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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
FEBRUARY 28, 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 and Stacey.

ABSENT: Trustee Kraus.

STAFF PRESENT: Clerk Janett Conner, Administrator Robert Barber, Superintendent of Public Works Matt Conner and Chief Terry Lemming.

GUEST: None.

President Meyer asked for consideration of the minutes of the February 14, 2022 Board meeting. Trustee Kypuros made a motion to approve the minutes as written. Trustee Tieri seconded the motion.

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

NAYS: (0) None.

Motion Carried.

CLERKS'S REPORT - No report.

RECOGNITION OF AUDIENCE - None.

REPORT OF THE VILLAGE PRESIDENT

It was reported that masks are optional at future Board meetings now that the State and CDC have lifted their mask mandates.

President Meyer read aloud a Proclamation declaring March 2022 as "Beecher Women's Club Month" in the Village of Beecher in recognition of their many years of dedication to the Beecher community.

ORDINANCE #1363 – An Ordinance amending the code pertaining to video gaming. The new ordinance allows for a \$250 annual fee per machine and updates administration of video gaming licenses. Trustee Gianotti made a motion to approve Ordinance #1363. Trustee Stacey seconded the motion.

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AYES: (5) Trustees Kypuros, Juzeszyn, Gianotti, Tieri and Stacey.
NAYS: (0) None.
Motion Carried.

President Meyer appointed Casey Thompson to the Beecher Fourth of July Commission. Trustee Kypuros made a motion to approve President Meyer's appointment. Trustee Gianotti seconded the motion.

AYES: (5) Trustees Kypuros, Juzeszyn, Gianotti, Tieri and Stacey.
NAYS: (0) None.
Motion Carried.

President Meyer requested an executive session be held at the end of the meeting to discuss land acquisition pertaining to the site selection for the new Police station and the status of pending litigation (Fieldgate lawsuit).

A. FINANCE AND ADMINISTRATION COMMITTEE

The Board considered RFPs obtained for a three-year contract for a new audit firm. The Finance Committee met on Saturday morning and discussed the proposals. Committee Chair Kypuros recommended approval of the audit contract with Groskruetz, Abraham, Eschleman and Gerreste from Kankakee for audit services for fiscal years 2022/2023, 2023/2024, and 2024/2025. Trustee Kypuros made a motion to approve a three-year contract with Groskruetz, Abraham, Eschleman and Gerreste for audit services. Trustee Juzeszyn seconded the motion.

AYES: (5) Trustees Kypuros, Juzeszyn, Gianotti, Tieri and Stacey.
NAYS: (0) None.
Motion Carried.

The Finance Committee met the previous Saturday on the first draft of the budget which will be presented to the Village Board at the March 28th workshop meeting.

The Committee is reviewing bond counsel for a G.O. Bond issue for a referendum and issuance of bonds and will report back to the Board next meeting.

B. PUBLIC BUILDINGS AND PROPERTIES, PARKS AND RECREATION COMMITTEE

ORDINANCE #1364 – An Ordinance authorizing the execution of a sale and purchase agreement with Ripple Creek Investors of Chicago LLC for the purchase of real property commonly known as 652 Penfield Street. This is the parcel discussed in executive session last month where it would be less expensive to just purchase the entire lot for \$3,500 than to redesign the Penfield Street project around the right of way we were trying to acquire. Trustee Gianotti made a motion to approve Ordinance #1364. Trustee Kypuros seconded the motion.

AYES: (5) Trustees Kypuros, Juzeszyn, Gianotti, Tieri and Stacey.
NAYS: (0) None.
Motion Carried.

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Trustee Gianotti provided a summer concert series update. A meeting was held last Tuesday night and all dates were finalized. All bands have been scheduled for the events except for the first Saturday in September. On May 7th, Acoustic Abrasion with food by the Fourth of July Commission; On May 15th, Shout Section Big Band; On June 4th, Iron Horse with food trucks; on June 12th, Racies Latin Jazz Fusion; On July 2nd, Pearl Jam tribute band; on August 6th, Lions Club beef roast with Just Roll With It; August 14th, Easy Tones Polka with authentic polish food; and September 3rd, still working on entertainment.

