: (0) None.

Motion Carried.

Meeting adjourned at 8:33 p.m.

Respectfully submitted by:

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