

**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  
SEPTEMBER 25, 2007 -- 7:00 P.M.**

All present joined in the Pledge to the Flag.

President Pro-Tem Wehling called the meeting to order.

**ROLL CALL:**

PRESENT: Trustees Cleary, Ahrendt, Szymanski (arrived at 7:50 p.m.), Gardner, Kuhlman and Wehling.

ABSENT: President Lohmann.

**STAFF PRESENT:** Clerk Pro-Tem Julie Riechers, Administrator Robert Barber, Chief of Police Jeffrey Weissgerber and Treasurer Nelson Collins.

**GUESTS:** Terry Gatlin from the Beecher Herald, Bill Byrns from the Daily Journal, Tom Camilleri, Kevin Bouchard, Randy Martin, John Schiavone, Tom Stluka and Tom Brislane.

Trustee Ahrendt made a motion to appoint Julie Riechers as Clerk Pro-Tem. Trustee Gardner seconded the motion.

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

NAYS: (0) None.

ABSENT: (1) Trustee Szymanski.

Motion Carried.

President Pro-Tem Wehling asked for consideration of the minutes of the September 11, 2007 Board meeting. Trustee Cleary made a motion to approve the minutes with changes as follows: Page #5, third paragraph under Streets and Alleys Committee, second sentence should read: At 1434 Crooked Creek it was believed that the Builder breached the storm sewer tile when digging the foundation of the house; Page #6, first sentence, the water billing register for the months of July and August were not provided in the packet for review; and Page #7, first sentence, The Building Department monthly report was not provided in the packet for review. Trustee Gardner seconded the motion.

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

NAYS: (0) None.

ABSENT: (1) Trustee Szymanski.

Motion Carried.

**CLERK'S REPORT:** 1) A report on income received since the last meeting was given. 2) Bills were presented for the Beecher 4<sup>th</sup> of July Commission. Trustee Cleary made a motion to approve the bills in the amount of \$254.96 as listed on the Clerk's Report. Trustee Kuhlman seconded the motion.

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

NAYS: (0) None.

ABSENT: (1) Trustee Szymanski.

Motion Carried.

3) A draft copy of the Fall newsletter was attached for review. Board members were asked to review the draft and forward any comments or changes to Clerk Conner.

Trustee Szymanski arrived at 7:50 p.m.

**RECOGNITION OF GUESTS:** Tom Camilleri of 263 Aspen was present regarding his fence and provided paperwork he received from the Prairie Crossings Homeowners Association. Mr. Camilleri has installed a fence which is much higher than the 5' maximum allowed in a residential district. He must either request a variance or lower the fence height. After much discussion, the Board recommended that Mr. Camilleri apply for a variance or bring his fence into compliance.

John Schiavone of 543 Penfield was present asking for a variance to fence in his corner lot, 20' off of Birch, but with the fence exceeding the front yard by 5'. After some discussion, it was the consensus of the Board that they would like to look at the property before making a decision.

Randy Martin was present requesting consideration of rezoning the property located at Reed and Miller Streets, from residential to commercial, in order to construct a storage unit facility. After much discussion, it was the consensus of the Board that a public hearing be held at the October 25, 2007 Planning and Zoning Commission meeting to consider the rezoning of that property. The building would require a full 4" slab foundation.

#### **A. FINANCE AND ADMINISTRATION COMMITTEE**

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

A Village Board workshop meeting is scheduled for October 1<sup>st</sup> at 6:00 p.m. at the Village Hall. Items to be discussed are the review of the 2006 Fiscal Year audit, reconsideration of the template annexation agreement fees and the proposed Tree Board ordinance.

The Board considered changing the health insurance provider to Blue Cross/Blue Shield. Dependent costs for employees would be reduced. Trustee Szymanski made a motion to authorize the conversion of the Village's health insurance from Humana to Blue Cross/Blue Shield, effective November 1, 2007. Trustee Ahrendt seconded the motion.

AYES: (6) Trustees Cleary, Ahrendt, Szymanski, Gardner, Kuhlman and Wehling.  
NAYS: (0) None.  
Motion Carried.

