

**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  
JANUARY 8, 2024 -- 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, Public Works Superintendent Matt Conner, Treasurer Donna Rooney, Chief Terry Lemming, EMA Director Bob Heim, Code Enforcement Officer David Harrison, Officer Dylan Lorek and employees of the Police Department.

**GUESTS:** George Schuitema.

**APPROVAL OF MINUTES**

President Meyer asked for consideration of the minutes of the December 11, 2023 Board meeting. Trustee Gianotti made a motion to approve the minutes as written. Trustee Stacey seconded.

AYES: (5) Trustees Kraus, Gardner, Stacey, Tieri and Gianotti.

NAYS: (0) None.

ABSTAIN: (1) Trustee Juzeszyn.

Motion carried.

**RECOGNITION OF AUDIENCE** – None.

**VILLAGE CLERK REPORT**

A report was provided of tax revenue received in December 2023.

**REPORTS OF VILLAGE COMMISSIONS**

Trustee Kraus reported on the recent 4<sup>th</sup> of July Commission meeting held on January 2<sup>nd</sup>. Picnic tables will be upgraded from red to treated lumber and boards will be ordered. Next meeting is scheduled for February 27<sup>th</sup>.

Youth Commission bowling event is scheduled for Monday, January 15<sup>th</sup>. Dates of daddy/daughter and mom/son dances were provided. Next meeting will be held January 9<sup>th</sup>.

The next Historic Preservation Commission meeting is scheduled for Wednesday, January 17<sup>th</sup>.  
The Depot/Museum currently has historic items on display at the Beecher Community Library.

### **VILLAGE PRESIDENT REPORT**

Chief Lemming recognized Officer Lorek for his conduct on a recent traffic stop and his empathy in dealing with the driver. A letter of recognition was read aloud by President Meyer, recognizing Officer Lorek for his exemplary effort. Dylan Lorek, his family and Police Department employees were present in recognition.

President Meyer thanked all of the Trustees, staff and everyone who assisted with the open house for Robert Barber. Approximately 300 people attended the open house.

The Board was asked to consider if the Village would continue to use B & F Code Services for fire inspections in 2024. President Meyer recommended using them again for one more year but left it up to the Board. A new proposal will need to be obtained.

### **FINANCE AND ADMINISTRATION COMMITTEE**

Trustee Kraus made a motion to approve the Treasurer's report. Treasurer Rooney was present and provided a report. Trustee Juzeszyn seconded the motion.

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

NAYS: (0) None.

Motion carried.

Variance reports were provided in the packet for review.

Trustee Kraus made a motion to approve payment of the list of bills in the amount of \$144,022.63 and payroll since the last meeting. Trustee Juzeszyn seconded.

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

NAYS: (0) None.

Motion carried.

Budget preparations for fiscal year 2024/2025 have begun. Department heads will submit their budget requests to the Administrator by the end of January.

### **PUBLIC BUILDINGS AND PROPERTIES, PARKS AND RECREATION COMMITTEE**

Trustee Gianotti made a motion approving the amendment to the professional services agreement with JMA Architects in the amount of \$38,000 for redesign services for the Village of Beecher new public safety facility. A copy of the amendment was provided in the packet for review. Trustee Kraus second.

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

NAYS: (0) None.

Motion carried.

An update was provided on the public safety facility construction. Bids can begin being submitted on January 8, 2024. Bid opening will be held on January 24, 2024.

The status of the closeout of ARPA projects was provided. All projects have been completed and the ARPA account will be closed out once all bills have been paid.

### **PLANNING, BUILDING AND ZONING COMMITTEE**

The Building Department monthly report was provided in the packet for review.

A Zoning Ordinance update was provided. The Zoning Ordinance Steering Committee was scheduled to meet on January 11<sup>th</sup> but will be rescheduled to a later date.

### **PUBLIC SAFETY COMMITTEE**

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

According to Chief Lemming, sixteen children and one Veteran were served by Beecher Blessings this year.

**ORDINANCE #1399** – An Ordinance authorizing the execution of an intergovernmental agreement between the Village of Beecher and the Beecher School District 200U for a Police Resource Officer. A copy of the Ordinance and agreement were provided in the packet for review. This is a one-year agreement. School District is evaluating the program and looking at their budget for the next few years. The SRO's role in the schools will be explained through the newsletter to educate the community about his role. Trustee Tieri made a motion to approve Ordinance #1399. Trustee Stacey seconded.

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

NAYS: (0) None.

Motion carried.

### **PUBLIC WORKS COMMITTEE**

The Public Works, Water Department and Sewer Department monthly reports were provided in the packet for review.

A Penfield Street improvement project update was provided by Superintendent Conner. All streetlights have been installed. We are waiting for ComEd to install initial power to control panel.

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

Board members were asked for any items they would like included in the Spring newsletter.

Trustees will set up a committee meeting about this year's concerts in the park. They will meet with Washington Township to see if they would like to contribute funding this year.

**OLD BUSINESS** – None.

**NEW BUSINESS** – None.

There being no further business to consider in open session, Trustee Tieri made a motion to adjourn into executive session at 7:27 p.m. to discuss Police Department personnel. Trustee Juzeszyn seconded.

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

NAYS: (0) None.

Motion carried.

Trustee Tieri made a motion to return from executive session at 7:37 p.m. Trustee Kraus seconded.

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

NAYS: (0) None.

Motion carried.

President Meyer reported that Faith Church is putting on an addition which would require sprinklers. The original plans submitted didn't call for sprinklers and sprinklers would increase the costs for the project. A meeting was held between the Fire District, Faith Church and the Village to discuss the sprinkler requirements. Faith Church can apply for a special use permit to be considered by the Planning and Zoning Commission to exempt from sprinkling, the old section of the building. Any special use would go with the land and would require if there were any further additions, they would have to sprinkle the old part of the building. There are still discussions back and forth. This is just for information at this time.

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

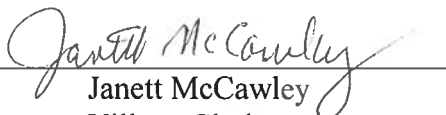
AYES: (6) Trustees Juzeszyn, Kraus, Gardner, Stacey, Tieri and Gianotti.

NAYS: (0) None.

Motion carried.

Meeting adjourned at 7:43 p.m.

Respectfully submitted by:

  
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Janett McCawley  
Village Clerk