



THE BEECHER BULLETIN

"Your Village Newsletter"

Fall 2022

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NEW PUBLIC SAFETY FACILITY BEING PLANNED

Village Board approves referendum to be held November 8th on the proposition to sell \$3,950,000 in General Obligation Bonds



Earlier this summer the Village Board approved a referendum question to be placed on the November 8th election ballot for Village residents which reads as follows:

"Shall the Village of Beecher build and equip a public safety facility for the Beecher Police Department and improve the site thereof; and issue its general obligation bonds to the amount of \$3,950,000 for the purpose of paying the costs thereof, said bonds bearing interest at not to exceed the rate of 5.90% per annum?"

The purpose of this article is to explain the referendum so you can make an informed decision on whether to vote yes or no to this question on November 8th.

Continued on Page 3

Village of Beecher

OFFICIALS

Marcy Meyer
President

Trustees:

Jonathan Kypuros
Todd Kraus
Benjamin Juzeszyn
Joseph Tieri
Roger Stacey
Joseph Gianotti

Janett McCawley
Clerk/Office Mgr

Donna Rooney
Treasurer

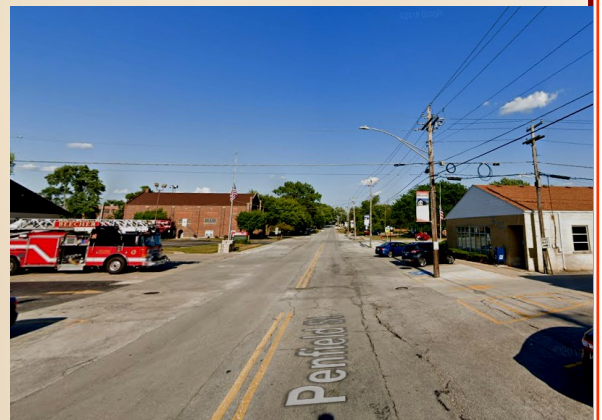
Robert O. Barber
Administrator

Terrence Lemming
Chief of Police

Matt Conner
Supt. of Public Works

PENFIELD STREET RECONSTRUCTION UPDATE

This project, first approved by the Village of Beecher for design and construction back in 2013, includes the total replacement of the roadway and public sidewalks on Penfield Street from Dixie Highway to Gould Street and on Gould Street from Penfield to Indiana Avenue. On June 17th, bids were opened on this project by the Illinois Department of Transportation in Springfield, Illinois and the lowest bidder was Iroquois Paving in the amount of \$5,824,399. Of this amount, the federal government is paying \$4,177,000 and the Village must pay its local match of \$1,647,399. So, as you can see the Village has been saving up for this project for quite some time.



This project includes the replacement and widening of the bridge over Trim Creek, decorative lighting along the route, curbs and bump outs to meet federal standards for safety and ADA compliance, and natural open space between the roadway and the sidewalk for appearance and safety. Since only parallel street-side parking will be allowed, the Village is accommodating the loss of parking spaces by adding a 16-space parking lot at Penfield and Maxwell adjacent to the post office and also several new spaces in the Reed Street municipal parking lot south of Penfield.

"Continued on Page 3"

VILLAGE PRESIDENT'S CORNER

I'd like to start this newsletter by expressing appreciation. I tend to spend more time thinking ahead to the next project than thanking those who made the current one possible, so I want to pause and recognize those who made our concert series possible this year.

First, I'd like to thank the entire community for supporting our concerts in the park despite the inclement weather that seemed to plague the series. There were a few hiccups with food and beer, but it was a learning experience that has left us better prepared for next year. Thank you for being patient and we hope you join us next season.

Second, I'd like to thank our Village trustees, without whom we couldn't possibly offer these events. The idea for the series was initially conceived by Jon Kypuros. Ben Juzeszyn, Joe Gianotti and Todd Kraus took the reins and created the events. Joe Tieri and Roger Stacey joined them to set up and work the concerts. I hope everyone appreciates how much time is involved in scheduling the right band for the right price, arranging for refreshments, and then setting up the park and working these events.



Marcy Meyer
Village President

I'd also like to thank the community for dealing with the almost-constant construction in town with the water main and lead service line replacements. We heard a LOT of complaints about these projects, and we know it was an inconvenience. I wish I could report that it will get better but we are going to head into the Penfield Street reconstruction next year so the challenges will continue. We don't have a timeline yet, but we will keep you informed as soon as we do.

