

**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
OCTOBER 27, 2025 -- 6:00 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 Tieri, Smith, Kraus, Diachenko, Stacey and Gardner.

ABSENT: None.

STAFF PRESENT: Clerk Janett McCawley, Deputy Clerk Denise Abbink, Administrator Charity Mitchell (via Teams), Public Works Superintendent Matt Conner, Chief Terry Lemming, EMA Director Bob Heim, Treasurer Donna Lippelt, and Attorney Tim Kuiper

GUESTS: George Schuitema, representatives Rory Walker and Pedro Rodriguez from Black Swan Solar (via Teams), Ryan Dunfee from Earthrise Solar (via Teams)

APPROVAL OF MINUTES

President Meyer asked for consideration of the minutes of the October 14, 2025, Board meeting. Trustee Kraus made a motion to approve the minutes as written. Trustee Stacey seconded.

AYES: (6) Trustees Tieri, Smith, Kraus, Diachenko, Stacey and Gardner.

NAYS: (0) None

Motion carried.

President Meyer asked for consideration of the minutes of the September 15, 2025, Board meeting. Trustee Smith made a motion to approve the minutes as written. Trustee Diachenko seconded.

AYES: (6) Trustees Tieri, Smith, Kraus, Diachenko, Stacey and Gardner.

NAYS: (0) None

Motion carried.

VILLAGE CLERK REPORT – No report.

RECOGNITION OF AUDIENCE – None.

VILLAGE PRESIDENT REPORT - No report.

FINANCE AND ADMINISTRATION COMMITTEE

Trustee Kraus made a motion to approve payment of the list of bills in the amount of \$156,768.14 and payroll since the last meeting. Seconded by Trustee Tieri.

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

Trustee Kraus made a motion to accept a proposal for municipal banking services with the Village's current bank, First Community Bank and Trust. Seconded by Trustee Diachenko.
AYES: (6) Trustees Tieri, Smith, Kraus, Diachenko, Stacey and Gardner.
NAYS: (0) None.
Motion carried.

The Village Clerk reported on the proposal for Pasbrig & Associates, LLC to provide accounting services following the passing of the previous accountant. Their fee is \$150 per hour, increasing to \$175 after January 1st. Mr. Pasbrig would be responsible for reviewing monthly bank reconciliations and providing financial advice. Administrator Mitchell and Treasurer Lippelt provided more information and recommended hiring the firm.
Trustee Kraus made a motion authorizing the Village President to sign an agreement with Pasbrig and Associates, LLC for accounting services. Seconded by Trustee Diachenko.
AYES: (6) Trustees Tieri, Smith, Kraus, Diachenko, Stacey and Gardner.
NAYS: (0) None.
Motion carried.

PUBLIC BUILDINGS AND PROPERTIES, PARKS AND RECREATION COMMITTEE

RESOLUTION #2025-05 - A resolution authorizing the sale of 724 Penfield Street property as surplus public real estate. Trustee Diachenko made a motion to approve Resolution #2025-05. Seconded by Trustee Kraus.
AYES: (6) Trustees Tieri, Smith, Kraus, Diachenko, Stacey and Gardner.
NAYS: (0) None.
Motion carried.

PLANNING, BUILDING AND ZONING COMMITTEE

A presentation was given via Teams by Black Swan Solar Development representatives Walker and Rodriguez for a solar project proposed for property Southeast of Beecher (between Indiana Ave and Corning Rd), which is located in the Village's mile and a half planning jurisdiction. In response to questions by the Board, they explained there is no financial incentive, but participants receive a bill discount through the ComEd program, which is open to all Will County residents. The project has a 25-year lifespan; after that time, the modules will be removed or disassembled, and the site will be restored to its original condition as best as possible.
Trustee Stacey made a motion to submit a letter of non-objection to Will County Land Use Department for a Special Use Permit for the construction of a commercial solar facility located on property Southeast of Beecher (between Indiana Ave and Corning Rd). Seconded by Trustee Gardner.
AYES: (2) Trustees Stacey and Gardner.
NAYS: (4) Trustees Tieri, Smith, Kraus, and Diachenko.
Motion failed.

