

**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
NOVEMBER 27, 2017 -- 7:00 P.M.**

All present joined in the Pledge to the Flag.

President Szymanski called the meeting to order.

ROLL CALL

PRESENT: President Szymanski and Trustees Basile, Meyer, Kraus, Mazurek, Kypuros and Wehling.

ABSENT: None.

STAFF PRESENT: Clerk Janett Conner, Administrator Robert Barber, Superintendent of Public Works Bud Cowger and EMA Officer Denis Tatgenhorst.

GUEST: Dale and Sherry Murray, George Schuitema and Terry Sparenberg.

President Szymanski asked for consideration of the minutes of the November 13, 2017 Board meeting. Trustee Wehling made a motion to approve the minutes as written. Trustee Basile seconded the motion.

AYES: (6) Trustees Basile, Meyer, Kraus, Mazurek, Kypuros and Wehling.

NAYS: (0) None.

Motion Carried.

CLERK'S REPORT

1) A report on tax income received in the last month was provided. 2) Clerk Conner stated that dog tags will go on sale December 1st. 3) Thank you notes were read aloud from the families of Ruth Ohlendorf and Patty Meyer.

RECOGNITION OF AUDIENCE

Sherry Murray spoke regarding the proposed changes to the Ordinance regarding parking of recreational vehicles. She said she and her husband purchased their house on Willow Street 24 years ago because it had room next to the house for their RV. They have been following the Village's rules for 24 years and object to the newly proposed ordinance that would no longer allow them to park their RV next to their home. They felt it wasn't fair to change what they have always been allowed to do. Plus, they would have to pay for storage that wouldn't necessarily be secure. Dale Murray also brought up some case issues from the United States Supreme Court that this change would be unconstitutional if it's just about the way an RV looks on a resident's property.

Terry Sparenberg, who lives on Church Road, also expressed concern about the proposed changes for the size of vehicles not being able to exceed 25'. He has a truck and a camper and has always been able to park these on his property and felt the proposed ordinance wouldn't be fair to many residents who have always been able to park these types of vehicles on their property.

George Schuitema stated that he didn't get a water bill this month and wanted to know if there was a problem with the Post Office. Staff will look into this mater.

A. FINANCE AND ADMINISTRATION COMMITTEE

Trustee Basile presented the tax levy for 2017 collectible in 2018. The levy is a 0% increase in the corporate and all special tax levies, except the bond levy which is increasing by \$1,373 due to bond refinancing in February.

ORDINANCE #1278 – An Ordinance adopting a tax levy for 2017 collectible in 2018. Trustee Basile made a motion to approve Ordinance #1278. Trustee Meyer seconded the motion.

AYES: (6) Trustees Basile, Meyer, Kraus, Mazurek, Kypuros and Wehling.

NAYS: (0) None.

Motion Carried.

An update on the status of the Illinois Municipal Insurance Cooperative (IMIC) was provided.

Trustee Basile made a motion cancelling the second meeting in December, which falls on Christmas Day. Trustee Wehling seconded the motion.

AYES: (6) Trustees Basile, Meyer, Kraus, Mazurek, Kypuros and Wehling.

NAYS: (0) None.

Motion Carried.

A Comcast notice of price increases for 2018 was provided in the packet for review.

B. PUBLIC BUILDINGS AND PROPERTIES, PARKS AND RECREATION COMMITTEE

Trustee Wehling provided a Firemen's Park playground update. A meeting is scheduled for Wednesday morning to look at the plan design, costs, and talk about doing different stages of putting in the equipment.

The Village's liability pool risk management consultant provided safety inspections of Village buildings the previous month. A written report of the results will be provided when available.

The new liner has been purchased and the ice rink will be put up in Firemen's Park once Public Works is finished with leaf collection for the year.

C. PLANNING, BUILDING AND ZONING COMMITTEE

The Building Department monthly report was provided in the packet for review.

It was reported that the Planning and Zoning Commission (PZC) met on November 16th to consider a drive-thru request for a Dunkin' Donuts at 1121 Dixie Highway. A public hearing will be held on December 21st and the request will come before the Village Board on January 8, 2018.

Trustee Mazurek provided a CMAP L.T.A. grant update stating that the Village and CMAP would jointly participate in an RFP process for a consultant to conduct the land use planning at an estimated cost of \$100,000 to \$130,000. The Village's share of this project would be in the range of \$10,000 to \$13,000. The project will begin this Spring and be completed by Summer of 2019.

