

**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  
MAY 23, 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, Superintendent of Public Works Matt Conner and EMA Director Bob Heim.

**GUEST:** George Schuitema.

President Meyer asked for consideration of the minutes of the May 9, 2022 Board meeting. Trustee Kraus made a motion to approve the minutes as written. Trustee Kypuros seconded the motion.

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

**NAYS:** (0) None.

Motion carried.

**CLERKS'S REPORT**

No report.

**REPORT OF THE VILLAGE PRESIDENT**

The Will County Governmental League Spring meeting was a meet and greet with speakers. Will County and the United Way are partnering with the 2-2-2 assistance line to assist with food, shelter, counseling, housing, support groups, etc. They are scheduled to go live June 1<sup>st</sup>.

According to President Meyer, there is some interest in starting up the façade grant program. It is not currently built in the budget, so it may need to be looked at in the future.

**A. FINANCE AND ADMINISTRATION COMMITTEE**

The Finance Committee is reviewing options for retaining bond counsel for the upcoming bond referendum for the new police facility. Seven options were explored and the reports on each were

included in the packet. The Chapman and Cutler proposal through First Midstates Bank was noted to be of interest. A Finance Committee meeting will be held on June 6<sup>th</sup> at 3 p.m. to discuss the bond counsel options. This meeting is open to the public.

A new debt schedule report was provided which will reflect the future of the Village's finances.

Variance reports for the end of the fiscal year were provided for review. The Village increased its General Fund balance by \$310,144. The Water Fund gained \$31,158.68 and the Sewer Fund gained \$39,846.02 over the course of the last year after all transfers were made to the Watermain Replacement Account and the Debt Fund.

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

Trustee Gianotti made a motion to approve payment in the amount of \$54,314.20 to George's Landscaping as final payment for the splash pad. A copy of the invoice was provided in the packet for review. Trustee Kraus 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 a change order payment in the amount of \$425.00 to George's Landscaping for new cement pad connecting existing pad to splash pad. Trustee Kraus seconded the motion.

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

NAYS: (0) None.

Motion carried.

Results were provided of the splash pad ribbon cutting and grand opening held the previous Saturday. It was a wet, rainy morning. Most of the Village Board attended and approximately four residents. A press release was issued. Amy Jacobson was thanked for donating the signs for the event.

Trustee Gianotti made a motion to approve a proposal from JMA Architects to take the police station project to referendum in the amount of \$44,250, \$103,500 for completed prints and bid specifications, and \$93,500 for construction management of the facility. Trustee Kypuros asked if something needs to be changed in the plans if they would charge more. It was believed that it would be included in the contract. Trustee Kraus seconded the motion.

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

NAYS: (0) None.

Motion carried.

The Board discussion of Baxter and Woodman doing the site work for the proposed police facility was deferred because proposal has not yet been received.

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

The May 26<sup>th</sup> meeting of the Planning and Zoning Commission has been cancelled due to a lack of agenda items.

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

Trustee Tieri provided a status report on hiring a new full-time Police officer. The Committee will be conducting interviews on Wednesday, May 25<sup>th</sup>.

A status of hiring new part-time Police officers was provided. Part-time applicants have been interviewed. Next, the Chief will conduct background checks on candidates.

Trustee Tieri made a motion authorizing a siren maintenance agreement with Braniff Communications in the amount of \$1,720. Trustee Stacey seconded the motion.

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

NAYS: (0) None.

Motion carried.

The bike safety rodeo will be held on Saturday, July 2<sup>nd</sup> at 9 a.m. in Firemen's Park parking lot. Trustees were asked to help at this event since not many officers will be available that day. EMA will be helping out also.

The Police Department National Night Out is scheduled for Tuesday, August 2<sup>nd</sup>, beginning at 6 p.m. in Firemen's Park, and will run until approximately 8:30 p.m. They may get a band or DJ for this event.

### **E. PUBLIC WORKS COMMITTEE**

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

The water billing register was provided in the packet for review. The billed to pumped ratio was 66.21% which is better than the 55.88% for the same period last year, and about the same as the 10-year average of 64%.