GA

Ryan Dunfee of Earthrise Solar presented information on the solar project proposed for property Northeast of Beecher (South and North of Eagle Lake Rd and East and West of Ashland Ave) located within the Village's one and a half mile planning jurisdiction. At their last meeting the PZC voted to recommend not objecting to the project with the stipulation that a pre-annexation agreement be entered into for any parcels located South of Offner Road in Washington Township. Dunfee explained an email sent to the PZC last week addressing concerns about the corporate boundary and confirmed a commitment not to annex any property to the Village of Crete.

The Village Attorney stated that the agreement could be modified regarding annexation, and he will contact Earthrise about the agreement. The project is expected to be completed by 2028. Community development funds being offered by Earthrise would be available in 2028 but could be used earlier and reimbursed when funds become available if necessary. A letter of non-objection would have no conditions, and pre-annexation agreements may be signed. The Attorney clarified that the motion to authorize entry into the community development fund agreement once finalized and to send the letter of non-objection. Project identification is required to sign the community development agreement. The Board will determine the project details before the next meeting.

Trustee Stacey made a motion to authorize entry into the community development agreement once its finalized and to submit a letter of non-objection to Will County Land Use Department for a Special Use Permit for the construction of a commercial solar facility located on property Northeast of Beecher (South and North of Eagle Lake Rd and East and West of Ashland Ave). Seconded by Trustee Smith.

AYES: (6) Trustees Tieri, Smith, Kraus, Diachenko, Stacey and Gardner.

NAYS: (0) None.

Motion carried.

The next PZC meeting is scheduled for Thursday, November 20th at 6:00 PM.

PUBLIC SAFETY COMMITTEE

Trustee Tieri made a motion to approve the purchase of in-car cameras from Axon Enterprise, Inc. In the amount of \$60,255.51. Seconded by Trustee Gardner.

AYES: (6) Trustees Tieri, Smith, Kraus, Diachenko, Stacey and Gardner.

NAYS: (0) None.

Motion carried.

Trick or Treat hours are from 4pm to 7pm Friday, October 31st.

Chief Lemming presented information to the board regarding being a grant recipient to purchase six tasers and requested permission to sign the grant agreement. Consensus was given to proceed.

Board was informed that the Village President won the door prize at the Lennar open house. The Village President will donate \$250 in gift cards to Beecher Blessings.

PUBLIC WORKS COMMITTEE

Trustee Gardner made a motion to approve a proposal for Metro Power to conduct maintenance and load bank testing on six Village generators in the amount of \$6,250.00. Seconded by Trustee Stacey.

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

Leaf collection will begin this week.
Final brush collection is Tuesday, November 4th.
Pickle ball courts will be closed for the winter beginning Monday, November 3rd.

ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT AND COMMUNITY RELATIONS COMMITTEE

The Lions Club will host “Halloween in the Park” on October 31st starting at 4pm. Free hotdog meals will be provided, along with train rides and pumpkin smashing.

OLD BUSINESS

The 4th of July committee will meet on October 29, 2025 at 6:30 p.m. at Village Hall.

There being no further business to discuss in regular session, Trustee Smith made a motion to adjourn into Executive Session at 6:42 p.m. to discuss an employee. Trustee Gardner seconded.
AYES: (6) Trustees Tieri, Smith, Kraus, Diachenko, Stacey and Gardner.
NAYS: (0) None.
Motion carried.

Trustee Gardner made a motion to return from Executive Session at 6:53 p.m. Trustee Smith seconded.
AYES: (6) Trustees Tieri, Smith, Kraus, Diachenko, Stacey and Gardner.
NAYS: (0) None.
Motion carried.

NEW BUSINESS

The Chief of Police position has been posted internally. Additionally, the part-time police clerk position and full-time administrative assistant position will be posted on October 28, 2025.

There being no further business, President Meyer asked for a motion to adjourn. Trustee Diachenko made a motion to adjourn the meeting at 6:58 p.m. Seconded by Trustee Tieri.
AYES: (6) Trustees Tieri, Smith, Kraus, Diachenko, Stacey and Gardner.
NAYS: (0) None.
Motion carried.

Meeting adjourned at 6:58 p.m.

Respectfully submitted by:

By Denise Abbink, Deputy Clerk
for Janett McCawley, Village Clerk