

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  
SEPTEMBER 11, 2023 -- 7:00 P.M.**

All present joined in the Pledge to the Flag.

President Meyer called the meeting to order.

A moment of silence was held in remembrance of the first responders and victims of 9/11, twenty-two years ago.

**ROLL CALL**

**PRESENT:** President Meyer and Trustees Juzeszyn, Kraus, Gardner, Stacey, Tieri and Gianotti.

**ABSENT:** None.

**STAFF PRESENT:** Clerk Janett McCawley, Public Works Superintendent Matt Conner, Treasurer Donna Rooney, Code Enforcement Officer David Harrison and EMA Director Bob Heim.

**GUEST:** George Schuitema.

**APPROVAL OF MINUTES**

President Meyer asked for consideration of the minutes of the August 28, 2023, Board meeting. Trustee Gianotti made a motion to approve the minutes as written. Trustee Tieri seconded.

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

**NAYS:** (0) None.

Motion carried.

**RECOGNITION OF AUDIENCE** – None.

**VILLAGE CLERK REPORT**

1. A report of income received in August 2023 was provided.
2. Clerk McCawley read aloud a thank you card from the family of Landis Wehling.

**REPORTS OF VILLAGE COMMISSIONS**

Trustee Gianotti reported that 4<sup>th</sup> of July festival numbers looks good. The back portion of driving path along Trim Creek will be paved. Roofs of two buildings will be power washed this week.

Trustee Juzeszyn provided a Youth Commission report. Next meeting is scheduled for Tuesday, September 12<sup>th</sup>. A Parents Night Out event will be held on September 23<sup>rd</sup>. The Commission is considering a lighted bike night in October. GM

Trustee Gardner reported that the next Historic Preservation Commission meeting will be held on Wednesday, September 20<sup>th</sup>. The Commission will have a historical display at the library during the month of January. Items to be displayed will be discussed at the next meeting.

**VILLAGE PRESIDENT REPORT**

The Board again discussed increasing the number of Class B liquor licenses by one to allow for the sale of beer only at 755 Penfield for Phyllis Harden-West. President Meyer asked the Board their feelings on this or if they would be interested in allowing two liquor licenses in the same building. No one was in support of two licenses in one building. President Meyer also wants establishments that serve food like a restaurant and not just gaming. Trustee Kraus made a motion to table request pending further consideration by the applicant. Trustee Stacey seconded.

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

NAYS: (0) None.

Motion carried.

Trustee Juzeszyn made a motion to move the first meeting in October from Monday, October 9<sup>th</sup> to Tuesday, October 10<sup>th</sup> at 7 p.m., due to the Columbus Day holiday. Trustee Stacey seconded.

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

NAYS: (0) None.

Motion carried.

Trustee Kraus made a motion cancelling the regular meeting scheduled for Monday, December 25<sup>th</sup>. Trustee Gianotti seconded.

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

NAYS: (0) None.

Motion carried.

President Meyer requested an Executive Session be held to discuss applications received for the Village Administrator position.

**A. FINANCE AND ADMINISTRATION COMMITTEE**

Trustee Kraus made a motion approving the Treasurer’s report for August, 2023. Trustee Juzeszyn seconded. Treasurer Rooney was present and provided a report.

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

NAYS: (0) None.

Motion carried.

Variance reports were provided in the packet for review.

gm

Trustee Kraus made a motion to approve payment of the list of bills in the amount of \$167,836.89 and payrolls for the previous month. 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 Welton Stedt Park update was provided by Superintendent Conner. Work started last week. Ground has been tilled. The contractor will level and move dirt when weather improves.

A new public safety building update was provided. Bid opening will occur on Wednesday, October 4<sup>th</sup> at 10:30 a.m. at the Washington Township Center. Bids will be awarded on October 23<sup>rd</sup>.

Trustee Gianotti made a motion authorizing the Village Attorney to draft an Ordinance for a plat of vacation for Country Lane. Trustee Kraus seconded.

