

AM

**MINUTES OF THE REGULAR MEETING OF THE PRESIDENT  
& BOARD OF TRUSTEES OF THE VILLAGE OF BEECHER  
HELD AT BEECHER PUBLIC WORKS FACILITY,  
30251 CARDINAL CREEK BLVD., BEECHER, ILLINOIS  
MARCH 27, 2023 -- 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 McCawley, Administrator Robert Barber, Superintendent of Public Works Matt Conner, Chief Terry Lemming, Treasurer Donna Rooney and EMA Director Bob Heim.

**GUESTS:** George Schuitema, Erik Gardner.

President Meyer asked for consideration of the minutes of the March 13, 2023 Board meeting. Trustee Juzeszyn made a motion to approve the minutes as written. Trustee Stacey seconded.

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

**NAYS:** (0) None.

Motion carried.

**CLERK'S REPORT** – None.

**RECOGNITION OF AUDIENCE** - None.

Trustee Kypuros made a motion to approve payment of the list of bills in the amount of \$72,018.52 and payroll since last meeting. Trustee Juzeszyn seconded the motion.

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

**NAYS:** (0) None.

Motion carried.

Trustee Gianotti made a motion to waive bidding requirements for work to be completed in Welton Stedt Park. Three proposals were received for this project and all three proposals met prevailing wage requirements. In order to expedite the project and to keep design costs to a minimum, the Village Board decided at the last meeting to waive a formal bid process and get the project moving along. 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 proposal from Werner Landscaping of Peotone in the amount of \$104,112.50 to install a soccer field in Welton Stedt Park. \$80,000 of this amount comes from the Fieldgate settlement and the remainder from ARPA funds. Trustee Kraus seconded.

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

NAYS: (0) None.

Motion carried.

The Board considered the layout for the pickle ball courts at the High School due to the wide range of options. Three different designs were provided for consideration. Original layout came with some issues concerning location of center drain so Superintendent Conner came up with two different layouts that would work better. After much discussion, the majority of the Board decided to go with the plan for three pickle ball courts. Color scheme was then discussed. Trustee Gianotti felt blue and green colors look better, but orange and black are school colors. It was the consensus of the Board to go with black and orange color scheme.

The Board then went through the Fiscal Year 2023/2024 budget that was prepared as a result of the previous budget meeting.

Items discussed included:

The Board discussed new maintenance worker for Public Works to be funded in Street Department. Superintendent Conner explained moving Ron Emery over to the Sewer Plant to provide him with the required training to take over as Sewer Operator. Superintendent Conner would like to replace the position being vacated by Emery moving to the sewer plant. Concerns were expressed about financially being able to sustain the additional position long-term and the possibility of needing to raise water/sewer rates in future. Consensus of the Board agreed to keep the new position in the budget.

Trade in of the G35 mini-ex for a G50 mini-ex was discussed – Superintendent Conner explained the current mini-ex is not adequate to do the many things that Public Works needs to do with it. They would be able to do more with the bigger unit. There was much debate amongst the Board as to whether to purchase the new machine or keep the current one. The Board approved to keep the purchase of the new G50 mini-ex in the budget and all future payments for this will come out of O&M.

The Board then went through summary of budget items and Administrator Barber explained changes since the last budget meeting.

Trustee Kraus suggested the purchase of armed services flags to be placed along Dixie highway. He looked into some prices and would like to see these flags placed along the highway to recognize our armed services. Trustee Kypuros suggested reaching out to the Amvets to see if they would like to participate in this program. There were no objections. Public Works will order the flags. Staff will add the expense to Street Department budget for flags in the amount of \$10,000.

Trustee Juzeszyn asked about increasing the Beecher Youth Commission's contribution. Volunteers are working hard to hold events and costs keep going up. Consensus of the Board agreed to fund an additional \$1,000 to BYC.

The Board discussed the need for an increase in the rates for water and sewer for next fiscal year to address operating deficits.

President Meyer stated that she had a meeting with Fire District Trustee Marge Cook regarding the Fire Inspection IGA. It was previously suggested that the Village could do the inspections in the future instead of having the Fire District do inspections. This would need to be considered for the budget if the Village takes over the inspections. Fire District Trustee Cook voiced at the meeting that the Fire District would support the Village doing inspections as long as they get done. It is unknown what cost might be but an estimate from Safebuilt was \$42 per inspection for an approximate \$5,500 per year for business inspections. It might be less if someone else is hired. This is just for information at this time. Money could be budgeted for this expense if agreement can't be worked out with Fire District. Staff is to add \$10,000 budget expense for fire inspections.

### **G. OLD BUSINESS**

Trustee Tieri reported that background has been done on new officer and are awaiting psych evaluation. Police Department plans to start new officer on Wednesday, March 29<sup>th</sup>.

### **I. NEW BUSINESS**

Trustee Tieri and Chief Lemming reported on a seminar presentation offered to seniors that will be held on Wednesday on scams being used to target senior citizens.

There being no further business, President Meyer asked for a motion to adjourn. Trustee Kypuros 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 9:02 p.m.

Respectfully submitted by:

  
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Janett McCawley  
Village Clerk