

**REGULAR MEETING OF THE VILLAGE OF BEECHER, BOARD OF TRUSTEES  
TO BE HELD AT THE WASHINGTON TOWNSHIP CENTER,  
30200 TOWN CENTER DRIVE, BEECHER, ILLINOIS AT 7:00 P.M. ON  
TUESDAY, JUNE 12, 2007**

**AGENDA**

I. PLEDGE TO THE FLAG

II. ROLL CALL

III. APPROVAL OF MINUTES OF THE PREVIOUS MEETING. A motion is needed to approve the minutes of the May 15<sup>th</sup> and May 29<sup>th</sup> regular meetings and the May 30<sup>th</sup> special meeting.

IV. VILLAGE CLERK REPORT

V. RECOGNITION OF AUDIENCE

**A. FINANCE AND ADMINISTRATION COMMITTEE**

1. TREASURER'S REPORT

2. APPROVAL OF BILLS

3. VARIANCE REPORTS for the month of April, 2007 and for the fiscal year ending April 30, 2007 are enclosed for your review. \$30,000 in reserve cash of the \$78,000 budgeted in the General Fund was used to pay for \$19,000 in engineering on the Chestnut/Dixie traffic light, \$7,400 for new street lights to be installed on Cardinal Creek Boulevard, and \$7,500 in facade grants. All other funds came close to budgeted revenues and expenses. The Water Fund was in the black but the Sewer Fund was in the red by about the same amount and since both funds are combined in the O+M Account it was a wash.

4. CONSIDER A RESOLUTION AMENDING RESOLUTION #91-4 PERTAINING TO THE FINANCE CHAIR APPROVAL FOR IMMEDIATE PAYMENTS OF \$500 OR LESS. In 1991, the Village Board authorized the Finance Chair to approve immediate payment or checks to be cut not exceeding \$250 for those situations where immediate payment is required for services rendered. This usually occurs with training events which require payment at the time of entry into the training session for employees. However, this activity only occurs about once every two or three years since certain key personnel have credit cards for such payments. In any event, staff recommends that this resolution be re-affirmed and that the amount increase from \$250 to \$500.

5. CONSIDER A RESOLUTION UPDATING THE VILLAGE'S STATE-MANDATED INVESTMENT POLICY TO INCLUDE THE FIRST NATIONAL BANK OF GRANT PARK.

We are required by State law to have an investment policy and in 1998 this policy was adopted and approved by the Auditor. However, it has been discovered that the First National Bank of Grant Park was never added to the list of approved depositories and we have been doing business with them since they moved to town in 2003. This amended resolution makes the required notation.

6. CONSIDER A RESOLUTION ESTABLISHING MINIMUM FUND BALANCES FOR THE ACCOUNTS OF THE VILLAGE. This resolution was last updated in 1998 and since that time several new funds have been added and the fund balances do not reflect our current operating needs. This resolution adds those accounts and establishes a 60 day cushion for the operating accounts, a six month cushion for the debt fund and a \$10,000 minimum for those accounts that do not fund operations. If fund balances fall below these minimums the treasurer is required to advise the Board of the incident and corrective action would be discussed at that time. Staff recommends approval of this updated resolution.

7. UPDATE FROM THE NORTHERN ILLINOIS MUNICIPAL ELECTRIC COOPERATIVE.

The ICC has permitted an increase to the capacity charge which all power generators can charge and this will result in 2-3% increase in our electric costs. However, we are still saving about 11-13% on what Comm Ed would charge us for pumping and electric use at the sewer plant.

8. CONSIDER AUTHORIZING THE VILLAGE PRESIDENT AND CLERK TO SIGN A MEMORANDUM OF UNDERSTANDING WITH THE U.S. CENSUS BUREAU FOR A SPECIAL CENSUS AND AUTHORIZING THE IMMEDIATE PAYMENT OF \$60,855 FROM THE OPERATIONS AND MAINTENANCE ACCOUNT (O+M) FOR THE CONDUCT OF A SPECIAL CENSUS IN SEPTEMBER, 2007. Enclosed is a copy of the MOU and the cover letter explaining the charges. \$80,000 was budgeted for this project and staff believes that this project can be completed within budget. Staff recommends approval of motions authorizing the MOU and the payment.