The Gould Street water main project and the Penfield reconstruction are the latest additions to **\$12,220,500** in infrastructure improvements that have been done on the west side of town in the past 20 years. Additionally, the wastewater treatment plant, which services the entire town, was replaced at a cost of **\$10,400,000** for a total infrastructure investment of **\$22,620,500**. Luckily, the east side of Route One hasn't needed as much since the developers added the cost of that infrastructure into the price of those homes. We are not done yet, but we are playing catch-up on 100 years of infrastructure while still trying to provide additional amenities for the residents. Unfortunately, there will never be a time when infrastructure is "done" and we can move on to other things. It's a little like cleaning your house or mowing the lawn; as soon as you think you're done, it starts all over again.



4th Annual Lighting Up Dixie Hwy.



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Last, there will be information later in the newsletter regarding the police station referendum that will be on your ballot November 8. I've been asked why this referendum is being proposed rather than repairing and updating the current PD. The building is too old for some of the repairs to be made. The foundation has shifted, some of these repairs can't be made, it can't be expanded to meet new legal requirements, parking can't be addressed, and the Board is hesitant to spend \$750,000 or more to repair a building that will still be outdated in a few years. However, the choice is yours and we trust you will make whichever decision is best for you and your families, as well as for the community. We will work with whatever decision you make.

We are happy that you are all part of this community, and I am proud to have a positive, hard-working Board that dedicates countless hours toward keeping Beecher a great place to live.



"Penfield Street Reconstruction Update Continued"

Work on this project has already begun as ComEd is replacing their poles along the route and moving them further back, and AT&T has buried new fiber optic cable. NICOR is also in the process of relocating a 4" gas main along the route. The watermain along Penfield were replaced in 2017. The storm sewers will be replaced and enlarged as part of the road reconstruction project.



The bridge will be constructed off-site, trucked in and laid in place minimizing the amount of time the road will have to be closed. This will be the first step in the project in the Spring of 2023. Once the bridge is replaced and the parking lots built, the road work will begin. The Village will coordinate with the School District, the Fire Department and the Post Office for access to their facilities during construction but some inconvenience is obviously going to occur. The Village and the contractor will try to minimize inconvenience as much as possible. Planning meetings will occur this Winter as the contractor lays out the work schedule. Stay tuned to the Village's Facebook page for future updates.

"New Public Safety Facility Continued"**History of the Current Police Station**

The building currently housing the police station at 724 Penfield Street has been under Village ownership since 1884 when the first wooden two-story structure was built to provide a garage for the fire department's hose carts, a dance hall for the public and a Village Hall. In 1910, a concrete block structure was built behind Village Hall along with a large steel air tank. Two wells were drilled inside the block building and the large steel tank was used to force air into the water system to provide pressure. In 1958, the Village built a water tower on Gould Street and a new brick and mortar building around the existing block building after the large steel air tank was removed. This new building housed the Fire Department, Village offices and the two fresh water wells. The population was 949.

In 1983 the Fire Department moved out of the building to its new location at 711 Penfield Street and the old Fire Department garage was used for public works storage. In 1989, the vacated Fire Department side was remodeled to house the Beecher Police Department. In 2002, the two old wells inside the Village Hall were capped and abandoned since they were too small and not adaptable to the growing Village's needs. New wells were drilled: on Church Road in 1989, at the base of the water tower on Gould in 1994, and in Hunter's Chase East subdivision in 2007. The old well house became the Beecher Building Department and police storage area.

In 2014, the Village purchased 625 Dixie Highway and relocated the Village Hall from 724 Penfield. The old Village Hall space was then used by the Police Department for office space and records. The Police Department operations portion of the building did not change.

Current Conditions at Police Station, 724 Penfield

When the Police Department was remodeled in 1989 the Village had two squad cars, six full-time officers and five part-time officers. The building was sufficient for a police force of this size. However, the size of the Village has more than doubled since then from 2,032 to 4,718 and there have been many changes in law enforcement practice since that time. The Village now has 10 full-time officers, an administrative clerk, nine squad cars and a substantial technology footprint. The existing building is not large enough to make it function properly and achieve the new standards for detention and officer safety. A complete renovation of the building will be necessary. By the time the Village added HVAC replacement and a new flat roof or gable design to the cost of the interior remodeling, the Village Board decided that it was not cost effective to complete since no new square footage would be available to meet the demands being placed on law enforcement for detainee and officer safety, technology needs and chain of evidence requirements. In other words, another remodel would not provide space necessary for effective law enforcement of the Village.

