

**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
DECEMBER 8, 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, Public Works Superintendent Matt Conner, Public Works Assistant Superintendent Adam Held, Chief Terry Lemming, EMA Director Bob Heim, and Code Enforcement Officer Dave Harrison.

GUESTS: George Schuitema, Jim Amsden, John Galvin

APPROVAL OF MINUTES

President Meyer asked for consideration of the minutes of the November 24, 2025, Board meeting.

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

AYES: (5) Trustees Smith, Kraus, Diachenko, Stacey and Gardner.

NAYS: (0) None

ABSTAIN: (1) Trustee Tieri

Motion carried.

President Meyer asked for consideration of the minutes of the November 17, 2025, Board meeting.

Trustee Smith made a motion to approve the minutes as written. Trustee Diachenko seconded.

AYES: (5) Trustees Tieri, Smith, Diachenko, Stacey and Gardner.

NAYS: (0) None

ABSTAIN: (1) Trustee Kraus

Motion carried.

President Meyer asked for consideration of the minutes of the November 25, 2025, Board meeting.

Trustee Kraus 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.

RECOGNITION OF AUDIENCE – Jim Amsden, a neighbor of the property at Orchard and

Carolina, reports ongoing concerns about the site. The foundation remains open, raising safety issues. It is recommended that FOIA requests be submitted to obtain further information, as no visible progress has been made. The general contractor was recently changed. The foundation was the initial issue, and no work has been performed on the property for some time.

VILLAGE CLERK REPORT

A report was provided on tax income received in November 2025.

VILLAGE PRESIDENT'S REPORT

Village Clerk/Office Manager Janett McCawley will retire after 35 years of dedicated service to the Village of Beecher. A retirement celebration will be held at the Beecher Police Department on December 12th from 2–5 p.m.

REPORTS OF VILLAGE COMMISSIONS

4th of July Commission- No report.

Trustee Smith reported that the Youth Commission will hold their next meeting on December 16 at 7:30 p.m.

Trustee Gardner reported the next Historic Preservation meeting is scheduled for December 17 at 6 p.m. at the depot.

FINANCE AND ADMINISTRATION COMMITTEE

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 \$440, 893.93 and payroll since the last meeting. Seconded by Trustee Stacey.

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

NAYS: (0) None

Motion carried.

Trustee Kraus made a motion to approve and sign an agreement with Pyrotecnico Fireworks, Inc. For fireworks displays in the amount of \$41,010 for 2026, \$41,820 for 2027, and \$43,075 for 2028. Trustee Gardner seconded.

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

NAYS: (0) None

Motion carried.

Trustee Kraus made a motion to approve the payment of the deposit invoice from Pyrotecnico Fireworks, Inc for the July 4, 2026 fireworks display in the amount of \$20,000. This invoice is due April 4, 2026. Trustee Smith seconded.

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

NAYS: (0) None
Motion carried.

ORDINANCE #1444- An ordinance amending Ordinance #1428 as it pertains for municipal grocery tax. Trustee Kraus made a motion to approving Ordinance #1444. Seconded by Trustee Diachenko.

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

ORDINANCE #1445- An ordinance adopting a tax levy for 2025 collectible in 2026. Trustee Kraus made a motion to approving Ordinance #1445. Seconded by Trustee Diachenko.

AYES: (5) Trustees Tieri, Kraus, Diachenko, Stacey and Gardner.
NAYS: (1) Trustee Smith
Motion carried.

PUBLIC BUILDINGS AND PROPERTIES, PARKS AND RECREATION COMMITTEE

A committee update was provided. Judging for the Christmas lighting contest has been completed, and ten winners were selected. The winners will be announced on the Village website and Facebook page. Signs will be available for pickup or can be delivered to the winners.

PLANNING, BUILDING AND ZONING COMMITTEE

The Building Department monthly report was provided for review.

The next PZC meeting is scheduled for Thursday, December 18th at 7 p.m.

The Board discussed the proposed vacation of property near Country Lane and Catalpa. The land in question is a dead-end road that is being used as a driveway. The homeowner has recently acquired the adjoining lots and inquired about vacating the road. Future access needs should be considered, and confirmation from all affected property owners is required. No objections were raised at this time.

PUBLIC SAFETY COMMITTEE

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

Trustee Tieri highlighted Chief Lemming's accomplishments during his tenure as Beecher's Chief of Police. Chief Lemming earned recognition for his leadership and implemented significant improvements, including e-ticketing, performance standards, an automated evidence vault, and streamlined misdemeanor complaint procedures. He also secured new station furniture, authored multiple grants, helped establish the Beecher Blessings program, resolved long-standing cases, and advanced plans for the new police department building.

PUBLIC WORKS COMMITTEE

The Public Works, Water Department and Wastewater Treatment Plant monthly reports were provided for review.

Trustee Gardner made a motion to approve the proposal from Austgen Electric to install a solar powered school zone sign on Dixie Highway in the amount of \$13,813. Trustee Stacey seconded. Board is informed by Public Works Superintendent Conner that the cost of the sign should be reimbursed by the insurance company.

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

NAYS: (0) None

Motion carried.

ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT AND COMMUNITY RELATIONS COMMITTEE

Administrator Mitchell and Trustee Smith attended the Will County Center for Economic Development annual report breakfast. Trustee Smith reported on topics including population growth, job creation, labor force trends, retail development, and multi-family housing.

OLD BUSINESS

ADJOURN TO EXECUTIVE SESSION

There being no further business to discuss in regular session, Trustee Smith made a motion to adjourn into Executive Session at 6:32 p.m. to discuss personnel. Trustee Tieri seconded.

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

NAYS: (0) None.

Motion carried.

Trustee Kraus made a motion to return from Executive Session at 6:54 p.m. Trustee Tieri seconded.

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

NAYS: (0) None.

Motion carried.

NEW BUSINESS

ORDINANCE #1446- An ordinance authorizing an employment agreement for the new chief of police. Trustee Smith made a motion to approving Ordinance #1446. Seconded by Trustee Stacey.

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

NAYS: (0) None

Motion carried.

Trustee Gardner made a motion to authorize the full-time hire for the Public Works department as stated in executive session. Trustee Stacey seconded.

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

NAYS: (0) None

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 Tieri, Smith, Kraus, Diachenko, Stacey and Gardner.

NAYS: (0) None.

Motion carried.

Meeting adjourned at 6:57 p.m.

Respectfully submitted by:

Denise Abbink
Deputy Clerk