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

NAYS: (0) None.

Motion carried.

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

A Steering Committee meeting was held on Thursday, September 7<sup>th</sup> to work on the first three chapters of new Zoning Ordinance.

The next Plan Commission meeting is scheduled for Thursday, September 28<sup>th</sup>. The agenda includes another special use application for a tobacco store. The new Zoning Ordinance may also be discussed.

**D. PUBLIC SAFETY COMMITTEE**

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

The Police Department plans to participate in the Fire District's open house on October 13<sup>th</sup> with a booth. It can't be held at the Police Department this year due to road construction.

**E. PUBLIC WORKS COMMITTEE**

Trustee Stacey made a motion waiving bids for the expansion of the 2023 street resurfacing program. At the last meeting, there was consensus to add to the scope of the resurfacing program using the lowest bidder's unit pricing. Trustee Gardner seconded.

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

NAYS: (0) None.

Motion carried.

JM

Trustee Stacey made a motion approving a bid from Wirkus Paving in the amount of \$84,337 for asphalt work on Meadow Lane from Dixie Highway to Catalpa, Orchard Lane from Dixie Highway to Catalpa, as well as two spot patches in the 1500 block of Fox Hound Trail. Trustee Gardner seconded.

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

NAYS: (0) None.

Motion carried.

Penfield Street reconstruction update was provided by Superintendent Conner. Project was rained out Friday and Monday. The 500 and 600 blocks of Gould Street may not be completed this year and final surface on Penfield Street may not be put on all roadways yet this year. Sidewalks will be put in depending on the weather in the next few months.

Indiana Avenue resurfacing update was provided by Superintendent Conner. Surfacing was completed last week and then watermain broke Saturday morning, so contractor had to dig through some of the asphalt work. Superintendent Conner hopes to get that area patched by contractor paving Penfield Street, once the area has settled. Delineators for railroad quiet zone may be going back up in the next two weeks.

Sidewalk replacement program project is out to bid, with bid opening on September 19<sup>th</sup>.

Dixie Highway watermain crossover project is getting ready to go out to bid with an October 31<sup>st</sup> bid opening.

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

Results from the 2023 Concert series were discussed. Trustee Juzeszyn said recent concert had an excellent turnout and food was good. Concert series will return next summer.

Results of the August 30<sup>th</sup> tree lighting meeting and plans for November 26<sup>th</sup> event were provided. Trustee Juzeszyn reported that committee is making good progress on the event. They are looking for volunteers and staff. Will begin posting info on social media this month.

A tentative timeline from the Clerk on the Fall newsletter was provided in the packet. Trustee Juzeszyn suggested story of Project Pickle with picture, Welton Stedt Park update, and full rundown of all improvements to Firemen's Park. It was also suggested to include an article on outgoing Administrator.

President Meyer thanked the Village Board for their work on all of the concerts and other events.

## **G. OLD BUSINESS**

There being no further business to discuss in regular session, Trustee Juzeszyn made a motion to adjourn into Executive Session at 7:31 p.m. to discuss personnel and discuss applications for Village Administrator. Trustee Gianotti seconded the motion.

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 8:22 p.m. Trustee Tieri seconded.  
AYES: (6) Trustees Juzeszyn, Kraus, Gardner, Stacey, Tieri and Gianotti.  
NAYS: (0) None.  
Motion carried.

## **I. NEW BUSINESS**

Discussion was had on the process of hiring a new Village Administrator.


The Clerk reported that she had a food truck owner call the Village Hall today asking how he can be licensed to sell food in the Village. The current ordinance does not allow it and the Board was asked for their thoughts on the issue. Consensus of the Board was to get some other town's ordinances and draft an ordinance for Beecher to regulate food trucks and similar businesses.

President Meyer reported that Nelson Collins asked about escrow money again. After some discussion, President Meyer recommended upon advice of the attorney, as specified in the agreement and now that the agreement has expired, the money should be returned to the General Fund and escrow account closed.

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