

**MINUTES OF THE REGULAR MEETING OF THE PRESIDENT
& BOARD OF TRUSTEES OF THE VILLAGE OF BEECHER
HELD AT THE WASHINGTON TOWNSHIP CENTER,
30200 TOWN CENTER ROAD, BEECHER, ILLINOIS
JUNE 27, 2006 -- 7:00 P.M.**

All present joined in the Pledge to the Flag.

President Lohmann called the meeting to order.

ROLL CALL:

PRESENT: President Lohmann and Trustees Rehborg, Kuhlman, Wehling (arrived at 8:15 p.m.), Ahrendt and Heldt.

ABSENT: Trustee Peterson.

STAFF PRESENT: Clerk Janett Conner, Administrator Robert Barber, Chief Jeffrey Weissgerber and Public Works Superintendent Harold "Bud" Cowger.

GUESTS: Jackie Pequette from the Beecher Herald, Bill Byrns from the Daily Journal, Don McWhorter, Paul Rietveld, Walter and Joan McElligott, Tom Brislane, Christy and Michael Rodriguez, Dave Bunte, Ron Reichert and Philip Hitzelburger.

President Lohmann asked for consideration of the minutes of the June 13, 2006 Board meeting. Trustee Ahrendt made a motion to approve the minutes as written. Trustee Heldt seconded the motion.

AYES: (3) Trustees Kuhlman, Ahrendt and Heldt.

NAYS: (0) None.

ABSENT: (2) Trustee Wehling and Peterson.

ABSTAIN: (1) Trustee Rehborg.

Motion Carried.

CLERK'S REPORT: 1) A report on income received since the last meeting was given. 2) Bills were presented for the Beautification Commission (\$846.55) and the Beecher Tree Board (\$20.00). Trustee Rehborg made a motion to approve the total bills in the amount of \$866.55 as listed on the Clerk's Report. Trustee Kuhlman seconded the motion.

AYES: (4) Trustees Rehborg, Kuhlman, Ahrendt and Heldt.

NAYS: (0) None.

ABSENT: (2) Trustee Wehling and Peterson.

Motion Carried.

RECOGNITION OF GUESTS: Christy and Michael Rodriguez were present regarding their requested variance for a pool and fence in the front yard setback of the corner lot at 451 Saddle Run. Their request was

unanimously approved by the Planning and Zoning Commission. President Lohmann commented that the application did not accurately indicate where the fence and pool was going to be located. It was discussed that the property north of 451 Saddle Run is currently zoned agriculture but if the property would develop in the future and the road is extended, the fence could obstruct traffic view and become a safety hazard. A copy of the variance request application was provided in the packet for review.

ORDINANCE #1048 - An ordinance approving the variance request for a pool and fence in the front yard setback of the corner lot at 451 Saddle Run, subject to the property owner having to remove the fence if there becomes a traffic view obstruction in the future, due to potential development to the north of the property. This ordinance will be recorded with this lot at 451 Saddle Run. Trustee Ahrendt made a motion to approve Ordinance #1048. Trustee Rehborg seconded the motion.

AYES: (4) Trustees Rehborg, Kuhlman, Ahrendt and Heldt.

NAYS: (0) None.

ABSENT: (2) Trustee Wehling and Peterson.

Motion Carried.

Walter McElliott, a resident at 375 Woodward Street, spoke regarding Bruti's request for approval to develop the property south of Southfield Knoll and expressed his concerns about safety and construction traffic.

A. FINANCE AND ADMINISTRATION COMMITTEE

Variance reports for the previous month were included in the packet for review.

B. PUBLIC SAFETY COMMITTEE

Chief Weissgerber reported that everything went smooth on June 16th and 17th, in conjunction with the Kid's Fest, Garage Sale Days and the Street Dance.

Chief Weissgerber reported that the department will be getting help from the State Police and the Peotone Police for security for the upcoming Fourth of July celebration.