**B. PUBLIC SAFETY COMMITTEE**

1. POLICE DEPARTMENT MONTHLY REPORT is enclosed for your review.

2. REPORT ON BIKE SAFETY RODEO which is scheduled for this Saturday, June 9<sup>th</sup> will be provided by the Chief.

3. REPORT ON POLICE YOUTH EVENT: JOLIET JACKHAMMERS BALL GAME to be provided by the Chief.

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

1. CONSIDER FINAL PAYMENT TO IROQUOIS PAVING FOR 2006 MFT RESURFACING PROJECT. The Village Engineer will submit an invoice from Iroquois and his recommendation for payment at the meeting. Any outstanding items can be discussed at this time prior to payment.
2. UPDATE ON STREET LIGHTING COSTS. Comm Ed is playing catch-up with the street lights that have been installed in the last 12 months and is back-charging us from the date they were turned on. Many of these lights were activated in June of 2006. Luckily, all the back-charges to date were under the old rates. However, the timing of the addition of all these lights to our billing system will affect our current budget since the budget was drafted with the information we had at that time. At this point, it appears that we will spend about \$90,000 this fiscal year on street lights when only \$75,000 was budgeted. This is just a heads-up for now.
3. STATUS OF DRAINAGE COMPLAINT AT 646 WOODWARD (HARTKE). The Village President received this complaint and ask that it be turned over to the Streets and Alleys Chairman for review. The Committee Chair and the Public Works Supt. Met with Mr. Hartke on separate occasions and will provide the Board with their thoughts on how to remedy this complaint.
4. CONSIDER A REQUEST TO REPAIR COLLAPSED SIDEWALK: DAVE TIKSUS AT OAK AND WILLOW. This resident has brought to the Committee Chair's attention a collapsed portion of Village sidewalk adjacent to his property and has requested that the sidewalk be repaired. He has also offered to pay for 50% of the repair. Inspection of the walk indicates that the collapse is severe and should be repaired. More information will be provided at the meeting.
5. VILLAGE ENGINEER SENDS LETTER TO IDOT ABOUT RAPIDLY DETERIORATING CONDITION OF ROUTE #1 THROUGH TOWN. Please see the enclosed letter.
6. REPORT OF THE PUBLIC WORKS SUPT.

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

1. WATER DEPARTMENT MONTHLY REPORT is enclosed for your review.
2. SEWER DEPARTMENT MONTHLY REPORT is enclosed for your review.
3. WATER BILLING REGISTER for the months of March and April is enclosed for your review. This report was delayed due to the new water billing system.
4. WELL #5 UPDATE to be provided by the Village Engineer.
5. TWO WATERMAIN BREAKS OCCUR IN ONE WEEK IN DRIVEWAY AT 519 MAXWELL. This resident is not happy with the frequency of breaks near his property. This section

of main from Penfield to Indiana needs to be replaced since this is now the worst piece of main in town. We have tried to fit this replacement in the budget for several years and in the current budget this item was cut due to lack of funds. Public Works proposed to replace this section on their own at a cost of \$36,000 for materials and a boring subcontractor. This section must be completed next year unless we can find a way to do it this year.

6. COUNTRY LANE WATERMAIN RESTORATION UPDATE to be provided by the Village Engineer.

7. NIPC SCHEDULES HEARING ON VILLAGE'S FPA EXPANSION TO OFFNER ROAD FOR WEDNESDAY, JUNE 20<sup>TH</sup> AT 11:00 A.M. IN CHICAGO. Baxter and Woodman has asked if both the Administrator and the Village President attend the hearing to testify as to why the Village wishes to serve up to Offner Road since we are anticipating testimony from the Village of Crete against the proposal at the hearing. The Committee holding the hearing consists of elected officials from northeastern Illinois including a Will County Board member who has supported our projects in the past.

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

1. FIREMEN'S PARK/OSLAD GRANT UPDATE

2. WELTON STEDT PARK UPDATE. It appears that the property has been staked for grading of the site. The issue of compaction has not re-surfaced so it is unclear if the site is ready for development of the fields. The school district also wishes to meet with the Committee to discuss a joint maintenance shed on the property and Bob Howard has agreed to seek donations for the shed's construction. An update will be provided.

3. NANTUCKET COVE PARK UPDATE

4. SPRING NEWSLETTERS WERE MAILED ON MONDAY, MAY 21<sup>ST</sup>.

5. MUNICIPAL FACILITIES UPDATE. At the last Board meeting, it was agreed to continue on the same course of planning for a joint facility but a suggestion was made that the architects be asked to come to a future meeting and provide a briefing on the facilities plan adoption process which the old board went through last year. Is this something the new Trustees want to see? The Chair would like to ask this question one more time for clarification.

6. CONSIDER A PROPOSAL FROM BAXTER AND WOODMAN TO PROVIDE THE ENGINEERING SERVICES FOR THE MUNICIPAL FACILITIES SITE PLAN (TOPO, PLAT OF SURVEY, TOP OF FOUNDATION, UTILITY LOCATIONS, DRAINAGE, ETC.) FOR AN AMOUNT NOT TO EXCEED \$17,500. Please see the enclosed proposal. This is the next step in the planning process.

7. BEECHER LADYCATS SOFTBALL TEAM WINS CLASS A STATE TITLE. The village President and Chair of the Committee wish to formally recognize this achievement.