"Continued on Page 4"

The Village Board believes it is necessary to bring this referendum question to the voters so that the taxpayers of the community can decide what is in the best interest of the community. Since 1989 the Village Hall has relocated, the fire station expanded, a new school was built, two new school additions were made, a new public works facility and a township center were constructed, and a new library building was purchased. The Police Department has continued to function in its present building since 1958 but it has become more difficult and less efficient and this trend will continue.



As stated earlier, the present police building was constructed in 1958. In 1989, remodeling was completed but much of the old infrastructure was used such as the underground in-slab plumbing. Asbestos pipes for the 1958 boiler system still remain in place. The flat roof was replaced with a rubber coating in 2001 but the 15-year warranty has expired. The existing roof is holding water in the southwest corner of the building. The 1989 HVAC system is failing and needs to be replaced. There are three elevation changes inside the building including a stairway which does not provide ADA accessibility. The door frames and thresholds need to be replaced since they have been used for so long. The sewer lines inside the building are corroded and require frequent rodding and flushing to prevent blockage. The old water pipes (although not lead) are too large and do not deliver clean water at the tap due to corrosion and wear. Keep in mind, the old plumbing was originally designed to allow for the filling of fire engines almost a century ago.

Parking is a problem around the current police station. Patrol cars are in conflict with post office patrons. Officers have to park in the fire station parking lot across the street. As squad cars back out of their sally ports, they have to be extremely careful not to run over a bicyclist or pedestrian since the public walk is right in front of the garage bay door. After Penfield Street is renovated, some of these safety concerns will be addressed but parking in front of the police station will become severely limited, placing pressure on other users of the parking areas along Penfield.

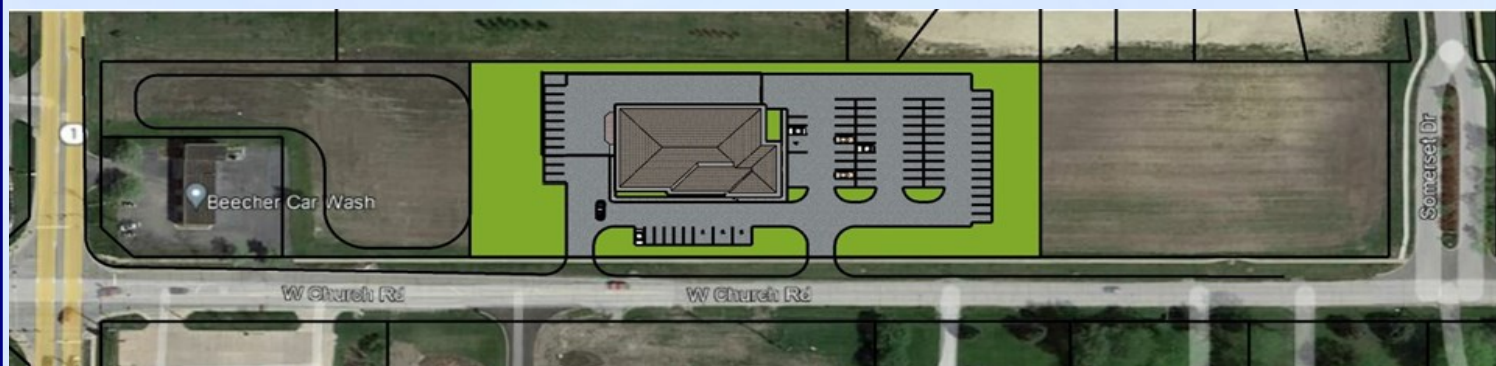
Safety is another big issue. The processing and detention areas no longer meet the Illinois Department of Corrections codes. Both officer and detainee safety can be compromised in these areas. Interviews with witnesses cannot be conducted in a secure area due to lack of space. The squad room, which doubles as the break room for officers, only seats four people. Training and departmental meetings have to be held offsite as there is simply no space for a group of that size. There is no back-up power for the building, and there is no space for a large generator to be installed unless it is placed on the roof. So, not only does a power failure cause dark conditions in the station due to a lack of windows, but heat and air conditioning are also not available.

Technology is changing law enforcement procedure. It is in the best interest of the Village to have every square foot of the facility under video surveillance to properly record officer, detainee and visitor conduct. The many small rooms and compartments of the building make this impossible. It is also difficult to hardwire devices throughout the building since there is very little conduit space available. Wires are strung all over the walls and strapped to exposed piping since the floor, walls and roof structure are masonry.

The building has been a great asset to the Village and portions of it have served its purpose for over 130 years. It is time to either rehabilitate the entire building or re-purpose it for another use and relocate the Police Department. This is the decision that must be made by the voters.

