

**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
APRIL 13, 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 Director Bob Heim, Code Enforcement Officer Dave Harrison, Treasurer Donna Lippelt and Attorney Tim Kuiper

GUESTS: George Schuitema, Steve Francis from Linden Group Architects representing Thirsty Turtle and Mike and Deedee Hurley

APPROVAL OF MINUTES

President Meyer asked for consideration of the minutes of the March 23, 2026, Board meeting. Trustee Kraus 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.

RECOGNITION OF AUDIENCE – None.

VILLAGE CLERK REPORT- Total tax revenue received in March was \$258,338.11

VILLAGE PRESIDENT’S REPORT– None.

REPORTS OF VILLAGE COMMISSIONS

A 4th of July Commission update was provided by Trustee Kraus. Next meeting will be held on April 22 at 6:30 p.m. The raffle car will be announced tomorrow on 4th of July Facebook page.

A Youth Commission report was provided by Trustee Smith.

The next meeting will be held on April 21, 2026 at 7:30 p.m. Fishing Derby will be held on May 2nd from 10 a.m. until noon at the Monee Reservoir. Registration is required and is on the Village website.

Trustee Gardner reported the next Historic Preservation meeting is scheduled for April 15 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 \$110,374.51 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 public hearing on the proposed FY26/27 budget will be held at 6:00pm on Monday, April 27, 2026.

PUBLIC BUILDINGS AND PROPERTIES, PARKS AND RECREATION COMMITTEE

Trustee Diachenko made a motion to approve a permit application submitted by Peace Lutheran Church for an Oktoberfest Event to be held at Firemen's Park on Sunday, September 20, 2026 from 7 a.m. until 6 p.m. Seconded by Trustee Smith. Discussion is held, a refundable deposit for cleanup will be required.

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

NAYS: (0) None

Motion carried.

Trustee Diachenko made a motion directing the Village Attorney to draft a Resolution amending the Village Park and athletic facility usage policy and fee schedule. Seconded by Trustee Smith. Discussion is held, rental fees will be set for full day rental only rather than 6 hour increments.

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

NAYS: (0) None

Motion carried.

Trustee Diachenko made a motion directing the Village Attorney to draft a Resolution adopting the Village of Beecher Community Room Usage Policy. Seconded by Trustee Smith. Discussion held regarding food policy, community room will not allow food to be present during use.

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

NAYS: (0) None

Motion carried.

PLANNING, BUILDING AND ZONING COMMITTEE

The Building Department monthly report was provided for review.

Trustee Stacey made a motion directing the Attorney to draft an Ordinance for a variance to permit

construction of an addition in the B-1 district that would extend into the required rear yard setback of the property located at 747 Penfield Street. 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, April 23, 2026 at 7 p.m.

PUBLIC SAFETY COMMITTEE

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

Trustee Tieri made a motion authorizing Chief Galvin to execute an agreement with the Guardian First Responder Services to provide mental health screening services. Seconded by Trustee Gardner.

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

NAYS: (0) None

Motion carried.

Recognition of the United States Deputy Sheriff's Association for the donation of two rifle plates/active shooter kits to the police department was given by Trustee Tieri.

ORDINANCE #1450- Trustee Tieri made a motion approving Ordinance No. 1450 authorizing the President and Clerk to execute an Intergovernmental Agreement between the Village of Beecher and the county of Will, Illinois, regarding the use of the Will County Right of Way for placement of license plate reading cameras. This IGA requires renewal every 3 years. Upon approval by the Village Board, a Village representative will be required to attend a future meeting of the Will County Public Works and Transportation Committee (PWTC). Trustee Diachenko seconded.

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

NAYS: (0) None.

Motion carried.

PUBLIC WORKS COMMITTEE

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

Trustee Gardner made a motion directing the Village Attorney to draft an Ordinance amending section 12-3-1(A) of the Village Code of the Village Beecher as it pertains to water system infrastructure replacement. Seconded by Trustee Diachenko.

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

NAYS: (0) None

Motion carried.

Pickle ball/multi-use courts were opened for the season on April 6th.

Brush collection has begun for the season.

ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT AND COMMUNITY RELATIONS COMMITTEE

The Will County Governmental League has a Lobby Day scheduled for April 15, 2026 in Springfield. Trustee Smith will be attending.

The spring newsletter is anticipated to be mailed out at the end of this week.

OTHER BUSINESS

Trustee Tieri provided an update on the intersection at Route 1 and County Line Road. Reverse rumble strips have been installed on the east-west approaches. The project is currently targeted for completion in 2028. IDOT will add additional signage, re-stripe the intersection, and convert it into a four-way stop until the final roundabout is completed.

Circle K at Church Rd and Route 1 will be closing permanently on April 26, 2026.

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 6:21 p.m. to discuss personnel. Trustee Gardner 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 6:34 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

Trustee Tieri made a motion to extend a conditional offer of employment for a police officer position. Trustee Gardner seconded.

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

NAYS: (0) None.

Motion carried.

BUDGET DISCUSSION

A proposal from Irwin Construction in the amount of \$51,600 to complete exterior work on Village Hall will be added to the budget. The Board reached consensus to move forward, and the item will be placed on the agenda for formal approval at the next meeting. A deposit will be required before work can begin.

A proposal from Mcgrath Office Equipment to purchase divider panels for 2 desks at Village Hall in the amount of \$3,949 will be added to the budget. Consensus given by the board.

Other items since the budget workshop were reviewed. The hours allocated for part-time police officers were discussed, including a proposal to reduce them to 1,000 hours. The board was informed that the police department did not receive the grant for dash cameras. The need for a K-9 stipend, along with a dog run, was also addressed, and Chief Galvin will provide a cost estimate to be included in the budget.

Water operator position has been removed from the union. 640 hours have been budgeted for a part-time hire, Salary was raised to \$18.00 per hour for part-time.

Parks department part-time salary has been raised to \$18.00 per hour. Increase in part-time salary was discussed and will be re-visited next year.

EMA squads car decals will be added to the budget in the amount of \$1,000.00

New Police Department sign was not approved by SAFE Built. There is a permit for sign.

Zoom meeting was held with SAFE Built, the Village, Josh Baumgartner and business owners from Aluma and Restoration Alley regarding 724 Penfield St.

There being no further business, President Meyer asked for a motion to adjourn. Trustee Smith 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 7:05 p.m.

Respectfully submitted by:

/s/ Denise Abbink
Denise Abbink
Village Clerk