Trustee Kraus made a motion approving a change order in an amount not to exceed \$42,000 to M & J Underground for the removal and proper landfilling of contaminated soil for the Gould Street watermain replacement project. Contaminated soil has been detected under the roadway in front of Sit-N-Bull and Water Tower Park. This soil has to be properly disposed of in a landfill. Since the Village already exceeded our grant award this expense will be paid from the Watermain Replacement Account. Trustee Stacey seconded the motion.

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

NAYS: (0) None.

Motion carried.

A Gould Street watermain replacement update was provided. Superintendent Conner reported that the 700 block of Gould Street has been completed. They are now working on the 500 block of Gould Street. Contractor will have parts of Indiana and/or Penfield closed for directional boring under the railroad tracks for a period of time in the next few weeks.

A lead service line removal update was provided. Superintendent Conner reported that contractor will be wrapping up the project in the next few weeks. Brandt is planning to hot patch areas dug out around town. They are also beginning restoration of residents' yards this week.

A Penfield S.T.P. project update was provided. Bid opening is scheduled for June 17<sup>th</sup> at IDOT headquarters in Springfield.

A copy of the Village's MS4 stormwater pollution permit renewal and annual report was provided for review and will be posted on the Village website. Everyone is reminded and encouraged to protect the Trim Creek watershed by proactively not dumping anything but clean storm water into storm sewer drains.

Trustee Kraus requested a closed session be held to consider hiring of specific employees.

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

The results of the second concert in the park on May 14<sup>th</sup> was discussed. Trustee Juzeszyn reported that the Shout Section Big Band played and performance was well received. Next event is Iron Horse on June 4<sup>th</sup>. The Sunday, June 12<sup>th</sup> concert is a picnic in the park with Raices Latin Jazz Fusion. They are still working on bringing in food for the June 4<sup>th</sup> concert.

The Committee would like to hold a meeting with the Lions Club, Youth Commission and Chamber of Commerce to coordinate a holiday weekend in the Village either December 3<sup>rd</sup> or December 10<sup>th</sup>. Trustee Juzeszyn asked if the Board would mind if the participating groups make the final decision on the date, depending on availability. It depends on when the Lions Club is able to have their Breakfast with Santa. They will try to have it on December 3<sup>rd</sup>. Trustee Juzeszyn asked the Board if any other events the Board would like to suggest should be considered. The school band and choir were discussed, and also the possibility of bringing back the lighted parade.

#### **G. OLD BUSINESS**

Trustee Kypuros asked if there was a mistake in one of the amounts in the contract relating to the JMA Architect proposal approved previously in the meeting. It was discussed that the contract could be read a couple of different ways. Administrator Barber will contact JMA to clarify the correct contract amount and revisit the matter at the next meeting if it is incorrect.

There being no further business to discuss in regular session, Trustee Kraus made a motion to adjourn into Executive Session at 7:34 p.m. to discuss hiring of a new employee. 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 return from Executive Session at 8:00 p.m. 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 authorize the Public Works Superintendent to hire up to two full-time Public Works employees. Trustee Stacey seconded the motion.  
AYES: (6) Trustees Kypuros, Juzeszyn, Gianotti, Tieri, Stacey and Kraus.  
NAYS: (0) None.  
Motion carried.

The Board then discussed the contract of the Sewer Plant Operator. John Hernandez is considering taking a job at another municipality. He may want what the previous contractual operator was being paid. Trustee Kraus will have a conversation with him to see what he is looking for. May consider offering more money as a contractual employee to get him to stay and also to give him an employee to help at the sewer plant, which he is requesting. Current Public Works employee Ron Emery could work under Hernandez to get his experience and license to operate the plant for when Hernandez retires. Trustee Kraus will consult with the Board when he has an idea on what Hernandez wants in order to stay working in Beecher.

There being no further business, President Meyer asked for a motion to adjourn. Trustee Stacey made a motion to adjourn the meeting. Trustee Tieri seconded the motion.  
AYES: (6) Trustees Kypuros, Juzeszyn, Gianotti, Tieri, Stacey and Kraus.  
NAYS: (0) None.  
Motion carried.

Meeting adjourned at 8:17 p.m.

Respectfully submitted by:



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Janett Conner  
Village Clerk