

AM

**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 28, 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 (arrived at 7:01 p.m.), Gardner, Stacey, Tieri and Gianotti.

ABSENT: None.

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

GUESTS: Wayne Babiak, Jim Maciejewski and Jerry Maciejewski of JMA Architects, and Phyllis Harden-West.

Beecher Police Officers, Beecher EMA members, Beecher Fire Chief and members of Bob Heim's family attended presentation of Certificate of Recognition for Bob Heim.)

APPROVAL OF MINUTES

President Meyer asked for consideration of the minutes of the August 14, 2023 Board meeting. Trustee Tieri made a motion to approve the minutes as written. Trustee Stacey seconded.

AYES: (3) Trustees Gardner, Stacey and Tieri.

NAYS: (0) None.

ABSTAIN: (2) Trustees Juzeszyn and Gianotti.

ABSENT: (1) Trustee Kraus (arrived at 7:01 p.m.).

Motion carried.

VILLAGE CLERK REPORT – None.

VILLAGE PRESIDENT REPORT

Chief Lemming presented a Certificate of Recognition to EMA Director Bob Heim for all his time dedicated to volunteering. He was recognized for all the things he volunteers for including: EMA, helping with local festivals, Village, Fire Department, Police Department and Illinois Volunteers of hope. Chief Lemming said he has never seen a volunteer as dedicated as Bob Heim. Chief also recognized Bob's wife Sharon for supporting him with all that he does. Chief read plaque aloud. A letter from Barb Dorman recognizing Bob Heim for his volunteer help with so many facets of her organization, Illinois Volunteers of Hope was also read aloud.

Trustee Gianotti made a motion letting bids for the Beecher Public Safety Facility to be located at 250 W. Church Road. Jim Maciejewski, Jerry Maciejewski and Wayne Babiak from JMA Architects were present at the meeting and Jim Maciejewski provided an update on the overall plans for the public safety building. He also explained the bid process, went over the project schedule and provided advice as to when to go to bid. Trustee Stacey seconded.

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

NAYS: (0) None.

Motion carried.

The Board discussed a request to increase the number of Class B liquor licenses by one to allow for the sale of beer-only at 755 Penfield as requested by Phyllis Harden at the previous Board meeting. Staff expressed concerns regarding the lack of an identifiable business plan, floor plan or even a name for the new business. Ms. Harden was present and explained she is waiting on name until she can see if LLC name is available. She said she now has a floor plan. President Meyer advised the Board as to the options for the liquor license and expressed concerns about two liquor licenses in the same building and/or the same address. Many Board members expressed concerns about lack of information and two liquor licenses at same address. She is looking for direction but doesn't want to spend money on this if it is not possible to get a liquor license. Matter was tabled until more information is available.

President Meyer read aloud a Proclamation declaring September 18-24 as National Rail Safety Week in the Village of Beecher.

President Meyer requested an Executive Session be held at the end of the meeting to discuss land acquisition for a donation of land for parks and recreation purposes.

A. FINANCE AND ADMINISTRATION COMMITTEE

Trustee Kraus made a motion to approve payment of the list of bills in the amount of \$72,914.85 and payrolls since the previous meeting. Trustee Juzeszyn seconded the motion.

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

NAYS: (0) None.

Motion carried.

RESOLUTION #2023-13 – A Resolution transferring \$230,000 from the Watermain Replacement account to the A.R.P.A. account to eliminate a “due to/due from” on the books and to properly expend said funds. Trustee Kraus made a motion to adopt Resolution #2023-13. Trustee Juzeszyn seconded.

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

NAYS: (0) None.

Motion carried.

RESOLUTION #2023-14 – A Resolution transferring all remaining funds in the A.R.P.A. account on January 1, 2024 to the watermain replacement account to be used for the Dixie Highway crossover watermain replacement project and closing the A.R.P.A. account. Trustee Kraus made a motion to adopt Resolution #2023-14. Trustee Juzeszyn seconded.

AYES: (6) Trustees Juzeszyn, Kraus, Gardner, Stacey, Tieri and Gianotti.
NAYS: (0) None.
Motion carried.

B. PUBLIC BUILDINGS AND PROPERTIES, PARKS AND RECREATION COMMITTEE

A Project Pickle update was provided by Superintendent Conner. Work is all done, waiting on futsal nets, which will be installed later this week. Basketball hoops and pickleball nets are in. A sign will be posted on site with a list of rules. The Board agreed to close courts at 10 p.m. each night. A soft opening of the courts will be Labor Day weekend. Superintendent Conner will reach out to the School District about the official opening date. September 6th at 6 p.m. will be proposed.