Mark Duntemann provided to the Board a list of trees and stumps to be removed. Mr. Duntemann will attend the next Tree Board meeting requesting approval for his report.

Mosquito spraying is scheduled for June 29th and July 3rd. Ninety day briquettes were installed in all basins the week of June 12th.

A closed session was requested to continue discussion on the Chief's contract concerning vehicle use.

President Lohmann stated that he found a lot of dead birds in his neighborhood last week and asked Chief Weissgerber to look into the matter. Will County said to throw away the birds and just report it to the Will County Health Department. The newspaper will print information regarding West Nile Virus concerns.

C. STREETS AND ALLEYS COMMITTEE

The majority of the crack sealing, seal coating and paint striping has been completed, except some in front of the Village Hall and the Post Office.

Street sweeping was conducted for the last time this year on June 20th.

Bids are scheduled to be opened on July 19th for the 2006 road resurfacing program.

Village Engineers are still working on solutions for Martisek and Rietveld. More information should be available at the next meeting.

President Lohmann commended Public Works for having the town in good shape for the Fourth of July.

D. SEWER AND WATER COMMITTEE

Well #5 drilling is scheduled to begin the week of July 3rd.

Bids are scheduled to be opened on July 6th for the Dunbar Street/Miller Street watermain replacement project.

Public Buildings and Properties, Parks and Recreation Committee was deferred until Trustee Wehling arrived.

F. PLANNING, BUILDING AND ZONING COMMITTEE

The Planning and Zoning Commission discussed the Architectural Code at its June 22nd meeting and the Committee which was formed will meet on Wednesday, August 2nd at 6:30 p.m. at the Village Hall to begin drafting an ordinance for review by the full Commission.

The Board considered three options from Chuck Bruti in regards to his request for R-1 zoning upon annexation for the Prairie Meadows Subdivision located at the south end of Woodward Street and Southfield Drive. Mr. Bruti agreed not to attend this Board meeting so that these options could be openly discussed. He will be attending the July 10th meeting to ask for formal approval of one of the options. There was much discussion. The Board discussed lowering the speed limit on Woodward Street, making three-way stops at intersections, possible damage to the roads, an officer sitting in the area for safety reasons, shortening work hours, etc. Option A was eliminated. Option B called for 42 lots zoned R-1 single family, 11,500 sq. ft. minimum lots, park site, bridge access with 27% cash escrow, 33 ft. road back-to-back with curb and gutter, \$33,000 in fees per lot based on template agreement, letter of credit would include amount for maintenance and repair to existing streets and repairs would be determined by agreement between Village Engineer and Developer's Engineer. Option C was to vote down both options which gives petitioner the option to file for

a 20 unit subdivision in the County. Administrator Barber also suggested that if the subdivision were approved, a citizen advisory committee could be created in the pre-annexation agreement that would meet periodically with the field engineer to address citizen's concerns with the construction. Formal action will occur at the next board meeting.

Trustee Ahrendt made a motion to approve the template facade grant agreement as provided in the packet. \$20,000 was placed in the budget for this program and up to \$2,000 in matching funds will be provided for a minimum of 10 grants for a total of \$40,000 or more in facade and signage improvements in the community.

Trustee Kuhlman seconded the motion.

AYES: (4) Trustees Rehborg, Kuhlman, Ahrendt and Heldt.

NAYS: (0) None.

ABSENT: (2) Trustee Wehling and Peterson.

Motion Carried.

Trustee Wehling arrived at 8:15 p.m.

The Board considered a pre-annexation strategy for parcels up to Goodenow Road. At the last Board meeting the Board agreed to pursue pre-annexation agreements with land owners all the way up to Goodenow Road in response to Crete's decision to not cooperate on a boundary agreement. Staff has begun work on this but the question of zoning and land use has arisen. Administrator Barber expressed concerns that if pre-annexation agreements are obtained with properties north of Eagle Lake Road and they become contiguous with Village limits that we would become obligated to provide water and sewer and could we afford these costs? It was also discussed as to how these properties should be zoned – commercial or industrial? After some discussion, Trustee Ahrendt made a motion to authorize the Plan Commission to revise the land use plan in the area between Eagle Lake Road, the railroad tracks, Goodenow Road and South Park Avenue. Trustee Rehborg seconded the motion.

