

**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 23, 2008 -- 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 Cleary, Ahrendt, Gardner, Kuhlman and Wehling.

ABSENT: Trustee Szymanski.

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

GUESTS: Terry Gatlin from the Beecher Herald, Kevin Bouchard, Kim and Betty Koutsky, Tom Stluka, Andrew Ahrendt, Pat Peters, Kevin Hoffman and Joe Burgess.

President Lohmann asked for consideration of the minutes of the June 9, 2008 Board meeting. Trustee Gardner made a motion to approve the minutes with a correction to the Streets and Alleys Committee, last paragraph, last sentence, change to: Trustee Cleary will provide Baxter and Woodman with a listing of signs posted on ComEd poles. Trustee Ahrendt seconded the motion.

AYES: (5) Trustees Cleary, Ahrendt, Gardner, Kuhlman and Wehling.

NAYS: (0) None.

Motion Carried.

CLERK'S REPORT: 1) A report on income received since the last meeting was given. 2) Bills were presented for the Beecher 4th of July Commission. Trustee Cleary made a motion to approve bills in the amount of \$13,330.87 as listed on the Clerk's Report. Trustee Gardner seconded the motion.

AYES: (5) Trustees Cleary, Ahrendt, Gardner, Kuhlman and Wehling.

NAYS: (0) None.

Motion Carried.

RECOGNITION OF GUESTS: Washington Township Clerk Joe Burgess explained some of the new services available at the Washington Township office. Voter's services will be available during the week and certain weekends, as well as temporary disability permits and reduced RTA fair permits. Washington Township also has a new website going online soon.

Pat Peters provided a report on the Pace bus program now available through Washington Township. A bus is now available for transportation within Washington Township to use for doctor's appointments, grocery shopping, visiting others, going out for meals, etc. Some businesses in town are willing to pay for seniors' transportation to their businesses. The cost is \$2 round trip throughout the Township. The bus will also be providing shuttle service for the 4th of July festival. Ms. Peters explained the procedures for using the bus. Riders must be at least 55 and older or disabled. Ms. Peters has been working with the Beecher Manor Nursing Home to encourage use of this bus. President Lohmann congratulated Washington Township on getting the Dial-A-Ride program going.

President Lohmann reported that the town Dallas City, Illinois has had extensive flooding in their community, and proposed that Beecher be a sister city to Dallas City and provide them with financial assistance. He asked that Washington Township officials consider donating money towards this and asked the Village Board to consider donating \$5,000. President Lohmann stated he is willing to donate a portion of his salary towards this purpose, and asked that community groups, taxing bodies, businesses, etc. become involved in aiding this community. It was the consensus of the Board to support President Lohmann's proposal. This matter will be considered again at the next meeting since it can't be voted upon yet because it was not on the agenda. President Lohmann also proposed putting out containers at the 4th of July Celebration to collect donations.

A. FINANCE AND ADMINISTRATION COMMITTEE

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

ORDINANCE #1100 - An ordinance establishing the prevailing rate of wages for Fiscal Year 2008/2009. Trustee Kuhlman made a motion to approve Ordinance #1100. Trustee Wehling seconded the motion.

AYES: (5) Trustees Cleary, Ahrendt, Gardner, Kuhlman and Wehling.

NAYS: (0) None.

Motion Carried.

Results were provided from the June 23rd Finance Committee meeting. Trustee Kuhlman reported that the Committee determined that the spending policy would address capital items only and not maintenance items. This was the only change made to the policy. Administrator Barber explained.

B. PUBLIC SAFETY COMMITTEE

Public Works sprayed for mosquitoes on June 19th and will spray again on June 26th and July 3rd. All basins and ponds have been treated with larvicide.

A report was provided on recent liquor license violations. Two establishments were fined \$1,500 for selling liquor to underage individuals and a third cited for underage sales with a fine to be determined. The fine money collected so far has been deposited to the general fund and transferred

to the youth programs fund to benefit those programs. A hearing will be held on Tuesday, June 24th with the business owner of Somewhere In Time to consider the status of their liquor license due to this recent offense and their past history of offenses. This hearing will be open to the public. The Liquor Commissioner can revoke or suspend the liquor license and/or a fine can be assessed. The Village Attorney will be present at the hearing to provide counsel. Some discussion followed on what types of previous offenses were involved and how far back in time they were. A report on the hearing will be provided at the next Board meeting.

C. STREETS AND ALLEYS COMMITTEE

Public Works Superintendent Cowger reported that the Miller Street pedestrian bridge is almost done and the project is going well. The bridge should be completed by July 4th.

Street sweeping is scheduled for Tuesday, July 1st.

Paint striping was started June 23rd by Beecher Public Works.

Status was provided on Hillcrest Drive. There was nothing new to report from Will County. President Lohmann asked Mr. Hoffman in the audience if he and his wife Pam (2008 candidate for Will County Board) could meet with the Village soon to discuss the Hillcrest Drive issue, since this is a County problem and not a Village problem. Mr. Hoffman indicated that he would have Ms. Hoffman contact the Village Hall to try and set up a meeting.