Trustee Szymanski provided an update on the new foodstand in Firemen's Park. The walls have been formed and work has been going well. Apprentice carpenters are building the foodstand, which is scheduled to be under roof within two weeks. New trees will be planted in Firemen's Park to replace three that were removed. Asphalt will need to be repaired near the tree removal sites. The Park Committee approved the tree removal.

Trustee Szymanski provided an update on the carnival for next year's Fourth of July celebration.

#### **B. PUBLIC SAFETY COMMITTEE**

Chief Weissgerber reported that two new crossing guards have been hired for Church Road and Cardinal Creek Boulevard, and Bald Eagle and Cardinal Drive.

Mosquito spraying is scheduled for Friday, September 28<sup>th</sup>.

Chief Weissgerber reported on the Senior Breakfast that was held on Thursday, September 20<sup>th</sup>. About 100 people attended the breakfast and the presentation went well.

#### **C. STREETS AND ALLEYS COMMITTEE**

Free Yardwaste bag giveaway days are scheduled for Saturdays, October 13<sup>th</sup> and 20<sup>th</sup>.

AT&T announced a massive buildout program called Project Lightspeed. Some of these boxes are already installed in Beecher.

Administrator Barber reported on the damage from the micro burst that occurred earlier in the day. Five full trees fell, and a tree blew across Dixie Highway and struck a car by Beecher Manor. Public Works will continue picking up branches through Monday.

The complete 2007 tree trimming/removal list was provided in the packet for review.

#### **D. SEWER AND WATER COMMITTEE**

The water billing register for the months of July and August were provided in the packet for review.

Public Works Superintendent Cowger was not present to provide a report.

## **E. PUBLIC BUILDINGS, PROPERTIES, PARKS AND RECREATION COMMITTEE**

Trustee Wehling made a motion to award a bid for soil borings for the proposed municipal facility to SEECO in the amount of \$5,137.00 for 12 borings. Before engineering can be completed and a public works building designed for Village Board review, soil borings are required to make sure there are no sand veins or peat in the area of the proposed foundations and to determine load bearings. Trustee Ahrendt seconded the motion.

AYES: (6) Trustees Cleary, Ahrendt, Szymanski, Gardner, Kuhlman and Wehling.

NAYS: (0) None.

Motion Carried.

An update was provided on Firemen's Park and the OSLAD Grant. The Village has received permission from the State to proceed with the amended bid which replaces Firemen's #2 with a new field. The Village has also received a concern from Beecher Rec about the timing of the project interrupting Spring use of the fields for the baseball program. A contract for the project is being prepared for the Village President's signature upon his return.

Trustee Wehling provided an update on Welton Stedt Park. Sod has been planted and the seeded path is in. Lee Meyers from Maple Street wants to plant a memorial tree. There will be two ballfields in this park.

## **F. PLANNING, BUILDING AND ZONING COMMITTEE**

The Planning and Zoning Commission has scheduled a workshop meeting for September 27<sup>th</sup>. Items on the workshop agenda include the Trinity Industrial Development Intermodal Park request for Planned Unit Development (PUD) zoning upon annexation, a proposed zoning classification for intermodal facilities, and amendments to the zoning code pertaining to accessory uses.

## **G. VILLAGE PRESIDENT'S REPORT**

Administrator Barber provided an update on the Beecher and Crete Facilities Planning Area expansion applications.

Administrator Barber provided results of an intergovernmental meeting held on September 12<sup>th</sup> regarding impact fees.

Trustee Szymanski reported on the well-attended 2007 Regional Budget meeting held today. Governor Blagojevich slashed down the fast growth grants. Trustee Szymanski will provide copies of the information he obtained to all Trustees.

Administrator Barber reported that he will not be at the October 9<sup>th</sup> Board meeting. The Village Attorney was unable to attend tonight due to illness.

There being no further business, President Pro-Tem Wehling asked for a motion to adjourn. Trustee Cleary made a motion to adjourn the meeting. Trustee Szymanski seconded the motion.

AYES: (6) Trustees Cleary, Ahrendt, Szymanski, Gardner, Kuhlman and Wehling.

NAYS: (0) None.

Motion Carried.

Meeting adjourned at 9:15 p.m.

Respectfully submitted by:

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Julie Riechers, Clerk Pro-Tem