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 26, 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 Matt Conner, Public Works Superintendent Adam Held, Chief John Galvin, EMA Director Bob Heim, Treasurer Donna Lippelt and Attorney Tim Kuiper

GUESTS: Vic Reato, Jennifer Jackson and Dale Gerretse from Groskreutz Abraham Eshleman & Gerretse LLC

APPROVAL OF MINUTES

President Meyer asked for consideration of the minutes of the October 13, 2026, Board meeting. Trustee Tieri made a motion to approve the minutes as written. Trustee Smith seconded.
AYES: (6) Trustees Tieri, Smith, Kraus, Diachenko, Stacey, Gardner.
NAYS: (0) None
Motion carried.

RECOGNITION OF AUDIENCE -None

VILLAGE PRESIDENT REPORT

A request was presented for a new liquor license permitting the sale of beer and wine only for a proposed golf simulator business to be located at 759 Indiana Avenue, within the Historic B-1 Downtown Business District. A consensus was reached to move forward with exploring the creation of a new license specifically for this type of business, as no existing licenses are currently available. Discussion included whether the license would be transferable if the golf simulator business were to cease operations, as well as the possibility of establishing a separate beer and wine license category for golf simulator businesses through an ordinance. The proposed business anticipates eventually offering eight to ten golf simulators, along with batting cage simulators, and would operate separately from the existing vape shop. It was agreed that the Village Attorney would be asked to draft an ordinance establishing the new license. The matter will be brought back before the Board for consideration and a vote at the next meeting. Excel Entertainment would be utilized to explore food service options for the business. Vic Reato will meet with President Meyer

to discuss the proposal further.

VILLAGE CLERK REPORT

Trustee petitions must be turned into the Village Hall between Monday, November 16th and Monday, November 23rd, 2026.

FINANCE AND ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT COMMITTEE

Trustee Kraus made a motion to approve the Treasurer's Report. Seconded by Trustee Smith.
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 $181,968.91 and payroll since the last meeting. Seconded by Trustee Diachenko. Administrator Conner noted that $115,000 of the total bills was related to payment for the Miller Street Project.
AYES: (6) Trustees Tieri, Smith, Kraus, Diachenko, Stacey and Gardner.
NAYS: (0) None.
Motion carried.

Jennifer Jackson and Dale Gerretse from Groskreutz Abraham Eshleman & Gerretse LLC were present and provided the finding of the audit.

Trustee Kraus made a motion to accept the FY25-26 Financial Audit. Seconded by Trustee Smith.
AYES: (6) Trustees Tieri, Smith, Kraus, Diachenko, Stacey and Gardner.
NAYS: (0) None.
Motion carried.

Trustee Kraus made a motion to renew 48-month contract with Constellation/NICOR Gas. Seconded by Trustee Stacey. Administrator Conner informed the board of the options for the contracts as the current contract is coming to an end. The Village was offer a 36-month contract at the current rate at $.699/therm and a 48-month contract at $0.629/therm. Administrator Conner suggested going forward with the 48-month contract at the lower rate.
AYES: (6) Trustees Tieri, Smith, Kraus, Diachenko, Stacey and Gardner.
NAYS: (0) None.
Motion carried.

PUBLIC PROPERTIES AND EVENTS COMMITTEE

Trustee Diachenko reported that the Beecher Lions Club will host a Halloween event at Firemen's Park on Saturday, October 31, from 6:00 to 9:00 p.m. Activities will include free hot dogs, a pumpkin smash, a costume contest, train rides, and more.

The Tree Lighting Ceremony and other events are scheduled November 29th, 2026, from 5:00 – 7:00 p.m. in Firemen's Park.

PLANNING, BUILDING, AND ZONING COMMITTEE

The next PZC meeting is scheduled for Thursday, November 5, 2026 at 6:00 p.m. at Village Hall. There are two public hearings currently scheduled for this PZC meeting.

PUBLIC SAFETY COMMITTEE

Trick-or-treat hours will be from 3:00 p.m. to 7:00 p.m. on Saturday, October 31, 2026.

PUBLIC WORKS COMMITTEE

Trustee Gardner made a motion to approve the asphalt bid from Wirkus Paving in the amount of $196,507.60 for roadway resurfacing and patching related to water and sewer system repairs. by Trustee Stacey.
AYES: (6) Trustees Tieri, Smith, Kraus, Diachenko, Stacey and Gardner.
NAYS: (0) None.
Motion carried.

ADMINISTRATION AND GOVERNMENT AFFAIRS COMMITTEE

Trustee Smith reported that the U.S. Census Bureau is accepting public comments on a proposed rule change for the 2030 Census that would count individuals based on where they spend the majority ofIssue their time between January 1 and March 31. The change could impact Illinois' congressional representation, federal funding, and state and local district boundaries, particularly in communities with seasonal residents. The Will County Governmental League is encouraging municipalities to submit letters opposing the change. President Meyer will prepare a letter on behalf of the Village.

Administrator Conner and Assistant Heidi Demas will attend the ICMA Regional Manager/Administrator Meeting on Thursday, October 29, in Tinley Park to introduce themselves and connect with administrators and managers from surrounding communities.

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 6:27 p.m. to discuss employment contracts. 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.

OTHER BUSINESS

The liquor license request was revisited for clarification. The Board agreed to allow a beer and wine license specifically for the golf simulator business, with the understanding that the license would no longer be valid if the simulator business ceased operations. The Board also discussed the Thirsty Turtle liquor license in relation to its direct connection to Golden Brew. It was suggested that the business owner be contacted regarding the installation of a door separating the two businesses to ensure consistency with the Village's liquor license requirements.

Trustee Kraus asked for clarification regarding FOIA requests and the use of personal devices. Attorney Kuiper explained that communications related to Village business are subject to FOIA, even when conducted on personal devices. He recommended avoiding the use of personal devices for Village business whenever possible. Trustee Kraus indicated that he did not want a Village-issued phone, while the remaining trustees expressed interest in receiving Village-issued phones to keep Village and personal communications separate.

Administrator Conner discussed the use of his former Village truck, noting that office staff will no longer be permitted to use personal vehicles when running Village errands. The Board discussed the possibility of trading in the truck for a smaller vehicle, which would be more practical for trustees and office staff to use when attending conferences and conducting Village business. Trustee Tieri suggested considering the Ford Escape currently assigned to the Police Department. Trustee Kraus asked Administrator Conner to bring back vehicle options for the Board to review.

There being no further business, President Meyer asked for a motion to adjourn. Trustee Kraus made a motion to adjourn the meeting at 6:56 p.m. Seconded by Trustee Tieri.
AYES: (6) Trustees Tieri, Smith, Kraus, Diachenko, Stacey and Gardner.
NAYS: (0) None.
Motion carried.

Meeting adjourned at 6:56 p.m.

Respectfully submitted by:

/s/ Denise Abbink_____
Denise Abbink
Village Clerk