



**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 26, 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 Juzeszyn, Kraus, Gardner, Stacey, Gianotti and Trustee Tieri (arrived at 7:10 p.m.).

**ABSENT:** None.

**STAFF PRESENT:** Clerk Janett McCawley, Administrator Robert Barber, Public Works Superintendent Matt Conner, Chief Terry Lemming, Code Enforcement Officer David Harrison, EMA Director Bob Heim and new Police Officer Connor DeButch.

**GUESTS:** George Schuitema, Mom of new Officer Connor DeButch, Candace Midkiff and her son.

**APPROVAL OF MINUTES**

President Meyer asked for consideration of the minutes of the June 12, 2023 Board meeting. Trustee Kraus made a motion to approve the minutes as written. Trustee Gianotti seconded.

**AYES:** (5) Trustees Juzeszyn, Kraus, Gardner, Stacey and Gianotti.

**NAYS:** (0) None.

**ABSENT:** (1) Trustee Tieri.

Motion carried.

**VILLAGE CLERK REPORT**

1) Clerk McCawley asked Board members who planned on riding in the parade and what vehicles would be used; 2) Clerk McCawley read aloud a letter from Will County Center for Community Concerns; and 3) Clerk McCawley announced dates of IML Conference and provided registration information.

**RECOGNITION OF AUDIENCE**

Candace Midkiff and her son were present and provided photos and handouts. She asked for approval to bring a trailer that contains her son's go-carts and park it at their home on certain weekends. She said her son races competitively and it's his passion. Season runs May to October where he races every Saturday night. They pay to store their trailer but want to bring it home on weekends from Friday to Sunday evenings since there is preparation needed for every race. She

would like some sort of consideration to allow the trailer at their home on race weekends. President Meyer thanked Ms. Midkiff for attending the meeting and her presentation. Ms. Midkiff was asked for pictures of the trailer and the size. She was told the Village will be in contact with her.

Trustee Tieri arrived at 7:10 p.m.

**VILLAGE PRESIDENT REPORT**

A moment of silence was observed in memory of Public Works employee/water operator Steven Zellner who recently passed away. President Meyer asked everyone to keep his family in their thoughts and prayers.

Clerk McCawley swore in new full-time Police Officer Connor DeButch. His mom pinned his badge and he was introduced to the Board.

Trustee Kraus made a motion to approve a proposal from B+F Code, Inc. for fire inspection services for the Village of Beecher. Safebuilt was unable to provide an inspector so two other firms were solicited. B+F Code has a team of four certified fire inspectors and one of those would be assigned to Beecher for our program. Trustee Stacey seconded.

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

NAYS: (0) None.

Motion carried.

There was nothing new to report on the South Suburban Airport.

The July 10<sup>th</sup> Board meeting will have a light agenda due to the 4<sup>th</sup> of July holiday. All monthly reports will be held until the July 24<sup>th</sup> meeting.

President Meyer requested an Executive Session be held to discuss the lead water operator position and a letter of resignation.

**A. FINANCE AND ADMINISTRATION COMMITTEE**

Trustee Kraus made a motion to approve payment of the list of bills in the amount of \$125,330.34. Trustee Juzeszyn seconded.

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

NAYS: (0) None.

Motion carried.

The audit process is beginning. Staff is compiling needed documents and the final audit will be provided to the Board in October. Field work is scheduled for July 25<sup>th</sup> and 26<sup>th</sup>.

Menard Consulting has completed its actuarial valuation of post-employment benefits in accordance with GASB Statement #75, which is required for the audit.

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

A Project Pickle update was provided by Superintendent Conner. Contractor plans to get project done by end of July.

There was no update on Welton Stedt Park.

An update on the new public safety building design and bidding was provided. A project schedule has been established by the architect and engineer and was provided in the packet for review. The Village can go to bid as early as July 26<sup>th</sup> and open bids on August 30<sup>th</sup>. Pricing remains volatile and it will need to be decided as to the best time to go to bid.

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

The results of the June 22<sup>nd</sup> Planning and Zoning Commission meeting was provided by Trustee Gardner. A workshop was held to begin drafting the new Zoning Ordinance. Teska Associates provided an overview of the process. Trustee Gardner and Commissioners Schuitema and Heim will serve on the Steering Committee.

