

**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  
MARCH 23, 2026 -- 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 Denise Abbink, Administrator Charity Mitchell, Public Works Superintendent Matt Conner, Chief John Galvin, EMA Deputy Director Dale Murray, and Treasurer Donna Lippelt

**GUESTS:** George Schuitema

**APPROVAL OF MINUTES**

President Meyer asked for consideration of the minutes of the March 9, 2025, Board meeting. Trustee Smith made a motion to approve the minutes as written. Trustee Tieri seconded.

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

NAYS: (0) None

Motion carried.

**VILLAGE CLERK REPORT** - None.

**RECOGNITION OF AUDIENCE** -None.

**VILLAGE PRESIDENT REPORT**

Trustee Smith made a motion to approve the appointment of Jessica Woodruff to the Fourth of July Commission. Seconded by Trustee Stacey.

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

NAYS: (0) None

Motion carried.

**FINANCE AND ADMINISTRATION COMMITTEE**

Trustee Kraus made a motion to approve the Treasurer's Report. Seconded by Trustee Diachenko. Treasurer Lippelt was present and provided a summary.

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

NAYS: (0) None

Motion carried.

Trustee Kraus made a motion to approve payment of the list of bills in the amount of \$53,951.07 and payroll since the last meeting. Seconded by Trustee Diachenko.

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

NAYS: (0) None.

Motion carried.

A discussion was held regarding the bids for three vehicles for the Fourth of July raffle car. The board was informed of an issue with the mileage on the lowest bid and upon the recommendation of the Fourth of July Commission decided to proceed with the next vehicle on the list.

Trustee Kraus made a motion to approve the purchase of the Fourth of July raffle car A, as recommended by the Fourth of July Commission, in the amount of \$28,925. Seconded by Trustee Tieri.

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

NAYS: (0) None.

Motion carried.

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

Discussion was held regarding a \$10,000 contribution toward the repair and replacement of the entire fencing on Field 1 at Firemen's Park, including painting the backstop poles. Mike Irwin from Beecher Rec reached out concerning Field 1. Trustee Diachenko provided an update and asked whether the Village would be willing to contribute toward the improvements. One quote was received in the amount of \$19,500 for fencing only. The Village expressed willingness to contribute \$10,000. The goal is to complete the project before the April 24<sup>th</sup>, Beecher Rec Opening Day. The quote was submitted by A Plus Fence of Hammond, IN.

Trustee Diachenko made a motion to approve a \$10,000 contribution toward the repair and replacement of the entire fencing on Field 1 at Firemen's Park. Seconded by Trustee Stacey.

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

NAYS: (0) None.

Motion carried.

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

The next PZC meeting is scheduled for Thursday, March 26th at 7:00 PM and will include a Public Hearing for a request for a zoning variation.

### **PUBLIC SAFETY COMMITTEE**

Trustee Tieri made a motion authorizing Chief Galvin to submit an application for grant funding through the Illinois Attorney General's Organized Retail Crime Grant Program in the amount of \$52,500. Fund would be used to pay for Flock Camera Fees in the amount of \$32,500 Overtime

cost for retail corridor details and enforcement in the amount of \$20,000. Application submission deadline is March 31, 2026 and the grant award start date is July 1, 2026. Seconded by Trustee Diachenko.

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

NAYS: (0) None.

Motion carried.

### **PUBLIC WORKS COMMITTEE**

Trustee Gardner made a motion to award the base bid, plus option 1 for the Miller Street Water Main Replacement Project to the lowest bidder, M&J Underground, in the amount of \$994,957.74. The Village was awarded a grant through Will County's ARPA Infrastructure Pillar Program in the amount of \$500,000 that will be used to fund part of this project, with the remaining funds coming from the Water Main Replacement Fund. Seconded by Trustee Stacey. Public Works Superintendent Matt Conner informed that board that the project will include all of Miller Street Water Main Replacement Project will include 500-600 blocks of Miller St. through Reed St. and will be completed over summer.

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

NAYS: (0) None.

Motion carried.

Trustee Gardner made a motion to waive the formal bid process and accept the proposal from Baxter & Woodman for construction services for the Miller Street Water Main Replacement Project in the amount of \$92,000. Seconded by Trustee Diachenko.

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

NAYS: (0) None.

Motion carried.

Trustee Gardner made a motion to approve the purchase in the amount of \$5,578 for mosquito adulticide from Mug-A-Bug. Seconded by Trustee Smith.

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

NAYS: (0) None.

Motion carried.

Trustee Gardner made a motion to approve the purchase in the amount of \$7,145.60 for mosquito larvicide bricks for catch basins throughout town from Van Diest. Seconded by Trustee Stacey.

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

NAYS: (0) None.

Motion carried.

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

THE BEECHER BULLETIN: Staff is working on the Spring 2026 Edition of the Village's newsletter. Any articles you would like to include should be submitted to Village Hall staff by March 31, 2026.

## **OTHER BUSINESS**

The Board gave consensus to seek bids for windows at village hall. This was discussed at committee level as windows are original and seals around windows are bad.

The Board gave consensus for a wine and cheese festival Firemen's Park that will be held on April 11. This was discussed at committee level and the event will have an event liquor license and security.

## **ADJOURN TO EXECUTIVE SESSION**

There being no further business to discuss in regular session, Trustee Tieri made a motion to adjourn into Executive Session at 6:24 p.m. to discuss employment contracts. Trustee Stacey seconded.

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

NAYS: (0) None.

Motion carried.

Trustee Smith made a motion to return from Executive Session at 6:36 p.m. Trustee Tieri seconded.

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

NAYS: (0) None.

Motion carried.

## **ACTION ON EXECUTIVE SESSION ITEMS**

ORDINANCE #1449- Trustee Stacey made a motion approving Ordinance No. 1449 authorizing the Village President and Village Clerk to sign a collective bargaining agreement with IUOE Local #399 Public Works Union. Trustee Smith seconded.

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

NAYS: (0) None.

Motion carried.

List of Committees and descriptions along with committee meeting rules given to board members by President Meyer.

There being no further business, President Meyer asked for a motion to adjourn. Trustee Tieri made a motion to adjourn the meeting at 6:40 p.m. Seconded by Trustee Gardner.

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

NAYS: (0) None.

Motion carried.

Meeting adjourned at 6:40 p.m.

Respectfully submitted by:

/s/ Denise Abbink  
Denise Abbink  
Village Clerk