

**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
NOVEMBER 27, 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 Charity Mitchell, Deputy Administrator Robert Barber, Public Works Superintendent Matt Conner, Chief Terry Lemming and EMA Director Bob Heim.

GUESTS: George Schuitema, Sal Llamas, Cynthia White-Wilson and three others representing craft grow cannabis facility.

APPROVAL OF MINUTES

President Meyer asked for consideration of the minutes of the November 13, 2023 Board meeting. Trustee Kraus made a motion to approve the minutes as written. Trustee Gardner seconded.

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

NAYS: (0) None.

Motion carried.

VILLAGE CLERK REPORT

Clerk informed the Board about thank you cards sent to Deputy Administrator Barber, Superintendent Conner and Youssef Chimon regarding help with a sewer problem related to the Penfield Street project. Resident was very appreciative of the time spent helping her.

RECOGNITION OF AUDIENCE – None.

VILLAGE PRESIDENT REPORT

The Planning, Building and Zoning Committee agenda items were discussed out of order.

ORDINANCE #1395 – An Ordinance authorizing a special use permit for a craft grow cannabis facility at 744 W. Church Road by Cynthia White-Wilson. The Planning and Zoning Commission held a public hearing and unanimously recommended approval of the craft grow facility to be

located approximately 1,000 feet north of Church Road, just east of the railroad tracks, with three conditions:

- a. A site plan be provided showing the exact locations of buildings and site improvements including all setbacks.
- b. A drainage plan must be submitted and approved by the Village Engineer.
- c. The layout must provide adequate turning radius for fire equipment.

The petitioners were present to answer any questions. Petitioner estimated it to be a 40,000-sf facility. Trustee Gardner made a motion to approve Ordinance #1395 subject to the three conditions specified above. Trustee Kraus seconded.

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

NAYS: (0) None.

Motion carried.

The Zoning Ordinance Steering Committee met to go over the first draft of the sign code. The proposed language will be presented to the PZC at their next meeting on January 25, 2024.

FINANCE AND ADMINISTRATION COMMITTEE

Trustee Kraus made a motion to approve payment of the list of bills in the amount of \$52,345.16 and payroll since the last meeting. Trustee Juzeszyn seconded.

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

NAYS: (0) None.

Motion carried.

The tax levy for 2023 collectible in 2024 was considered. The Board discussed the difference to be collected in the levies depending on a 2% increase or 0% increase tax levy. Trustee Kraus recommended going with the 0% levy increase this year and reconsider next year. There was some discussion regarding the increase in dispatching fees as well as other increasing costs and if Village has ways to pay these future increases without a tax levy increase. An increase in the sewer fees will also be considered next year to cover costs in the sewer fund. Trustee Kraus made a motion to adopt a 0% increase tax levy. Motion died due to a lack of a second.

Discussion of the tax levy was then tabled and will be placed on the December 11th Board meeting agenda.

Comcast will be raising rates for 2024. A letter about the changes was provided.

PUBLIC BUILDINGS AND PROPERTIES, PARKS AND RECREATION COMMITTEE

Trustee Gianotti made a motion to approve a proposal from Piggush Engineering in the amount of \$12,680 to move the police station south, eliminate parking and retaining walls and to change grades. Trustee Kraus seconded.

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

NAYS: (0) None.

Motion carried.

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Trustee Gianotti made a motion letting bids for the redesigned police facility according to the bid schedule provided to the Board. Trustee Kraus seconded the motion.

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

NAYS: (0) None.

Motion carried.

PLANNING, BUILDING AND ZONING COMMITTEE – Agenda items were discussed under Village President’s report.

PUBLIC SAFETY COMMITTEE

An update on the adjudication joint court with Peotone was provided by Trustee Tieri. A second meeting was held with Peotone and it was decided that Beecher and Peotone would create our own spreadsheets and ticket tracking system without the software cost of \$1,500 per month per department. The fourth Wednesday of each month at 10 a.m. at the Washington Township Center would be the administrative hearing date starting in March or April. An intergovernmental agreement would need to be approved between Beecher and Peotone. Peotone is currently working on the agreement.

PUBLIC WORKS COMMITTEE

The Water Department monthly report and billing register were provided in the packet for review.

A Penfield Street project update was provided. Bridge is still closed and waiting on safety railings. Railings should be installed this week and then the entire road will be reopened. All should be done by the end of the year except for the final lift to occur next year.

A railroad quiet zone update was provided. The delineators need to be reinstalled on Penfield Street east of the railroad tracks and the railroad crossing signage needs to be reinstalled at Hodges Street and at Penfield Street. The railroad will then be contacted to reinstitute the quiet zone.

A leaf collection update was provided. Collection is still underway. The scheduled end date for leaf collection is December 7th for final pass through town.

A Dixie Highway watermain crossover project update was provided. The project is ready for bid opening on Thursday, November 30th. There is \$1,277,000 available for the project which includes \$500,000 in Will County ARPA grant funds. A proposed financing plan was provided.

F. ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT AND COMMUNITY RELATIONS COMMITTEE

The results of the tree lighting ceremony held on Sunday was provided by Trustee Juzeszyn. He thanked everyone who helped with this event and listed the many people and organizations that contributed towards the event. There was a pretty good turnout despite the cold and windy conditions. Trustee Juzeszyn asked if next year EMA could help with the Santa’s workshop because they didn’t have enough people to help this year.

OLD BUSINESS – None.

NEW BUSINESS – None.

There being no further business, President Meyer asked for a motion to adjourn. Trustee Gianotti 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 7:33 p.m.

Respectfully submitted by:



Janett McCawley
Village Clerk