The Board again considered an ordinance that relates to oversized vehicles and trailers within the Village. The ordinance would not allow any vehicle or trailer in excess of 25' in length to be parked anywhere in the Village for more than three days unless on property licensed for such use. Also, all recreational trailers and vehicles must also be parked on asphalt or concrete surface and be at least 5' from the property line. There were three residents at the beginning of the meeting that voiced their opposition to this ordinance. Administrator Barber provided a slide show presentation of pictures taken by the Code Enforcement Officer of existing recreational vehicles. Some were not current violations, others were violations. The one trailer that started the discussion is located in a more congested area and other issues are more open areas, so it is difficult to enforce all of these equally. Trustee Kypuros felt it needs to be clarified as to the definition of impervious surface. He said he only saw in the pictures two that would be affected by the new ordinance. Trustee Wehling said that he didn't think there is enough of a problem to change the ordinance. Trustee Basile recommended enforcing the ordinance as it exists. Code Enforcement Officer Tatgenhorst explained enforcement of the original problem. A major part of the issue seemed to be that the new subdivisions were built with smaller lots which doesn't accommodate the larger vehicles. President Szymanski stated that there are a couple of options. The Board can approve this ordinance or refer this matter to the Planning and Zoning Commission. He felt the ordinance was incomplete as written. Concerns were expressed about the people who have always complied with the current ordinance and would no longer be in compliance if this ordinance is approved. President Szymanski said the current ordinance should be first enforced before moving forward with changing the ordinance. Trustee Mazurek made a motion to refer consideration of this matter to the Planning and Zoning Commission and Trustee Meyer seconded. AYES: (5) Trustees Basile, Meyer, Kraus, Mazurek and Kypuros. NAYS: (1) Trustee Wehling. Motion Carried.

D. PUBLIC SAFETY COMMITTEE

The Police Department, E.M.A. and Code Enforcement monthly reports were provided for review.

The full-time Police Officer hiring list has been established after interviews and three officer candidates are on the list.

A corporal promotion update was provided. Interviews were held earlier in the day. Results will follow.

It was reported that there were no major incidents on Halloween patrols. EMA Officer Tatgenhorst reported that there was no reports of problems or vandalism, and many officers were out in force.

Trustee Kypuros asked why the EMA is doing events in other communities. EMA Officer Tatgenhorst explained a training was done in Bradley through the Police Department using some EMA members and he volunteered his time.

E. PUBLIC WORKS COMMITTEE

The Water and Sewer Department monthly reports were included in the packet for review.

The water billing register for September and October was provided for review. The pumped to billed ratio was 69.35%. Trustee Kypuros reported that there was high usage in September and it was believed to be partially due to it being a dry month and hydrant flushing. Superintendent Cowger also reported on some broken hydrants and Fire Department practice which would be contributing to the high usage and the pumped to billed ratio. Trustee Kypuros recommended metering the unmetered usage such as the Fire Department, school sprinkler system, etc., just to keep track of the unmetered usage.

A well #4 update was provided. A bearing was replaced in the motor for \$1,875 and the motor was placed back on the pump shaft and calibrated for \$2,500. When the well was turned back on there was no vibration on the shaft and the pump curve was back to normal so the well is back on line.

The Chestnut Street light work has been authorized and we are awaiting installation. The lights have been received and Public Works should be getting them augered in.

It was reported that Public Works will be picking up leaves through Friday, December 1st due to the late fall weather. It will be extended if necessary. Trustee Kypuros felt the deadline needs to be pushed back and for Public Works to keep picking up leaves until the first snowfall or until all the leaves have fallen.

An update was provided on the Route #1 shoulder widening. Illinois Department of Transportation is working south of town. The State hopes to get the project done before Christmas.

Superintendent Cowger provided an update on valve turning. Simpson started earlier in the day.

Public Works took down all of the street banners and put up holiday decorations the previous week.

F. ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT AND COMMUNITY RELATIONS COMMITTEE

A Facebook page update was provided. Trustee Meyer reported over 400 likes and followers, and the numbers keep going up. It's been going well.

Trustee Basile provided a report on the results of the Vietnam Veterans ceremony held at Prairie

State College. He said it was a very nice ceremony and five Beecher veterans attended.

There was nothing to report on the Sesquicentennial.

G. VILLAGE PRESIDENT'S REPORT

President Szymanski provided an update on the Police Chief selection process. Approximately 32 candidates have applied. Applications are due by the end of the day on December 1st. Information will be provided to the Board once it is compiled.

A Crete CSX intermodal update was provided. It was believed that an agreement was signed between Crete and CSX.

Trustee Kypuros made a motion to recess for five minutes at 8:29 p.m. Trustee Meyer seconded the motion.

AYES: (6) Trustees Basile, Meyer, Kraus, Mazurek, Kypuros and Wehling.

NAYS: (0) None.

Motion Carried.

The Board heard a presentation from Daniel McDevitt from REM Management Services on the selection process for a new Chief.

There being no further business, President Szymanski asked for a motion to adjourn. Trustee Meyer made a motion to adjourn the meeting. Trustee Mazurek seconded the motion.

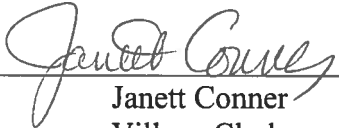
AYES: (6) Trustees Basile, Meyer, Kraus, Mazurek, Kypuros and Wehling.

NAYS: (0) None.

Motion Carried.

Meeting adjourned at 9:00 p.m.

Respectfully submitted by:



Janett Conner
Village Clerk