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

1. PZC HOLDS HEARING ON TWO NEW PROPOSALS BY MGM FOR AN EXPANDED PUD. Not much new was learned from the petitioner and the comments of the public remained consistent from the previous hearing. The PZC will deliberate and formulate a recommendation at its June 28<sup>th</sup> meeting.
2. PZC DISCUSSES ACCESSORY STRUCTURES. Much of the discussion was on whether to permit free floating slabs for garages in lieu of firm footings and foundations. Don Thomas stated that the other issues which arose about garages on separate lots was prohibited by the zoning ordinance but we have allowed some of these uses in the past due to ignorance of this provision and the small lot sizes in the older parts of town. Don will be drafting a proposal to cover all of the concerns expressed by the Board.
3. ONLY THREE \$2,000 FACADE GRANTS ARE AVAILABLE THIS FISCAL YEAR. These grants will be considered on a first-come, first served basis so applications need to be submitted as soon as possible.
4. CONSIDER A MOTION OF CONDEMNATION: WEHMHOEFFER HARDWARE BUILDING ON GOULD STREET. Bob Tully requested an extension to this Board meeting so that he could attempt to acquire the building. We will learn at the meeting whether he purchased the building. Also, an illegal open well was discovered by the Public Works Supt. being used by the occupants of the building. This is also of serious concern since this well could contaminate the groundwater supply if the exposed well siphons in leachate of contaminants.
5. CONSIDER A MOTION OF CONDEMNATION: BARN AT 1202 DIXIE HIGHWAY (LOITZ). Several extensions have been granted to this property owner for the repairs but the repairs have never been completed. The deadline has passed and the Village Board needs consider further action. The deadline was May 15th.

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

1. RESULTS OF INTERGOVERNMENTAL COMMITTEE MEETING held last week will be reported on at the meeting.
2. REQUEST FOR CLOSED SESSION TO DISCUSS PERSONNEL: ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT COMMITTEE MEETS TO DISCUSS THE FUTURE OF MARCY MEYER'S POSITION. The results of this meeting will be discussed with the Board in an executive session.
3. CONSIDER JULY MEETING DATES FOR THE VILLAGE BOARD. It has come to our attention that there may be quorum trouble on certain dates in July and since the MGM proposal will come up for a vote in July it is imperative to have as many Board members present as possible. The regular meeting dates are July 10<sup>th</sup> and July 24<sup>th</sup>. A suggestion was made that we cancel both of these

meetings and hold one regular meeting on Tuesday, July 17<sup>th</sup> to pay bills, handle MGM, and have Committee reports.

4. CONSIDER A STRATEGIC PLANNING PROCESS AND RESOLUTION OF GOALS AND OBJECTIVES FOR THE VILLAGE TO PURSUE. In 1998, an intergovernmental committee met on three consecutive evenings and drafted a strategic plan for the Beecher community to be accomplished by the year 2005. This plan called for Beecher to plan for a population of 6,000 by 2005 with homes having a minimum value of \$150,000. There also seemed to be support for adult communities and senior-assisted housing units. This plan was coordinated by Chuck Eckenstahler, the Village Planner at that time.

In 2004, the Village Board met on two evenings to discuss more specific goals and objectives for the Village government. A five year plan was created, which stated many goals for the Village to achieve by 2009. Many of these goals and policies were put into place with Board support and this five year plan technically has two more years to go. As a result of this strategic plan, the Village Board adopted the 10/8/6/4 compensation plan, conducted a municipal facilities study, created a part-time economic development position (which was later eliminated), began regular intergovernmental committee meetings, increased staffing, replaced watermains, slip lined aging sewer lines, committed to beautification efforts, adopted a strategy of increasing sewer plant and well pumping capacity without raising rates, established a park improvement fund, raised tap-in fees, and created a web site all as a result of this strategic plan. This plan was drafted using the Village Administrator as the coordinator, and proposals were submitted by the Department Heads and Board members for discussion, and was the measuring stick for all succeeding capital improvement plans and operating budgets.

There is a need to pursue some type of new strategic plan. Above are two examples of a very global strategic plan with all taxing bodies involved and the other a very specific plan drafted by the Village Board. Staff believes there should be two plans: one for the Beecher community as a whole and one specifically for Village government to pursue which does not conflict with the community plan. How should this be accomplished? Do we coordinate this effort ourselves or do we seek outside help? Who would facilitate the drafting of the community plan? If the Village takes the lead, the other taxing bodies may be leery of the process. There is no need for a decision on this matter at this meeting but some thought-provoking discussion should occur as to where we should be headed as a new Village Board. The various committees and employees of the Village need direction and without this direction the Village could become reactionary lacking a vision for the future.

#### **H. OLD BUSINESS/NEW BUSINESS**