**D. PUBLIC SAFETY COMMITTEE**

Results of the Gould Street burnout event were provided. Trustee Tieri said it was a very successful event. There were 62 cars at car show. Many motorcycles and vehicles participated in the event. There was no road damage but yellow striping on road were covered. Chief Lemming said it was well attended and the boardwalk was full. Most came for the motorcycles, not as many cars. It was very staffing intensive. Chief Lemming said he would need more staff if event is planned again in future for safety reasons, crowd control, more volunteers to control the area, etc. George Schuitema estimated that Lions Club made approximately \$2,000. Trustee Gianotti clarified that this was not a Village event and if Village provides security or other staff in future organizers would need to pay for costs.

A 4<sup>th</sup> of July prep update was provided. Trustee Gianotti said he worked over the weekend getting the park ready. Carnival is arriving. Setup begins on Tuesday. A public safety meeting is scheduled for Wednesday. Penfield Street bridge is closed so signage will be up to direct traffic. Will County Sheriff will also be providing security staff.

The Police Department's Bike Rodeo will be held on July 1<sup>st</sup> with registration from 8:30 a.m. to 9 a.m. The Bike Rodeo starts at 9 a.m.

**E. PUBLIC WORKS COMMITTEE**

A Penfield Street project update was provided. The Penfield Street bridge was closed earlier in the day. Superintendent Conner reported that the contractor reset three watermains and installed 300-400 feet of storm line. Watermain has been disconnected over the bridge. Destruction of bridge will begin this week. Contractor is working on parking lots by Reed Street. Contractor hopes to get everything east of the creek done before school re-opens.

An Indiana Avenue resurfacing update was provided. Pre-con meeting was held last Thursday. Work will begin soon to replace sidewalk ramps on Indiana Avenue. Will County failed to notify Village of how much it would cost, so no money was budgeted. Staff is not sure if Village will be responsible for any costs since not informed of the costs. Work should be done by September 1<sup>st</sup>.

A Gould Street watermain replacement punch list items update was provided. We are waiting on one resident's parkway restoration.

A Dixie Highway watermain crossover project update was provided. The Village has obtained commitments to sign the easements on the east side of Dixie between Miller Street and Fairway Drive. Paperwork for the \$500,000 grant from Will County is being processed. We will be ready to go to bid on this project later this fall once Will County executes the grant agreement. The Committee still needs a plan to finance the Village's \$639,000 share of the project and front the additional \$500,000.

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

Results of the Shout Section Big Band concert on June 18<sup>th</sup> was provided by Trustee Juzeszyn. Weather was nice. Trustee Juzeszyn thanked the Community Hall Board and Part-Time Players working with them on possible use of the building in case of rain. People asked about food, so the Committee would like to serve some type of food at all events. It went well considering it was Father's Day weekend.

ORDINANCE #1389 – An Ordinance authorizing the Village President and Clerk to sign a redevelopment agreement with Union Electronics, Inc. to provide TIF reimbursement equal to the purchase price of the property at a rate of 75% per year capped at 12 years, excluding any partial years. This agreement is in conformance with the resolution the Village Board adopted. Administrator Barber was notified by seller of property that the purchase price is being revised due to Union Electronics purchasing additional land. Administrator Barber recommended approving the ordinance with the possibility of having to approve an additional ordinance in the future with an updated purchase price. Trustee Juzeszyn made a motion to approve Ordinance #1389. Trustee Gianotti seconded.

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

NAYS: (0) None.

Motion carried.

There being no further business to be discussed in regular session, Trustee Gianotti made a motion to adjourn into Executive Session at 7:44 p.m. to discuss the water operator position and a letter of resignation. Trustee Stacey seconded.

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

NAYS: (0) None.

Motion carried.

Trustee Stacey made a motion to return to regular session at 8:04 p.m. Trustee Gianotti seconded.

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

NAYS: (0) None.

Motion carried.

## **G. OLD BUSINESS**

Some discussion was had on liquor licenses and gaming cafes. The Board discussed a business owner who wants to close his gaming business and his employee opening one of her own. This will not work without serving food.

Trustee Kraus would like to set up ordinance so all liquor licenses are approved by the Board, so it can be decided as a whole Board.

President Meyer is still waiting on Elsie's Place who wants to open a gaming café that serves food and there is a liquor license available for.

## **I. NEW BUSINESS**

The Board discussed a succession plan for replacing the Village Administrator who will be retiring on December 15<sup>th</sup>. Administrator Barber suggested working on getting the process started and how to proceed. The Board can advertise in ILCMA, ICMA and IML newsletters. Chief Lemming can help with assessments. Need to focus on wage and process. The Board will review the info and discuss further at the next meeting.

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

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

NAYS: (0) None.

Motion carried.

Meeting adjourned at 8:32 p.m.

Respectfully submitted by:



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Janett McCawley  
Village Clerk