

**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
JUNE 27, 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, Chief of Police Terry Lemming, new Police Officer Kurtis Ingram and Police Officers Aaron Dacorte, Brian Fravel, Erik Hanson and Roger Sipple .

GUEST: George Schuitema.

President Meyer asked for consideration of the minutes of the June 13, 2022 Board meeting. Trustee Kypuros made a motion to approve the minutes as written. Trustee Tieri seconded the motion.

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

NAYS: (0) None.

Motion carried.

CLERK'S REPORT

Clerk Conner reminded Board members that those riding in the parade need to come to the Village Hall at 3 p.m. on the 4th to decorate the golf cart.

RECOGNITION OF AUDIENCE

George Schuitema thanked the Board for moving the port-a-john away from the Cancer Memorial.

Chief Lemming introduced new full-time officer Kurtis Ingram to the Board, spoke highly of him and some photos were taken. Chief Lemming also recognized officers present for Officer Ingram's introduction: Officers Dacorte, Sipple, Hanson and Fravel.

REPORT OF THE VILLAGE PRESIDENT

The Board discussed contributing to the Will County Center for Economic Development. President Meyer and Administrator Barber met with Doug Pryor and Kayla Sorenson from the Will County CED the previous week to discuss the future of the Village's participation with the organization moving forward. The group is now asking the Village to increase its pledge to \$2,500 per year. Will County CED sends us approximately 40 leads per year and is very active in Will County. President Meyer said presentation on current job status, labor force and unemployment status was very interesting to learn about. Trustee Juzeszyn reported that interesting information was provided on Will County's economic outlook, unemployment rate in Will County, household income, population growth and positive outlook for development. Trustee Juzeszyn made a motion to approve a pledge to Will County CED in the amount of \$2,500. Trustee Stacey seconded.

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

NAYS: (0) None.

Motion carried.

A. FINANCE AND ADMINISTRATION COMMITTEE

Trustee Kypuros made a motion to approve an agreement with First Midstate, Inc., as underwriter and placement agent with respect to the Village's General Obligation Bonds. The agreement which was approved by the Attorney was provided in the packet for review. Trustee Juzeszyn seconded.

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

NAYS: (0) None.

Motion carried.

Trustee Kypuros made a motion authorizing Chapman and Cutler, LLP as bond/disclosure counsel to the underwriter/placement agent with respect to the Village's General Obligation Bonds. The drafting of an ordinance for the referendum question of the bonds for the new police facility will be voted upon at the second meeting in July, once a dollar amount to request on the November 8th referendum is determined. Trustee Juzeszyn seconded the motion.

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

NAYS: (0) None.

Motion carried.

B. PUBLIC BUILDINGS AND PROPERTIES, PARKS AND RECREATION COMMITTEE

Trustee Gianotti reported on the splash pad use of water. Superintendent Conner reported 634,000 gallons of water have been used in the last 38 days since it opened. The splash pad will be closed while the carnival is in town during the festival and it will be fenced off. Trustee Gianotti reported that the permanent bathrooms had been reopened and a couple of days later the bathrooms were vandalized. Public Works has made repairs and reopened the bathrooms. Chief Lemming reported that two juveniles were arrested for the vandalism and charged. The juveniles will be required to provide restitution for the damage and also be performing community service.

C. PLANNING, BUILDING AND ZONING COMMITTEE



A draft of the Eastern Will County Freight Mobility Study has been released for review and comment. A report of alternatives for a new east-west truck corridor was included and Will County would like elected officials' input on the best alternative. It was noted that this plan ignores everything happening south of Pauling Road and will not address safety issues on County Line Road.

D. PUBLIC SAFETY COMMITTEE

The status of a second full-time officer to replace Officer Beck was provided by Chief Lemming. The second officer is a Chicago police officer. He is working on the background check and doesn't see any issues with him so far. Officer is available to start in August.