A Welton Stedt Park update was provided. Contractor will begin work the week of September 11th.

Trustee Gianotti made a motion approving a proposal in the amount of \$24,879.55 from Wirkus Paving using 4th of July Commission funds to pave the stone road behind the stage from Penfield Street to the footbridge and behind the food stand. Trustee Stacey seconded. Trustee Gianotti reported that all three members of the Drainage District approved the proposal to pave the stone road. Four bids were received for the project and Wirkus Paving was the lowest bidder. The 4th of July Commission approved this proposal at its meeting.

AYES: (6) Trustees Juzeszyn, Kraus, Gardner, Stacey, Tieri and Gianotti.
NAYS: (0) None.
Motion carried.

C. PLANNING, BUILDING AND ZONING COMMITTEE

The results of the first Steering Committee meeting for the Zoning Ordinance were provided by Trustee Gardner. The Committee went over timeline and procedure for updating ordinance and map. Next meeting is scheduled for September 7th.

D. PUBLIC SAFETY COMMITTEE

Chief Lemming applied for a recruitment and retention grant and the Village was awarded a grant in the amount of \$22,000. This is a retention grant to keep police officers. Each full-time officer will receive \$1,000 this October 1st and next October 1st, as long as they are employed on that date.

E. PUBLIC WORKS COMMITTEE

Trustee Stacey made a motion to award a bid for the 2023 street paving program from Wirkus Paving in the amount of \$39,099.03. Country Lane was the roadway specified in this bid. Five bids were received. Superintendent Conner said he will have enough funds to do additional roads and asked for additional funding to pave Meadow and Orchard due to the unit price of the bid coming in lower than expected. He asked for permission to obtain bids for the additional two roads from Wirkus since these two roads haven't been paved in many years. Board consensus was to obtain additional bids and to approach low bidder to request to expand the scope of work to include the

two additional streets. Trustee Gardner seconded the motion.

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

NAYS: (0) None.

Motion carried.

A Penfield Street STP update was provided. Alternative plan the Village carried out to get the kids to the Elementary School while Penfield was closed went well. Contractors are working on bridge now down to in front of the police station. Contractor is hoping to have everything done by Thanksgiving.

An Indiana Avenue resurfacing project update was provided. All sidewalks have been poured and next will be the binder and final surface. Once the final surface goes on the quiet zone will be re-established.

Superintendent Conner provided a sidewalk replacement program update. He plans to go out this week to identify sidewalk areas to be replaced. He will begin with list of addresses called into the Village Hall. He should have bid proposals at next meeting.

F. ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT AND COMMUNITY RELATIONS COMMITTEE

The results of the summer concert held on August 26th were provided. Trustee Juzeszyn reported that there was a good turnout even with the change in the weather. The next concert will be held on September 2nd with Maggie Speaks playing. He will see if a volunteer organization wants to sell pop and water.

A holiday tree lighting ceremony committee meeting is scheduled for Wednesday, August 30th at 7 p.m. The Village applied for a \$2,500 grant.

Administrator Barber provided an update on Union Electronics building in Illiana Crossroads Business Park. The business is still waiting on final engineering to get project under way.

G. OLD BUSINESS – None.

Trustee Gianotti made a motion to adjourn into Executive Session at 8:25 p.m. to discuss land acquisition for a donation of land for parks and recreation purposes. Trustee Stacey seconded.

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

NAYS: (0) None.

Motion carried.

Trustee Gianotti made a motion to return to regular session at 8:38 p.m. Trustee Juzeszyn seconded.

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

NAYS: (0) None.

Motion carried.

I. NEW BUSINESS

Trustee Kraus voiced if Village Board can eliminate paper packets and use their laptops. He asked if trustees want the paper copy. The majority of Board members likes having a paper copy for the meeting.

Administrator Barber explained there are two pieces of property, one on Country between Catalpa and Trim Creek (66' right of way) and a park in Southfield Knoll that has limited access and was never developed. Staff would like to meet with the residents that would be affected and see if they are willing to take the property. Meetings will be set up with the adjoining residents. Residents on Country Lane are willing to take the right-of-way property so Attorney will be directed to draft an ordinance.

President Meyer explained that Nelson Collins is again requesting the funds for Cardinal Creek Subdivision that the Village has in escrow as the result of a lawsuit. This will be considered when he comes back to the Board with his request.

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


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

NAYS: (0) None.

Motion carried.

Meeting adjourned at 8:44 p.m.

Respectfully submitted by:



Janett McCawley
Village Clerk