

**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
AUGUST 14, 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 Kraus, Gardner, Stacey and Tieri.

ABSENT: Trustees Juzeszyn and Gianotti.

STAFF PRESENT: Clerk Janett McCawley, Administrator Robert Barber, Treasurer Donna Rooney and Sgt. Aaron DaCorte.

GUEST: Phyllis Harden.

APPROVAL OF MINUTES

President Meyer asked for consideration of the minutes of the July 24, 2023 Board meeting. Trustee Tieri made a motion to approve the minutes as written. Trustee Stacey seconded.

AYES: (4) Trustees Kraus, Gardner, Stacey and Tieri.

NAYS: (0) None.

Motion carried.

RECOGNITION OF AUDIENCE

Phyllis Harden expressed interest in reopening a gaming café that has closed. She wants to open next to Sophia's. She was asked for more details. She would like a beer-only liquor license. Menu would include pizza and other snacks. She provided photos of layout. The opening between Sophia's and her business would be sealed closed, according to Ms. Harden. President Meyer expressed concerns about issuing a liquor license to an address that currently has a liquor license or next door to an existing liquor license. Two liquor licenses in one space is an issue. There are currently no liquor licenses available. Item will be placed on the agenda for next meeting.

VILLAGE CLERK REPORT

Clerk McCawley provided a report on income received in July 2023.

REPORTS OF VILLAGE COMMISSIONS

Trustee Kraus reported the next 4th of July Commission meeting is scheduled for August 23rd to go over final reports for this year's festival.

gm

President Meyer provided a Youth Commission update. Parents Night Out event is scheduled for September 23rd at Sit-N-Bull.

Trustee Gardner provided a Historic Preservation Commission update. Next meeting is Wednesday, August 16th at 6 p.m. At the last meeting the Commission discussed ways to get more participation on the Historic Preservation Commission.

VILLAGE PRESIDENT REPORT

It was reported that Cat Gonzales and Megan Haddon have resigned from the Youth Commission. The Commission is looking for volunteers.

President Meyer provided results of initial fire inspections. The new fire inspector has started and is performing inspections on Fridays. Reports have shown a number of re-inspections for non-repeat issues that have been found by the new inspector that never came up before.

A. FINANCE AND ADMINISTRATION COMMITTEE

Trustee Kraus made a motion to approve the Treasurer’s Report. Treasurer Rooney was present and provided report. Trustee Tieri seconded.

AYES: (4) Trustees Kraus, Gardner, Stacey and Tieri.

NAYS: (0) None.

Motion carried.

Variance reports were provided in the packet for review.

Trustee Kraus made a motion to approve payment of the list of bills in the amount of \$188,630.92 and payrolls for the previous month. Trustee Gardner seconded.

AYES: (4) Trustees Kraus, Gardner, Stacey and Tieri.

NAYS: (0) None.

Motion carried.

Audit field work is complete. The report is being compiled and the presentation of the audit is scheduled for the October 10th Village Board meeting.

Annual history of fund balances in major Village accounts was provided for the Board’s review.

B. PUBLIC BUILDINGS AND PROPERTIES, PARKS AND RECREATION COMMITTEE

A Project Pickle update was provided – it is progressing well. Fencing has been put up and painting will be worked on this week.

A police station construction schedule will be discussed at the next meeting. The architect will be present to join the discussion of when to bid this project. As of now, it looks like a September bid letting is feasible.

An ARPA Account spending activity and project status report was provided in the packet for review. gm

C. PLANNING, BUILDING AND ZONING COMMITTEE

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

The Steering Committee for the new Zoning Ordinance is scheduled to meet at 7 p.m. on Thursday, August 24th.

A copy of the results of the building code survey taken by the South Suburban Mayors and Managers Association was provided in the packet for review.

D. PUBLIC SAFETY COMMITTEE

The Police Department, EMA and Code Enforcement monthly reports were provided in the packet for review.

Trustee Tieri provided results of the National Night Out. He expressed his thanks to all who participated to make it a successful event and it was well attended. Thank you letters will be sent out.

It was reported that the Police Department is to receive a \$50,000 grant through LCC to purchase new radios and computers for the squad cars.

The Laraway dispatch costs will be going up for Beecher by 29% due to call volume. Our rate will be increasing by \$50,000, from \$122,000 to \$172,000.

E. PUBLIC WORKS COMMITTEE

The Public Works, Water Department and Sewer Department monthly reports were provided in the packet for review.

A Penfield Street construction update was provided by Administrator Barber. School opens Wednesday and the road in front of Beecher Elementary School is not open yet. Alternative plan is to have parents drop off their children at the corner of Hodges and Catalpa. The Police Department, EMA and Village staff will help with the school traffic. This alternative plan may be in effect until Monday or Tuesday of next week depending on construction progress due to rain or other delays.

After a storm on July 28th, brush pickup was conducted with the Village of Crete coming to help.

The Public Works Committee has completed their policy on paving streets, which was provided in the packet for review. The policy is that the Village is only in charge of road surfaces and not paved surfaces on non-curbed streets.

An Indiana Avenue resurfacing project update was provided. Sidewalks began being poured earlier in the day. Trains are blowing horns again because delineators on Indiana Avenue have been taken down due to the construction.

The Village sidewalk replacement program in the amount of \$20,000 is set to begin. Sidewalks have been identified for replacement and bids are being obtained.

The South Suburban Mayors and Managers Association's water rate study was provided in the packet for review.

F. ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT AND COMMUNITY RELATIONS COMMITTEE

The results of the Tree Lighting Planning Committee meeting was provided. An \$1,800 budget was drafted, a parade route was discussed, and the events of the day were planned out. The next planning meeting has been scheduled for Wednesday, August 30th. The tree lighting event will be held Sunday, November 26th. Lighted parade will be held on Village streets at 5 p.m. with tree lighting to follow. There will be a house decorating contest with cash prizes this year. Washington Township has offered the Community Hall to the Village for use during the event, free of charge. A grant through ComEd is being pursued. It was reported that Crete has donated their fire ring.

A Summer Concert Series update was provided by President Meyer. The polka band concert was held on Saturday. Big Dog Mercer concert will be held on Saturday, August 26th. The final concert of the year will be held Saturday, September 2nd, featuring Maggie Speaks.

G. OLD BUSINESS

Trustee Kraus questioned the bill signed by the Governor about airport and whether it means anything. There is nothing definite at this point.

Administrator Barber apologized to the Penfield Street residents for their inconvenience during the road project.

I. NEW BUSINESS

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.


AYES: (4) Trustees Kraus, Gardner, Stacey and Tieri.

NAYS: (0) None.

Motion carried.

Meeting adjourned at 7:45 p.m.

Respectfully submitted by:



Janett McCawley
Village Clerk