

**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
OCTOBER 24, 2016 -- 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 Ahrendt, Kypuros, Wehling, Kuhlman, Basile and Meyer.

ABSENT: None.

STAFF PRESENT: Clerk Janett Conner, Administrator Robert Barber, Chief Jeffrey Weissgerber, Superintendent of Public Works Bud Cowger and Deputy Clerk Patty Meyer.

GUESTS: Kyle Meyer from Southland Voice, Joe Lenehan from Olthof Homes, Neil Meredith and George Schuitema.

President Szymanski asked for consideration of the minutes of the October 11, 2016 Board meeting. Trustee Wehling made a motion to approve the minutes as written. Trustee Kypuros seconded the motion.

AYES: (4) Trustees Kypuros, Wehling, Kuhlman and Meyer.

NAYS: (0) None.

ABSTAIN: (2) Trustees Ahrendt and Basile.

Motion Carried.

CLERKS'S REPORT

A report on income received since the last meeting was provided.

A. FINANCE AND ADMINISTRATION COMMITTEE

A status of the monthly income from the State was provided by Trustee Meyer.

The Board discussed the tax levy for 2016 collectible in 2017. At the second meeting in November the Board will discuss next year's tax levy and a formal vote on the levy will occur the first meeting in December.

The five-year financial plan is now in development. Staff is hoping to have the first draft to the Board by December 1st, but no later than the first meeting in December.

B. PUBLIC BUILDINGS AND PROPERTIES, PARKS AND RECREATION COMMITTEE

The new generator for the Village Hall is hooked up but not yet running. There is still some work that needs to be done. Superintendent Cowger reported that the contractor is supposed to be out this week to work on it. The Board discussed the phone system going down during the work on the generator due to a hard drive failure.

The Board again discussed the future of passive park maintenance. Trustee Wehling indicated that he is going to send letters to organizations in the community and get their input. A Committee meeting will then be made to discuss the results.

C. PLANNING, BUILDING AND ZONING COMMITTEE

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

The Board considered an Ordinance amending the planned development for Nantucket Cove Subdivision. The amendment included four modifications. Joe Lenehan from Olthof Homes was present to answer any questions. Some of the discussion included: Trustee Wehling asked who would be in charge of the homeowner's association after this. Mr. Lenehan indicated Olthof's contract doesn't address this issue. Trustee Meyer asked about the wording in the Ordinance regarding the brick requirements. There was a difference in wording in the ordinance regarding other architectural features being offered in addition to the request to change to the 1/3 brick. Some Trustees expressed concerns about why the builder didn't want to use more brick. Mr. Lenehan responded that the 1/3 brick is just a starting point and many buyers request more brick on their homes. He indicated that these homes will be built to the different elevations that he previously provided. Trustee Ahrendt questioned why future subdivisions couldn't do the same thing if we allow these changes for Olthoff. Each subdivision would be considered separately. Trustee Wehling said there is not much space on the front of the house so asked why not do more brick on the front. Trustee Kypuros indicated that it's been discussed by the Board in the past that the Village has too many vacant lots that need to be filled.

ORDINANCE #1250 - After much discussion Trustee Kypuros made a motion to approve Ordinance #1250 granting an amendment to the planned development for Nantucket Cove Subdivision, including the four following modifications:

1. Reduce the number of parkway trees from three to two per lot.
2. Allow a minimum roof pitch of 6/12 instead of 7/12.
3. Reduce the square footage on the first floor of a two-story from 1,250 to 1,000 square feet but keep the total of 2,000 square feet the same.
4. Lower the brick requirement from the first floor facing the street to 1/3 of the first floor, replacing the brick with other architectural features.

Trustee Meyer seconded the motion.

AYES: (4) President Szymanski and Trustees Kypuros, Basile and Meyer.

NAYS: (3) Trustees Ahrendt, Wehling and Kuhlman.

Motion Carried.

The Planning and Zoning Commission (PZC) met and discussed solar panels as a special use. There was very little support for taking up improved industrial land for solar panels which have no assessed value but it was agreed there was a benefit to having solar energy as an alternate energy. The Village Planner will be doing research on the issue of free standing solar panels.

D. PUBLIC SAFETY COMMITTEE

The Police Department monthly report was provided for review.

The Code Enforcement monthly report was provided in the packet for review.

Chief Weissgerber reported on the Police Station open house held in conjunction with the Fire Station open house. Attendance was larger than anticipated. There was a large crowd that flowed over from the Fire Station. It was discussed to possibly close Penfield Street next year.

Officers Sipple and Tatgenhorst attended the Chamber of Commerce/Youth Commission Trunk or Treat event. There was a large turn out. There were 34 trunks and roughly 370 children attended. The Youth Commission and Chamber of Commerce worked together to make it a success.