New Police Station Proposal: 220 West Church Road

The Village Board hired JMA Architects in 2020 to conduct a study of Police Department space needs. The report indicated that a facility of about 11,000 square feet was required for a community of our size and that the current building at 724 Penfield was 4,870 square feet; less than ½ the recommended size. The study also examined current procedures in the department and all of the officers were interviewed to obtain their input. Several potential sites for a new police facility were also examined, including Village-owned property at Indiana and Town Center Drive adjacent to the Fire Department training

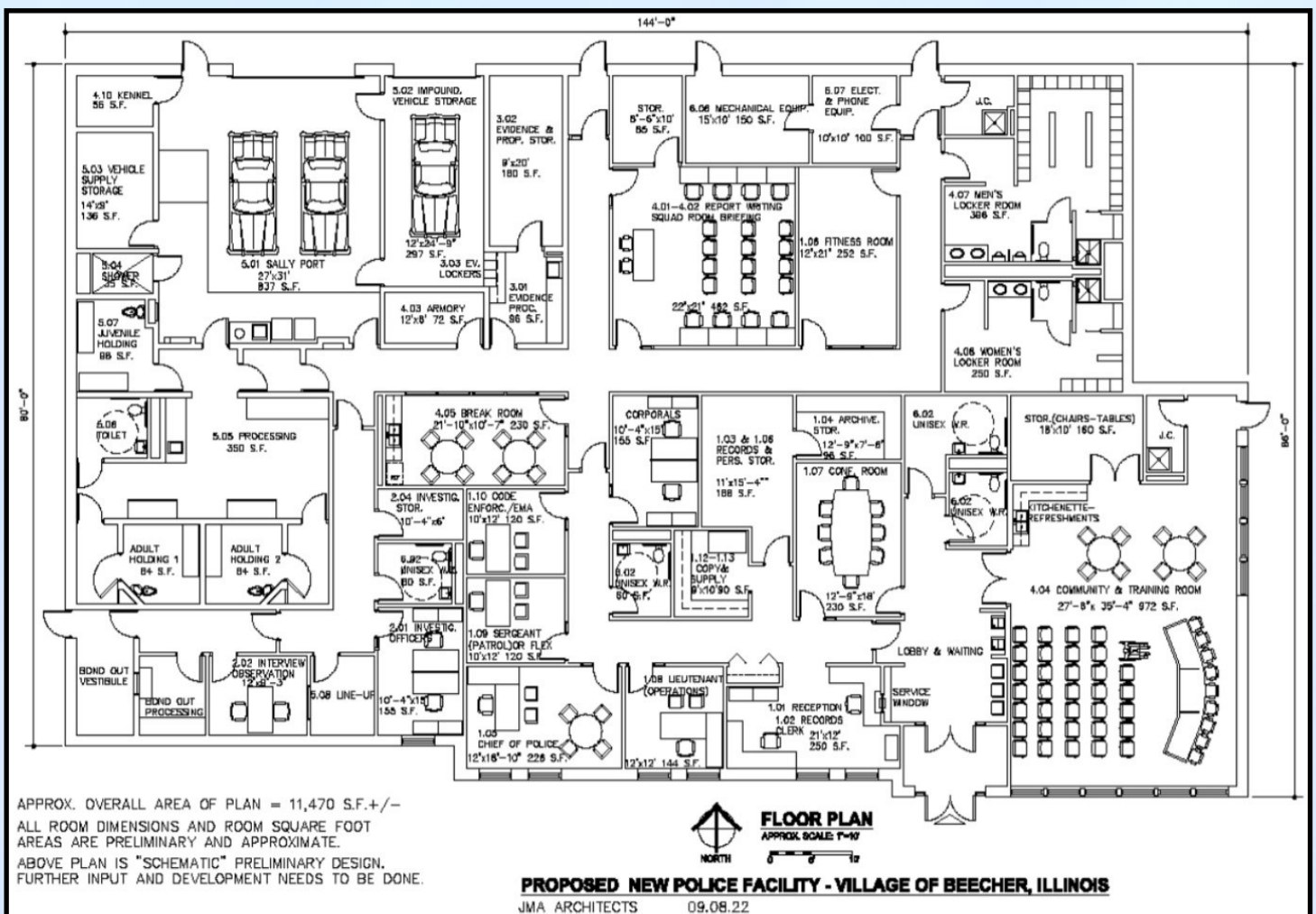


"New Public Safety Facility Continued"

site, another site in the old part of town and three sites along Dixie Highway. After several months of analysis and negotiations for the purchase of property, the Village Board agreed to purchase 5.81 acres on Church Road which runs between the Beecher Car Wash and Somerset Drive for \$125,000. This parcel is located closest to the population centers, provides quick deployment to the entire Village, is properly zoned for the use, provides for space for proper stormwater detention and drainage, is adjacent to utilities and has room for expansion of the building in the future. The Village closed on the land in the Spring of 2022.