Chief Lemming reported that he picked up the new squad car. He is waiting on equipment which is not in yet. He won't get a second car this year but the dealer has another car coming in with the lights and other equipment for an additional \$6,000 over the cost of the other car. Chief Lemming is also working on getting the camera grant which may make more money available. Chief Lemming may possibly come back to the Board to ask for additional money to purchase the available car.

Chief Lemming reported that the bike rodeo will be held at 8:30 a.m. on July 2nd in Firemen's Park and he's looking for volunteers to help out with the event.

Trustee Tieri made a motion to appoint Vincent Logan as a new part-time Police officer and offer him a conditional offer of employment, subject to background and all required testing. Trustee Kraus seconded.

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

NAYS: (0) None.

Motion carried.

Chief Lemming attended a retirement event for Pastor Rock over the weekend and presented him with a certificate of appreciation. Pastor Rock plans to remain as a Police Chaplain.

E. PUBLIC WORKS COMMITTEE

Trustee Kraus made a motion approving payment in the amount of \$245,691 to Brandt Excavating as partial payment for lead service line replacement pending receipt of I.E.P.A. loan funds. Trustee Stacey seconded.

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

NAYS: (0) None.

Motion carried.

Trustee Kraus made a motion to approve a change order for Brandt Excavating in the amount of \$40,358.44 for hardscape restorations based on unit pricing for exploratory excavations. Trustee Stacey seconded .

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

NAYS: (0) None.

Motion carried.

A lead service line replacement project update was provided by Superintendent Conner. To date, only eight service lines are left to complete and will do the remaining ones once the change order is approved. Sod and asphalt restorations are being done.

A Gould Street watermain replacement project status report was provided. Superintendent Conner reported that most of the watermain is now in place. The main has been tied into the water tower. The Penfield Street railroad crossing is closed to connect to the new main and beginning July 5th the Indiana Avenue crossing will be closed for connection.

It was reported that the Illinois Department of Transportation has awarded a bid to Iroquois Paving in the amount of \$5,343,399.98 contingent on federal compliance review for the total replacement of Penfield Street from Gould Street to Dixie Highway, and resurfacing Gould Street from Penfield Street to Indiana Avenue. This is an 80% federal/20% local project. This project should begin in 2023.

A report on well #3 repairs was provided. Well #3 went down due to an electrical problem during the first heat wave and the variable speed drive on the motor burned out. The drive was bypassed to make the motor work temporarily but the drive needs to be replaced to control flows into the tank. The drive will cost \$15,000 and the labor costs will be quite extensive.

F. ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT AND COMMUNITY RELATIONS COMMITTEE

The Board discussed the merits of a façade grant program, how it can be funded and what the appropriate level of participation would be for such a program. The Village had a façade grant program back in the mid-1990s. The program was defunded after the first year since only three applicants were funded and all of the applicants were located along Dixie Highway. The intent of the program at that time was to target the old downtown. The Village now has a TIF district and if TIF funds are used the funding can only be spent in the district so there would be a geographical limitation. The Committee is looking for some direction on whether there is interest in such a program. Trustee Kypuros said it can become tricky determining which businesses can and can't receive funds. Felt other things can be done to improve the aesthetics in the old downtown without giving money to individual businesses. Other improvements to the old downtown have been discussed in the past. Should know late summer/early fall about Gould Street grant. Was mentioned that Covid related money was available previously and no local businesses applied. Trustee Kraus would like wider benefit for all businesses in town and not just old downtown. Board will also need to decide what will be done with ARPA money. This can be considered by the Finance Committee and recommendations then brought back to the Board.

G. OLD BUSINESS

Trustee Kraus thanked the Police Commission and Chief Lemming for their work on getting the new Police hires.

There being no further business, President Meyer asked for a motion to adjourn. Trustee Kraus made a motion to adjourn the meeting. Trustee Kypuros seconded.

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

NAYS: (0) None.

Motion carried.

Meeting adjourned at 7:45 p.m.

Respectfully submitted by:



Janett Conner
Village Clerk