Superintendent Cowger reported that the Public Works employees have been working hard getting ready for the 4th of July celebration. The sod in Firemen's Park has rooted.

D. SEWER AND WATER COMMITTEE

Superintendent Cowger reported that he is waiting on scheduling a meeting with Kamp Synergy, Square D, and the Village Engineers to close out the Well #5 project.

RESOLUTION #2008-09 - A resolution expanding the facilities planning area (FPA) by 160 acres in an area between Eagle Lake Road and Church Road, Cottage Grove Avenue and Nantucket Cove. This is the area south of the most recent expansion which "squares off" Beecher's FPA. Administrator Barber noted that this is an uncontested area. There was some discussion regarding the FPA. Trustee Gardner made a motion to adopt Resolution #2008-09. Trustee Wehling seconded the motion.

AYES: (5) Trustees Cleary, Ahrendt, Gardner, Kuhlman and Wehling.

NAYS: (0) None.

Motion Carried.

E. PUBLIC BUILDINGS, PROPERTIES, PARKS AND RECREATION COMMITTEE

Trustee Wehling reported that the paving has been completed by the food stand and the walk bridge in Firemen's Park.

At the last Board meeting, it was reported that the School District was planning to install two backstops and build a garage at Welton Stedt Park. Superintendent Cowger is working with School Superintendent Obradovich on this. Mr. Stluka stated that the School District has agreed to construct a garage for maintenance equipment which will be shared with Beecher Public Works. An apprentice for the Carpenter's Union will construct the garage, which was arranged by Washington Township Supervisor Bob Howard. The construction is scheduled to begin this summer. The proposed garage is 28' x 28' split down the middle for the School District and Public Works to each utilize half.

An update was provided on Prairie Park. Bids have been let on this \$58,000 project and will be opened on July 16th. This project is being financed with developer funds.

F. PLANNING, BUILDING AND ZONING COMMITTEE

A Planning and Zoning Commission (PZC) meeting is scheduled for June 26th. The zoning of Trinity Industrial Phase III lands, the preliminary plat for Creekside East as proposed by petitioners Reichert and Perry, and a discussion on the future of flashing billboards are on the agenda.

An update was provided on the Trinity Industrial project. President Lohmann has sent a letter to CSX Railroad requesting a meeting with the railroad or \$40,000 in cash escrow, and is still awaiting a response. A copy of the letter was provided in the packet for review. The requested deadline for a response is June 30th.

Status was provided on the Prairie Crossings South retention pond. The Village Engineer sent a letter to Richard Sova of Landover Corporation, a copy of which was provided in the packet for review. Equipment was moved into place according to Administrator Barber. The developer is scheduled to attend the July 14th Board meeting to discuss what the Village wants done.

G. VILLAGE PRESIDENT'S REPORT

President Lohmann provided the status on the Eastern Will County sanitary sewer study. He attended a meeting on June 18th with Peotone, Monee, a representative from the Farnsworth Group and Will County. The engineer provided four different scenarios. President Lohmann was not happy with the scenarios or how the meeting went. The communities had to come up with a couple scenarios instead of the Farnsworth Group. Farnsworth Group is to keep doing a study on this matter.

Material was provided in the packet for the 2008 Illinois Municipal League conference in September. Up to three Board members are budgeted to attend. The Clerk should be notified as soon as possible if any Board members want to attend.

RESOLUTION #2008-10 - A resolution of support for the 2016 Olympic games in Chicago. The City of Chicago has asked for suburban support for Chicago's application to host the 2016 Olympic games. Trustee Wehling made a motion to adopt Resolution #2008-10. Trustee Cleary seconded the motion.

AYES: (5) Trustees Cleary, Ahrendt, Gardner, Kuhlman and Wehling.

NAYS: (0) None.

Motion Carried.

H. NEW BUSINESS

Trustee Kuhlman asked which Trustees plan on riding in the 4th of July parade. Those interested should let him or the Village Hall know.

There being no further business to be discussed in open session, Administrator Barber requested an executive session be held to discuss a personnel matter. Trustee Cleary made a motion to adjourn into executive session at 7:51 p.m. to discuss personnel. Trustee Gardner seconded the motion.

AYES: (5) Trustees Cleary, Ahrendt, Gardner, Kuhlman and Wehling.

NAYS: (0) None.

Motion Carried.

Trustee Gardner made a motion to return to regular session at 8:00 p.m. Trustee Cleary seconded the motion.

AYES: (5) Trustees Cleary, Ahrendt, Gardner, Kuhlman and Wehling.

NAYS: (0) None.

Motion Carried.

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

AYES: (5) Trustees Cleary, Ahrendt, Gardner, Kuhlman and Wehling.

NAYS: (0) None.

Motion Carried.

Meeting adjourned at 8:00 p.m.

Respectfully submitted by:

Janett Conner, Village Clerk