JMA Architects was then hired to complete a floor plan and front elevations of the building. The building would also be designed by levels of security using key cards for access rights to each room to guarantee safety. The Board wants the building to be open for public use but secure for the officers. A large meeting room is also planned for use by the public such as community meetings, future Village Board meetings, regional meetings and joint training opportunities. The north or rear portion of the site behind the building would be fenced in and require electronic entry for employee and squad parking, and the east and south sides of the building would be for public parking and access. A wet pond would surround the car wash as an attractive amenity and to collect stormwater runoff from the site. The building could be expanded to the east in the future if the Village grows and the community need exists. Parking could also be expanded.

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What Will it Cost Me?

This is the most important question! A bond issue of \$3,950,000 will require annual payments of \$314,000 to pay these bonds off over 20 years at an interest rate not to exceed 5.9%.

If the referendum is passed the projected monthly payment will be \$12.69 per month, or \$152.26 per year per single-family household. The table below breaks this down:

Amount of Bonds being Requested:	\$3,950,000
Interest Rate (<i>worse case</i>)	5.90%
Annual Payments Required of the Village (Over 20 years)	\$314,000
Additional Rate of Property Tax	21.5 cents

The table below is how you calculate a tax rate for your home. You can place any value you wish into the form for your home value and add any other exemptions you may receive but for this example the median value of a single family home of \$235,000 is used. The assessed value of that home is 1/3 the market value or \$78,333. Everyone then gets a homestead exemption of \$6,000, so the median assessed value of a home in Beecher is \$72,333. The tax rate required to pay off the bonds is 0.00215 or 21.5 cents per \$100 of assessed value. This will require a tax increase of \$12.69 per month, or \$152.26 per year.

VILLAGE OF BEECHER		
TAX IMPACT CALCULATION - HOMEOWNERS		
PROPOSED \$3,950,000 GENERAL OBLIGATION BOND		
ESTIMATED TAX RATE INCREASE PER \$100 EAV		21.05¢
MARKET VALUE	Line A	\$235,000
ASSESSED VALUE (1/3 of Market Value)	Line B	\$78,333
LESS DEDUCTIONS	Line C	\$6,000
Homestead Deduction (Maximum of \$6,000)	Line D	
Senior Citizens Deduction (Maximum of \$4,000)	Line E	
Veterans/Disabled Deduction	Line F	
TOTAL DEDUCTIONS	Line F	\$6,000
TAXABLE VALUE	Line G	\$72,333
Line B minus Line F	Line H	0.002105
ESTIMATED TAX RATE INCREASE FACTOR	Line I	\$152.26
ESTIMATED ANNUAL TAX RATE INCREASE (Multiply Line G by Line H)		
ESTIMATED MONTHLY TAX RATE INCREASE (Divide Line I by 12)		\$12.69

VILLAGE OF BEECHER		
Public Safety Referendum		
Homeowner Tax Impact		
MARKET VALUE	TAXABLE VALUE*	MONTHLY TAX INCREASE
\$150,000	\$44,000	\$7.75
\$200,000	\$60,667	\$10.65
\$235,000	\$72,333	\$12.69
\$250,000	\$77,333	\$13.57
\$300,000	\$94,000	\$16.49
\$350,000	\$110,667	\$19.42
*Taxable value is 1/3 of the market value minus a \$6,000 homeowner exemption		
Senior citizens and veterans may qualify for additional exemptions.		

There are older bonds issued by other taxing bodies in the community which are coming off the tax rolls next year resulting in a property tax reduction of about \$876 on a \$235,000 home, or \$73 per month. Therefore, the passage of this referendum would still result in an annual tax savings of \$724 next year; or \$60.33 per month. There are other mitigating factors with property taxes such as allowable operating levy increases of 5% so your taxes may not fall as much stated here. But in all likelihood there will be a reduction in your property taxes next year even if this referendum passes.

I Need More Information, Where Can I Turn To?

The Village understands this is a complicated subject and has created several videos to walk you through the decision-making process. You can find these videos on the home page of the Village website as well as a video of the public Board meeting held in September on the proposed police station which includes the cost of the bonds to taxpayers.