AYES: (5) Trustees Rehborg, Kuhlman, Wehling, Ahrendt and Heldt.

NAYS: (0) None.

ABSENT: (1) Trustee Peterson.

Motion Carried.

E. PUBLIC BUILDINGS, PROPERTIES, PARKS AND RECREATION COMMITTEE

Since the Village has now secured the land in front of the Township building for a new Public Works facility, Jacobs and Maciejewski has been asked to submit the final facilities plan report to the Village Board. This will occur at the second meeting in July or the first meeting in August. Following acceptance of their report the Village needs to do the following: 1. Direct Baxter and Woodman to engineer the site for drainage and utility connections; 2. Have an excavator clear and level the site and dig any detention facilities; and 3. Hire an architect to design the facility within certain parameters, such as price. At this time the architect is out of the country and more information will be available at the July 25th meeting.

An update was provided on Firemen's Park. Final plans for the grant application are being sent via FedEx this week. Letters of support are being obtained from legislators.

Administrator Barber explained the results of the Village resident surveys as provided to the Board.

G. VILLAGE PRESIDENT'S REPORT

The Fourth of July Commission had 44 volunteers to assist in the "Walk the Town" night to sell car raffle tickets. The entire town was covered in a short time. President Lohmann commended the volunteers that helped and encouraged people to continue volunteering.

President Lohmann commented that Paul Rietveld's father (Pete Rietveld) donated flowers and flower boxes for decoration on the Miller Street bridge and thanked his family for that donation.

Administrator Barber provided an update on the Peotone Access League (PAL). We are still waiting for PAL to provide a recommendation regarding funding. Board meeting tapes are regularly being delivered and being shown on the access channel.

President Lohmann stated that he received a letter from airport opponent George Oschenfeld asking the Village Board to endorse a letter that questions the number of flights estimated to go in and out of the Abraham Lincoln National Airport. It was the consensus of the Board to support the letter.

Formal action on a resolution opposing the Abraham Lincoln National Airport Commission will be considered at the next meeting. A sample resolution from the Will County Governmental League was provided for review.

President Lohmann asked the Board as to what they were planning to do for this year's Fourth of July parade. Trustees Wehling and Kuhlman plan to be in the parade.

President Lohmann requested that a closed session be held to discuss the Economic Development Director's contract.

There being no further business to be discussed in open session, Trustee Rehborg made a motion to adjourn into executive session at 8:38 p.m. to discuss the Chief's and Economic Development Director's contracts. Trustee Kuhlman seconded the motion.

AYES: (5) Trustees Rehborg, Kuhlman, Wehling, Ahrendt and Heldt.

NAYS: (0) None.

ABSENT: (1) Trustee Peterson.

Motion Carried.

Trustee Rehborg made a motion to return to regular session at 9:15 p.m. Trustee Heldt seconded the motion. AYES: (5) Trustees Rehborg, Kuhlman, Wehling, Ahrendt and Heldt.

NAYS: (0) None.

ABSENT: (1) Trustee Peterson.

Motion Carried.

There being no further business, President Lohmann asked for a motion to adjourn. Trustee Rehborg made a motion to adjourn the meeting. Trustee Heldt seconded the motion.

AYES: (5) Trustees Rehborg, Kuhlman, Wehling, Ahrendt and Heldt.

NAYS: (0) None.

ABSENT: (1) Trustee Peterson.

Motion Carried.

Meeting adjourned at 9:15 p.m.

Respectfully submitted by:

Janett Conner, Village Clerk