E. PUBLIC WORKS COMMITTEE

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

A Chestnut/Willow street light update was provided. ComEd has been contacted and will be providing a site visit and estimate for installation of four new street lights.

The Village is approaching the end of the 30-day public notice period for the Penfield watermain project. Once completed, a certified copy of the Ordinance will be sent to the Illinois Environmental Protection Agency (IEPA) as part of the loan application. Once Staff receives the go ahead, the project will go out for bid.

Fall flushing is scheduled to begin on Sunday, October 30, 2016. Flow testing will also be conducted at that time to determine our ISO rating, and pumping down hydrants for freeze protection. Superintendent Cowger reported that residents may experience rusty water during flushing.

Trustee Kypuros provided a report on the wastewater treatment plant rehab. The Phase I report was submitted and Phase II design is 50% complete. Bid letting is scheduled for October 1, 2017. It's possible the loan could go for 30 years but not known at this time. All is set to go for a 20-year loan right now.

It was reported that the Illinois Department of Transportation (IDOT) has finally approved the specifications for the LED beacons for the Safe Routes to Schools project. The beacons have been ordered and hopefully will be installed soon.

The sidewalk replacement program update was provided. Superintendent Cowger stated that the tearing out of sidewalks will begin this week, and the project should be completed in approximately two weeks.

Trustee Kypuros reported that Church Road from the railroad tracks east to South Park, and Cardinal Creek Boulevard from Church Road to Indiana Avenue was crack sealed this year.

It was reported that the leaf collection program has begun. Brush pickup and leaf pickup will be collected until Monday, November 28th. At that time trucks will need to be readied for salt and snow removal.

The Public Works Committee will meet on Wednesday, October 26th at 4:30 p.m. to discuss upcoming winter projects and make a capital plan for the next five years. SCADA, pond maintenance and next year's budget will also be topics of discussion.

F. ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT AND COMMUNITY RELATIONS COMMITTEE

Trustee Basile reported that the recently mailed Fall newsletter looks good.

The smartphone app overhaul is nearing completion but still needs a few fixes.

Staff is still awaiting blueprints from Mike Stanula on the Gould Street boardwalk.

The South Suburban Center for Economic Development Expo will be held at Bult Field on Friday, October 28, 2016. Board members were invited to attend.

G. VILLAGE PRESIDENT'S REPORT

President Szymanski recommended amending the liquor code to eliminate all unused licenses the Village has available except for those already pledged to current and opening businesses. This will eliminate all but two liquor licenses that are currently pledged to businesses planning to open. This would cap the amount of gaming machines in the Village according to number of liquor licenses. President Szymanski said since the last meeting he has had two more inquiries for video gaming parlors. He feels we are saturated enough at this time and will consider any further licenses on a case by case basis at the Board level. Trustee Kypuros expressed concerns about closing the door to future businesses such as a restaurant in one of the empty commercial buildings in town by limiting the number of licenses. Much discussion followed.

ORDINANCE #1251 - An Ordinance amending the liquor code increasing the population requirements for licenses. Trustee Wehling made a motion to approve Ordinance #1251. Trustee Basile seconded the motion.

AYES: (6) Trustees Ahrendt, Kypuros, Wehling, Kuhlman, Basile and Meyer.

NAYS: (0) None.

Motion Carried.

The Will County Governmental League is asking for legislative initiatives. Board members were asked if they had any ideas for initiatives to let President Szymanski or Administrator Barber know.

H. OLD BUSINESS

Trustee Wehling provided a set of plans from the Fire Department for a 40' x 50' building behind the fire station on the concrete pad where dumpsters were located. The plans were for a two-story building with the second floor being for storage. There will be windows on all sides except the side facing the ball diamond. The Board was asked for input. Trustee Kypuros expressed concerns about obstructing residents' views of the park. This would add 3,670 square feet of space, and asked if the Fire Department needs this much more space. Some Board members felt it would look bad. Staff needs to go back to the Fire District and give them some direction. The Fire Department wishes to house their brush truck equipment and other equipment in the new storage building. Staff will re-stake the area for the proposed new garage to determine how big it really is. Superintendent Cowger asked if they will run water and sewer to the building, and if the electric drop going into Firemen's Park would need to be relocated. This project seems to be larger than what was originally thought. President Szymanski said he would bring the Board's concerns to the Fire District.

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

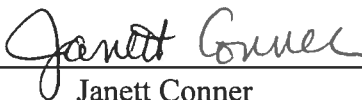
AYES: (6) Trustees Ahrendt, Kypuros, Wehling, Kuhlman, Basile and Meyer.

NAYS: (0) None.

Motion Carried.

Meeting adjourned at 7:54 p.m.

Respectfully submitted by:



Janett Conner
Village Clerk