If you have any questions, you can call the Village Hall at 708-946-2261. You may also email your elected officials. Email addresses can be found under the "Government" menu tab of the Village website www.villageofbeecher.org.

VILLAGE BOARD MEETING HIGHLIGHTS

The following actions were taken by the Beecher Village Board since Spring of 2022:

- ✓ Approved an accessory building having 2 stories at 527 Woodward.
- ✓ Approved the purchase of 5.81 acres on the north side of Church Road east of Dixie Highway for \$125,000 for the purpose of constructing a public safety facility if approved by the voters.
- ✓ Appointed Dana Karstensen to the 4th of July Commission.
- ✓ Approved an ordinance increasing the annual salary for Village President from \$4,900 to \$6,000 effective after the next election in 2025 and increasing the Trustee salary from \$3,000 to \$4,000 in staggered terms beginning in 2023. These increases go into effect for the next term of office for each of the elected positions. It was noted that it has been 20 years since these salaries were changed and that these new salaries are still on the low end of the averages paid in other communities.
- ✓ Allowed for the granting of administrative variances by the zoning administrator for fences in front yards of corner lots.
- ✓ Approved an ordinance pertaining to the temporary use of storage containers (or pods) in residential districts. Use is limited to 30 days and must be located on the driveway.
- ✓ Approved a preliminary plat for the Illiana Crossroads Business Park. The owner/petitioner was advised to have the project fully engineered and presented to the PZC and the Board for review prior to consideration of a final plat.
- ✓ Approved a new ordinance that prohibits parking on residential streets for 24 hours after a snowfall of 2" or more.
- ✓ Declared the 1984 P30 Stepvan in use by the Water Department and sold it to the highest bidder for \$7,500. Authorized the replacement of the van with a tow behind trailer for watermain break responses for \$14,000.
- ✓ Granted special use permits for LED signs in front of the Village Hall at 625 Dixie and for the Chamber of Commerce in front of Beecher Manor at 1201 Dixie.
- ✓ Approved a new 5 year labor agreement with Teamsters #700 for Beecher Police Officers.
- ✓ Approved an engagement agreement with First Midstates Bank as underwriter and placement agent and Chapman and Cutler as bond counsel for all matters pertaining to the potential sale and maintenance of general obligation bonds.
- ✓ Approved a contract with JMA Architects to design a new public safety facility to house the police, emergency management and code enforcement divisions of the Village in the amount of \$44,250.

Continued on next page



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Board Meeting Highlights Continued

- ✓ Approved an annual contribution in the amount of \$2,500 for membership in the Will County Center for Economic Development.
- ✓ Approved an ordinance authorizing a referendum question on November 8th election ballot for the sale of \$3,950,000 in general obligation bonds to construct a new public safety facility.
- ✓ Appointed Joe Gardner to the Planning and Zoning Commission replacing Denis Tatgenhorst.
- ✓ Approved a proposal not to exceed \$5,000 to produce informational videos on the proposed public safety facility.
- ✓ Appointed Ashley Woodman to the Beecher Youth Commission.
- ✓ Acquired 3.21 acres on Eagle Lake Road at Monhegan for \$791 in closing fees. This parcel is used for water detention and could be used for other public purposes in the future.
- ✓ Declared a residential lot at 652 Penfield as surplus property after obtaining a small section of it for a right-of-way.

The Beecher Village Board meets on the second and fourth Mondays of each month at 7:00 p.m. at the Beecher Village Hall, 625 Dixie Highway. Residents are invited and encourage to attend.

Video recordings of the meetings are available to be viewed on the [Village's YouTube Channel](#) and are shared on the Village of Beecher Facebook page at <https://www.facebook.com/beecher.il.60401/>. A link to our YouTube Channel may also be found on the Village website.



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CURBSIDE LEAF COLLECTION

The cooler weather has arrived and leaf raking season is here again! Leaves raked in rows along the curbside are picked up by a large vacuum machine used by Public Works crews until the end of November (depending on the weather).

Residents should place leaves in a pile or row in the parkway, between the sidewalk and curb as near to the street as possible. Leaves should not be placed in the streets because it will clog storm drains when it rains, potentially causing flooding. In areas without curbs, leaves should be placed in long rows on the grass or parkway at the edge of the street. Do not mix leaves with branches or grass clippings. These things will damage the leaf machine.

