

**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 25, 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, Tieri and Gianotti.

**ABSENT:** None.

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

**GUEST:** George Schuitema.

**APPROVAL OF MINUTES**

President Meyer asked for consideration of the minutes of the September 11, 2023 Board meeting.

Trustee Kraus made a motion to approve the minutes as written. Trustee Stacey seconded.

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

**NAYS:** (0) None.

Motion carried.

**RECOGNITION OF AUDIENCE** – None.

**VILLAGE CLERK REPORT** – None.

**VILLAGE PRESIDENT REPORT**

Trustee Kraus made a motion approving President Meyer's appointment of Charles Eich replacing Kevin Bouchard on the Planning and Zoning Commission. Trustee Stacey seconded.

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

**NAYS:** (0) None.

Motion carried.

The Board discussed drafting an ordinance pertaining to the regulation of food trucks. An ordinance draft was provided for review. After discussion, it was decided to have Attorney formally draft the ordinance and the issue will be referred to the Public Safety Committee.

Administrator Barber and Clerk McCawley attended the Illinois Municipal League conference the previous week and provided reports.

GM

President Meyer requested an executive session be held to discuss candidates for the Village Administrator position.

**A. FINANCE AND ADMINISTRATION COMMITTEE**

Trustee Kraus made a motion to approve payment of the list of bills in the amount of \$129,302.66. Trustee Juzeszyn seconded.

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

NAYS: (0) None.

Motion carried.

Audit for the year ending April 30, 2023 is planned to be distributed the first week of October and presented at the October 10<sup>th</sup> meeting.

Five-year financial plan process has begun and first draft will be completed prior to retirement of the current Administrator and be handed over to the new administration at the end of the year.

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

Soccer fields have been completed at Welton Stedt Park.

Public Safety facility bid opening will be held on Wednesday, October 4<sup>th</sup> at 10:30 a.m. at the Washington Township Center.

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

The Planning and Zoning Commission will meet on Thursday, September 28<sup>th</sup>, to conduct a workshop on a proposed tobacco store.

The next Zoning Ordinance Steering Committee meeting is scheduled for Thursday, October 12<sup>th</sup> at 3 p.m. at the Village Hall.

**D. PUBLIC SAFETY COMMITTEE**

The Police Department will participate in the Fire District's Open House, which will be held this year at Beecher High School on Friday, October 13<sup>th</sup>. The relocation is due to the Penfield Street reconstruction project.

Chief Lemming provided an update on the installation and use of the Flock camera system. Flock cameras were ordered a year and a half ago. Cameras for Route #1 have been delayed. Two temporary ones have been installed north and south on Route #1. We will not be charged until all cameras are installed.

Chief Lemming provided an update on joint adjudication discussions with the Village of Peotone. Beecher will be going together with Peotone to hold a program for local court. The result would

be lower fees and officers wouldn't have to go to Frankfort court anymore. Next meeting to discuss details is scheduled for October 11<sup>th</sup>. gm

**E. PUBLIC WORKS COMMITTEE**

The Public Works Department and Water Department monthly reports were provided in packet.

The Water Billing Register for the prior two-month billing period was provided in the packet for review. The Village has a 68.5% billed to pumped ratio.

A 2023 sidewalk replacement program update was provided. Nine bids were solicited and no bids were received. The project can be re-bid in the Spring or deferred until next fiscal year. Superintendent Conner explained options to the Board. It was consensus to defer sidewalk replacement until next fiscal year and budget then for more sidewalks to be replaced.

A Penfield Street reconstruction update was provided. Changes to the plan were made to move the project along quicker. Portions of Penfield in both directions will be closed for periods of time. Sidewalks and driveway ramps have been poured on the north side. Then they will pour concrete on south side this week, depending on the weather. Businesses to be affected by Penfield Street closures will be provided with directional signs for their businesses to direct people where to park and how they can access the businesses. Fire Department will still have access. Work should all be completed by November with binder surface. Final surface will be completed in 2024. All property owners have been advised as to the closures.

Indiana Avenue resurfacing project update was provided. Village is waiting for the paint striping to be completed by Will County before delineators can be reinstalled to re-establish the quiet zone.

A 2023 street resurfacing program update was provided by Superintendent Conner. For those who chose to have their parkway paved at their own cost, paving began that day. Asphalt work is being delayed due to rain, but milling of street should be completed by Friday, with paving next week.

Dixie Highway watermain replacement project update was provided. The project was approved for the letting of bids last month, but the engineer's estimate of cost has increased to \$1,202,000 which has changed the financing plans. Money will need to be taken from reserves of O+M and Water and Sewer Debt to cover the cost of this project, and also a loan from Water and Sewer Debt to cover the period of time to be reimbursed by the County for the ARPA grant funds. Bids will be opened on November 9<sup>th</sup> and the Village will have 120 days to determine how to cover the actual cost. Administrator Barber recommended moving forward with the project before costs go up even further. Still waiting for permit from IDOT, which continues to delay the project.

Trustee Stacey requested an executive session to discuss a Public Works employee.

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

A holiday tree lighting ceremony meeting is scheduled for Wednesday, October 11<sup>th</sup>.

Administrator Barber provided an Illiana Crossroads Business Park and Union Electronics building update. Site plan has been approved pending permit from Soil and Water Conservation District. ComEd is moving poles this week to make entrance wider.

**G. OLD BUSINESS**

Trustee Tieri reported that last week the Police Department, EMA, Fire District and School District met and came up with a plan to be used moving forward for parade routes and procedures for when school teams win at State. Copy of guidelines was provided by EMA Director Bob Heim. The plan includes no sirens after 10:30 p.m. An intergovernmental agreement will be approved by the taxing bodies involved to avoid complaints and issues in the future.

**H. NEW BUSINESS**

President Meyer indicated that she spoke to the Attorney about making the liquor ordinance more consistent with the video gaming ordinance. The gaming ordinance has more specifications regarding food service than the current liquor ordinance. The liquor ordinance needs to mirror the gaming ordinance. President Meyer will reach out to Attorney Kuiper to draft a revised liquor ordinance. Elsie's is working on getting all of their permits and requirements for the location that they are leasing and plan to open next year.

There being no further business to discuss in regular session, Trustee Stacey made a motion to adjourn into executive session to discuss candidates for the Village Administrator position and Public Works personnel at 7:45 p.m. Trustee Gianotti 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 9:06 p.m. Trustee Stacey seconded.

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

NAYS: (0) None.

Motion carried.

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.

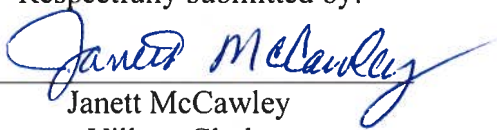
AYES: (6) Trustees Juzeszyn, Kraus, Gardner, Stacey, Tieri and Gianotti.

NAYS: (0) None.

Motion carried.

Meeting adjourned at 9:15 p.m.

Respectfully submitted by:

  
Janett McCawley  
Village Clerk