

**JOINT MEETING OF THE BEECHER PLANNING AND ZONING COMMISSION
AND THE PRESIDENT AND BOARD OF TRUSTEES**

*Thursday, August 29, 2013 at 7:00 p.m.
Washington Township Center
30200 Town Center Road
Beecher, Illinois*

The meeting began at 7:08 p.m. with a pledge to the flag.

ROLL CALL

PZC Members Present: Tatgenhorst, Bouchard, Machtemes, Lohmann, Schuittema

Village Board Members Present: President Szymanski, Trustees Meyer, Cleary, Wehling

The Village President explained to all members of the intergovernmental committee present that this was an informal discussion of the issues being faced and the items being discussed among the local taxing bodies.

All members present introduced themselves.

GUEST SPEAKER: SCOTT BERTRAND, DIRECTOR OF EXTERNAL AFFAIRS, COMMONWEALTH EDISON. Recent Summer storms have caused frequent power failures in our service area. Mr. Bertrand explained the notification and response procedures for power failures which are available to local governments in order for them to stay informed. Smart grid technology was also explained, followed by a question and answer session.

ROUNDTABLE. Each local government represented at the meeting was given five minutes to explain what was going on at their Board meetings.

ILLIANA EXPRESSWAY UPDATE. A corridor council group has formed and stakeholder meetings are to begin soon. An update will be provided at the meeting.

SOUTH SUBURBAN AIRPORT UPDATE. Legislation was adopted granting IDOT the authority to quick take land in the inaugural site, and to use a private contractor to build and operate the airport for profit. This is the same type of process being used to build the Illiana and is called a public-private partnership (P3). There is no local airport authority, no ALNAC and no City of Chicago. The State will own and control the airport. Since this legislation was adopted, the State has been reaching out to local governments allowing them to sit on some advisory boards but it remains unclear how much input we will have in the governing process. The issue of surrounding land uses and development controls have also not yet been addressed. These matters will be discussed at future meetings with the communities surrounding the airport and the IDOT.

IL-#394/IL ROUTE #1 CORRIDOR STUDY. The South Suburban Mayors and Managers Association obtained a \$250,000 grant to come up with a corridor improvement study from I-80

south to the Kankakee County line. The Village of Beecher has agreed to participate in this study, and the first meeting is scheduled for September.

VILLAGE BECOMES A MEMBER OF THE SOUTH SUBURBAN MAYORS AND MANAGERS ASSOCIATION. The Village President and Board have decided to join this group and an explanation will be provided at the meeting.

VILLAGE TO UPDATE ITS MASTER WATER, SEWER AND LAND USE PLANS. In response to the Illiana and the South Suburban Airport, President Szymanski stated that the time has come to comprehensively update these plans even though the cost will be quite significant. The Illiana Corridor Group may fund a portion of this cost. The decision has been made to include the entire Beecher School District in the plans since this is also the extent of our legal boundary agreements with the exception of the territory to the north.


THE FUTURE OF CARDINAL CREEK GOLF COURSE. President Szymanski stated that there have been many rumors about the future of the course and concerning Buddy's and the bowling alley. At this time there is no valid offer on either of these parcels.

VILLAGE RE-FORMS ITS COMMITTEES, CREATES A NEW ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT AND COMMUNITY RELATIONS COMMITTEE TO BE CHAIRED BY TRUSTEE MEYER. President Szymanski stated that Trustee Meyer now Chairs the committee and becomes the go-to person for any other local official to contact if they have a concern about the Village or if they wish to involve the Village in any type of project or program. The economic development portion of the committee is obvious; the community relations portion of the committee's work includes social media, Village newsletter, and how the Village communicates with or is perceived by others.

USE OF INCENTIVES TO ATTRACT, RETAIN OR EXPAND INDUSTRIAL DEVELOPMENT. President Szymanski stated that the Village anticipates another request for an incentive from the taxing bodies very soon. This has led to the question of whether an incentive should be standardized for all the local taxing bodies or should each taxing body consider incentives on a case by case basis. All cases are unique, but the Village has heard from prospects that approaching each taxing body is time-consuming and cumbersome and could affect our ability to market to prospects. It was agreed that one member from each taxing body would sit on an ad-hoc committee to discuss this issue further.

NEW BUSINESS - It was agreed that the date of next meeting will be Wednesday, January 29th at 7:00 p.m. at the Township Center.

Wehling, Meyer motioned to adjourn at 8:26 p.m. Motion passed 4-0.


Robert O. Barber
Clerk Pro-Tem