BE AWARE OF SNOW PARKING REGULATIONS DURING WINTER WEATHER

Even though many of us don't want to think about that white stuff, with winter approaching, the Village wants to remind residents that "it shall be unlawful to park any vehicle on any public street in the Village at any time within a twenty-four (24) hour period following a snowfall of two inches (2") or more." This includes curbed streets, driving lanes and business district public parking spaces commonly maintained by the Village but does not include parkways maintained by residents. It is also illegal to deposit snow onto public streets. When clearing your driveway, direct the snow into the yard and not the street. Remember, the snow will end up back in your driveway anyway when the plow comes back by! The Police Department may issue tickets to those that deposit their snow onto the street.



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BEECHER CONCERT SERIES

That's a wrap, folks! The Village of Beecher Summer Concert Series for 2022 is in the books! We hope everyone that wanted to was able to make it out and enjoy one of our eight concerts in Firemen's Park, whether it was one of the local bands, the blow-out Pearl Jam Tribute Chicago during the 4th of July Fest, or one of the Sundays where we shook things up with a different genre like Polka, Jazz, or Big Band music.

We'd like to thank everyone that helped make our series a success this year. Thank you to Village of Beecher staff and elected officials who helped with arrangements and often volunteered their own time to help coordinate activities. The Beecher 4th of July Commission, Beecher Lions Club and Sit-N-Bull who all provided food and drink for sale at several of our events. Thank you to Beecher Police, EMA, and Public Works for keeping things running smoothly throughout in too many ways to mention.

I'd personally like to send an extra thanks to Trustees Joe Gianotti and Todd Kraus, who joined me on the joint committee for this series and for all the time put into planning, booking, and preparing for the events. Trustee Gianotti could be found personally arranging bleachers and helping get things sorted afterwards for nearly every single event and was definitely the MVP of our series.

Of course, the most important 'Thank you' has been saved for last. The ultimate thanks is to all the Village residents that came out and enjoyed the concerts. It was really wonderful hearing the positive feedback when people would share how much fun they had at a particular concert. Considering the excellent turnout and feedback received so far, we are already planning for a 2023 Summer Concert Series so be on the lookout for more information to come in the future on what we have in store for you next summer!

Finally, we'd love to hear your thoughts on the concert series; what you liked and where you think we could improve! We have some exciting ideas for next summer but we very much want to hear what you have to say too. Please visit <https://www.surveymonkey.com/r/2PMQ988> and send us any comments you have.

Keep on rocking and we'll see you next summer!

Ben Juzeszyn
Village Trustee



BEECHER 4TH OF JULY COMMISSION SAYS THANK YOU FOR A SUCCESSFUL 2022 FESTIVAL!



What a wonderful weekend we all experienced for the 4th of July holiday! All of the stands reported near record sales and at the end of the event gross proceeds were the second highest reached since 2001! The weather was almost perfect for the entire weekend (with the exception of the thunderstorm during the parade).

The success of this year's celebration has allowed us to make up for the losses we experienced by not having a celebration in 2020 and having an abbreviated celebration over Labor Day weekend in 2021. The Commission has been able to set aside all of the costs of opening for 2023 and still had some funds available to make some repairs and improvements in Firemen's Park. For example, gutters were installed on the beer stand, there are several picnic tables that need boards replaced, a new PA system that can be used in the entire park, and some more lighting in the areas north of the picnic pavilion. These projects should all be completed and paid for by next year's celebration!

GETTING TO KNOW BEECHER EMA DIRECTOR BOB HEIM



Bob Heim has been the Beecher Emergency Management Agency (EMA) Director since 2021. Bob was recruited to EMA back in March 2017 by Denis Tatgenhorst and earned the title as Deputy Director in 2020.

Bob grew up in the Village of Thornton. After marrying his wife Sharon, he and his wife moved to Lansing and raised their family (one son and one daughter). Bob and Sharon then moved to Beecher a little over 17 years ago where he has volunteered so much of his time for the Village as well as many other charitable groups.

Bob got involved in public safety in the 1970's when he attended Thornton Community College in 1977, where he received his Fire Fighter II Certification. Bob was then hired by the Thornton Fire Department and moved up the ranks retiring as a Lieutenant. Shortly after, Bob was hired on the Thornton and East Hazel Crest Police Departments as a part-time police officer.

Bob's full-time career was with the Metra Railroad, starting with the railroad in 1979. Bob continued his career until 2016 when he retired in management as a signal supervisor with 37 years of service.

One of Bob's proudest accomplishments was when he was the Director of the Lansing Youth Center for eight years. This is where he volunteered to help children with homework and after school activities.