No update was available for the Nicor gas extension to the food stand.

It was reported that the Fourth of July Commission will be selling the old John Deere riding mower. The Commission has declared it as surplus property. A bidding process will be opened for this sale. Minimum bid will be \$500.

C. PLANNING, BUILDING AND ZONING COMMITTEE

The Building Department has begun to address vacant and dilapidated buildings in the Village. The buildings on the southeast and northeast corners of Dixie and Indiana are in bad shape and need to be addressed. The Building Inspector is working with the owner of the northeast corner, but the owner of the southeast corner has been difficult to reach.

Engineering has been submitted for the Illiana Crossroads Business Park. There is enough information to schedule for the March 24th PZC meeting consideration of a preliminary and final plat of the west phase only. This meeting will be held at the Washington Township Center. The final plat is only for the first nine lots up by Church Road and this is due to the cost of extending three-phase power without knowing the demand and the loads.

A hearing notice has been posted for changes to the Village's Zoning Ordinance pertaining to front yard fences, commercial trailers in residential districts, storage containers in commercial districts, and cargo containers in residential districts as a temporary use.

D. PUBLIC SAFETY COMMITTEE

Chief Lemming provided an update on the golf cart purchased for the Police Department. EMA Director Bob Heim and EMA member Dale Murray will help with the conversion. The Department purchased a six-seater gas golf cart, which the Chief felt will be really versatile for different uses.

Trustee Tieri reported that the National Night Out will be Tuesday, August 2nd. There will be a job waiting for each Trustee.

There has been some discussion about moving the bike rodeo to the Fourth of July weekend as a morning event, perhaps on Saturday, July 2nd. Looking to get more ideas to determine the best day and time to have the rodeo.

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E. PUBLIC WORKS COMMITTEE

It was reported that Brandon Gereg resigned from the Public Works Department. The Committee has begun the process for a replacement. Approximately sixty applications were received and interviews will begin this week.

The Committees met to review their budgets on February 15th.

A Gould Street watermain update was provided. The Village is still waiting for DCEO approval. If all goes on schedule, work should begin in April.

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

Administrator Barber reported that the Penfield STP bid opening has been moved to June 22nd.

F. ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT AND COMMUNITY RELATIONS COMMITTEE

Trustee Juzeszyn reported that he, the Village President and Clerk attended the Will County Economic Development training held in Frankfort last week. A report was provided. Presentations were provided from representatives from Nicor, ComEd, Will County CED and others. Trustee Juzeszyn emailed all of the Board members a link with information from the meeting and asked if staff could forward the information to the local businesses. Administrator Barber said it will be sent through the Chamber of Commerce.

G. OLD BUSINESS

Brandt Builders will be coming back next week to begin lead line service replacement again.

A new design of the sign for in front of the Village Hall with a flower planter underneath was provided. There was no objection to filing with PZC to move forward with a special use permit.

There being no further business to be discussed in regular session, Trustee Kypuros made a motion to adjourn into executive session at 7:26 p.m. to discuss land acquisition pertaining to the site selection for the new Police station and the status of pending litigation (Fieldgate lawsuit). Trustee Juzeszyn seconded the motion.

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

NAYS: (0) None.

Motion Carried.

Trustee Kypuros made a motion to return from executive session at 8:07 p.m. Trustee Stacey seconded the motion.

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

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 Stacey seconded the motion.
AYES: (5) Trustees Kypuros, Juzeszyn, Gianotti, Tieri and Stacey.
NAYS: (0) None.
Motion Carried.

Meeting adjourned at 8:07 p.m.

Respectfully submitted by:



Janett Conner
Village Clerk