MINUTES OF THE BEECHER PLANNING AND ZONING COMMISSION (THE PZC)

Thursday, June 22, 2023 at 7:00 p.m. Beecher Village Hall 625 Dixie Highway

At 7:00 p.m., Chairman Phil Serviss called the meeting to order.

All present joined in the pledge to the flag.

ROLL CALL. Members present: Commissioners Bouchard, Gardner, Hearn, Heim, Schuitema, Serviss and Weissbohn.

Members absent: None.

Staff present: Secretary Patty Meyer, Administrator Bob Barber and Pete Iosue of Teska Associates.

Guests: Village President Marcy Meyer and Trustee Erik Gardner.

CONSIDER APPROVAL OF THE MINUTES OF THE MARCH 23, 2023 MEETING. Commissioner Schuitema made a motion to approve the minutes of the March 23, 2023 PZC meeting as written. Commissioner Heim seconded the motion.

AYES: Commissioners Bouchard, Gardner, Hearn, Heim, Schuitema, Serviss and Weissbohn.

NAYS: None

Motion carried.

WORKSHOP: BEGIN PROCESS OF DRAFTING A NEW ZONING ORDINANCE AND MAP FOR THE VILLAGE OF BEECHER. Teska Associates has been hired by the Village of Beecher to draft a new comprehensive amendment to the Zoning Ordinance, which was last updated in 2005. A scope of work and a one-page summary of issues, such as signs, front yard fences and chickens, were provided for review. PZC members were encouraged to think about their position on the issues.

Administrator Barber explained the need for drafting a new Zoning Ordinance.

Pete Iosue explained how the process will work and the various phases. Updates will need to meet current State laws, processes for variances and special uses will need to be discussed, language needs to be simplified, graphics and visual aids will be added, and hyperlink references will be added within ordinance and then codified.

The Steering Committee will be Trustee Erik Gardner as Village liaison and Commissioners Heim and Schuitema, who will dig into the details and present their findings to the PZC for review and discussion. Pete Iosue will provide a proposed calendar for the process.

NEW BUSINESS. Administrator Barber reported that Union Electronics will be constructing a 100,000 s.f. building in the Illiana Crossroads Business Park. Union Electronics has met with the TIF Committee and incentives will go to them, not the developer.

Commissioner Schuitema asked about completion of Beecher Manor's front parking area and the South Suburban Airport.

It was reported that the Penfield Street bridge will be closed beginning Monday, June 26th. Indiana Avenue resurfacing will begin soon with rolling one-lane traffic.

Commissioner Serviss reported that Drivin' the Dixie will be held on July 29th.

Administrator Barber stated that there are posters and flyers available for the upcoming 4th of July festival.

The next regularly scheduled meeting for the PZC is Thursday, July 27, 2023 at 7:00 p.m.

ADJOURNMENT. Commissioner Schuitema made a motion to adjourn the meeting. Commissioner Bouchard seconded the motion.

AYES: Commissioners Bouchard, Gardner, Hearn, Heim, Schuitema, Serviss and Weissbohn.

NAYS: None Motion carried.

Meeting adjourned at 7:53 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,

Patty Mege Secretary