For those of you that may be wondering what EMA is or what do they do; they are citizen volunteers that work in the Beecher community assisting the Police and Fire Departments, directing traffic, providing funeral escorts, serving as severe weather spotters and handling disasters that may occur in the community. Bob is always looking for more volunteers. If you are interested in volunteering, Bob can be contacted at emadirector@villageofbeecher.org. We can not extend our gratitude enough to Bob and our EMA volunteers!



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CHRISTMAS TREE LIGHTING CEREMONY SET FOR SUNDAY, NOVEMBER 27TH

We're excited to announce the 2nd Annual Village of Beecher Christmas Tree Lighting event to be held at Firemen's Park the evening of Sunday, November 27th! A light parade (open to small vehicles, golf carts, etc.) will kick off throughout the park at 5 p.m. with the official tree lighting to follow immediately. The event will conclude at 7:30 p.m. For the duration, and while supplies last, free food and drink will be available at the food stand. On top of that we have a few new additions to help everyone enjoy this kick-off to the holiday season! This year, we'll be honored to have a very special guest joining us to bring the holiday spirit to town...Santa Claus himself will be there to flip the switch and is even going to take time out of his busy holiday preparations to have a seat so kids can come up and tell him what's on their wish list.

The busy Beecher elves are preparing some 'Santa's Workshop' activities where kids will be able to take part in a few holiday crafts and write a letter to be sent to the North Pole. Finally, we'll have a decorative photo backdrop available as well if anyone would like to take some holiday pictures to share on social media or with friends and family. Finally, we'll have a toy drop-off for charity and plan to be running a Holiday 50/50 raffle. Planning and coordination with other groups is still in progress so we'll have more information to share in the future. Looking forward to seeing you there!

The tentative holiday schedule below is a snapshot of currently planned holiday events in the area that are open to the public. Try as we might it's difficult to capture everything at this early date so this list may not include the many events being planned. The below schedule is tentative and subject to change or cancellation.

Thank you Washington Township, Beecher Chamber of Commerce, Beecher Lions Club, Beecher Library District, Beecher Fire Protection District, local churches, and more for all the events helping to bring some joy to our corner of the world this holiday season! For more details on events not held by the Village please follow up with the responsible organization.

TENTATIVE HOLIDAY SCHEDULE

- | | |
|---------------------------|--|
| November 27 th | ✳️Tree Lighting – 4:30-7 p.m. in Firemen's Park
✳️Light Parade – 5 p.m. in Firemen's Park |
| December 7 th | ✳️'Make a Present for your Parent' – 4 p.m. at Beecher Community Library |
| December 10 th | ✳️Zion Church Cookie Walk |
| December 11 th | ✳️Breakfast with Santa by Beecher Lions Club at Beecher Amvets |
| December 13 th | ✳️Washington Township Senior Dinner - 5:30 p.m. at Beecher Amvets |
| December 21 st | ✳️'Gingerbread House Building' - 4 p.m. at Beecher Community Library |
| December 24 th | ✳️Beecher Fire District Santa Ride – (to be held in the evening) |

(The Beecher Community Library will be scheduling additional holiday craft activities and story times so please check with them for more details.)



LIGHT PARADE DETAILS

- * Pre-registration not required
- * Public participation encouraged
- * Open to small vehicles, golf carts, etc.
- * Cash prizes available!
- * Look for more details to come!





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Village Hall Phone 946-2261

Emergency Police & Fire
9-1-1

Police Non Emergency:
946-2341

Fire Non Emergency:
946-6585

Web Site: www.villageofbeecher.org
E-Mail: clerk@villageofbeecher.org

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Newsletter Editor: Janett McCawley, Village Clerk

DOG TAGS GO ON SALE THURSDAY, DECEMBER 1ST



Dog tags go on sale Thursday, December 1st. The price is \$10 per dog and the deadline for purchase is March 15, 2023. After the March 15th deadline, the price of dog tags increase. Tags may be purchased at the Village Hall or online by clicking on the "ePay" option on the Village website. The dog's name, breed, color and date of last rabies vaccination will be required to purchase the tag. If you pay online, the tags will be mailed to you.

Dog tag fees are used to pay for the services provided by the Beecher Veterinary Clinic for picking up, feeding and boarding stray animals and lost pets.

HALLOWEEN

Trick-or-Treat hours

4-7 p.m. on Monday, October 31st

The Lions Club Annual Weenie Roast will also be held from 6-8 pm in Firemen's Park.

Have a Safe and Happy Halloween!



David Davila, RPh.

PHARMACY HOURS:
Monday-Friday: 10am-6pm
Saturday: 10am-2pm
*Sunday: 10am-2pm
(*Lansing Only)



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