

**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  
JULY 13, 2009 -- 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, Szymanski, Gardner, Kuhlman and Wehling.

**ABSENT:** None.

**STAFF PRESENT:** Clerk Janett Conner, Administrator Robert Barber, Corporal Jeff Dopke, Treasurer Nelson Collins, Public Works Superintendent Harold "Bud" Cowger, Ray Koenig from Baxter & Woodman and Economic Development Coordinator Marcy Meyer.

**GUESTS:** Terry Gatlin from the Beecher Herald, Bill Byrns from the Daily Journal, Kim Koutsky, Kevin Bouchard and Jim Maciejewski.

President Lohmann asked for consideration of the minutes of the June 22, 2009 Board meeting. Trustee Szymanski made a motion to approve the minutes as written. Trustee Ahrendt seconded the motion.

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

**NAYS:** (0) None.

Motion Carried.

**CLERK'S REPORT:** 1) A report on income received since the last meeting was provided. 2) Bills were presented for the Beecher Fourth of July Commission. Trustee Szymanski made a motion to approve the list of bills totalling \$88,460.47 as listed on the Clerk's Report. Trustee Ahrendt seconded the motion.

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

**NAYS:** (0) None.

Motion Carried.

3) Trustee Cleary made a motion to pay a bill to Walter Lagestee of Walt's Foods in the amount of \$25,825.99 for reimbursement of first quarter sales tax as listed on the Clerk's report. Trustee Szymanski seconded the motion.

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

NAYS: (0) None.

Motion Carried.

4) Clerk Conner announced that the Illinois Municipal League Conference is scheduled for September 24-26, 2009.

5) It was the consensus of the Board to again hold an Employee/Volunteer dinner in 2009. President Lohmann asked that the Census Committee and Ehlers Bequest Committee members be added to the guest list. Trustee Gardner suggested that the Employee/Volunteer Committee contact the chairmen of the respective committees to be certain that all necessary committee members are included on the guest list. President Lohmann plans to include Gwen Dean and recognize her work on ESDA. Dr. McKay will also be added because of his work put into Firemen's Park and animal control services. The Board asked to review a copy of the invite list before mailing invitations.

The following three agenda items were discussed out of order:

Economic Development Coordinator Marcy Meyer reported on her meeting with the Gould Street/Reed Street old downtown business owners. Discussions at the meeting included; location of the old downtown area, lack of traffic to the area, the need to improve the look of the area, the desire for a park, possibly holding an Octoberfest, wanting to keep the Village Hall downtown, a TIF district, signage on Route #1 directing people to historic downtown, in addition to other suggestions. The Village could come up with a list of inexpensive things that could be done to help the historic downtown district, like reduction of business license fees, etc. Ms. Meyer will meet with the downtown business owners again after they have a chance to hold their own meeting to better determine what they want. Ms. Meyer also commented about commuter rail and how that could help improve the area.

Economic Development Coordinator Meyer reported that Washington Township seems to be the only taxing body interested in getting involved with doing a community newsletter. Concerns were discussed at a meeting between Village and Township representatives as to how the newsletter would work. Ms. Meyer explained the benefits and problems of a community newsletter. The Board discussed options of doing the newsletter together with Washington Township or us selling ads for both, but Washington Township and the Village doing separate newsletters. Potential problems with Township residents getting a newsletter for the Village was also discussed. Ms. Meyer will attend the next Washington Township Board meeting to find out what the Township wants to do.

Economic Development Coordinator Meyer provided a report on the Business Expo scheduled for August 1<sup>st</sup>. The booth layout was presented. Thirteen exhibitors are currently signed up. President Lohmann asked Trustees to sign up to work in the Village booth. The theme for the Village's booth is the Census 2010.

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

**TREASURER'S REPORT:** A copy of the Treasurer's report was provided to the Board for review and the Treasurer was present to answer questions. A detailed report of the Fourth of July festival operations was provided, reflecting that the Commission was approximately 16% down from last year's totals.

A list of bills totalling \$122,176.82 to be paid was available for review. A summary of the list of bills was provided. Trustee Cleary made a motion to approve payment of the list of bills as presented. Trustee Gardner seconded the motion.

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

NAYS: (0) None.

ABSTAIN: (1) Trustee Szymanski.

Motion Carried.

According to Administrator Barber, the state capital bill was signed . The Village is slated to get \$125,000 for general infrastructure, according to the bill, at a date not yet determined.

## **B. PUBLIC SAFETY COMMITTEE**

The Police Department monthly report was provided for review.

Public Works Superintendent Cowger reported that he is spraying for mosquitoes once per week.

Trustee Kuhlman reported that the Village budgeted for three video cameras. The Police Department would like to get two video cameras and one lydar camera instead. Corporal Dopke explained the desire to change, explaining that it would not exceed the budgeted amount. There were no objections from the Board.

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

Trustee Szymanski reported that he was surprised that people still attended the parade and were at Firemen's Park in the pouring rain on the Fourth of July, and was really happy with the support. A whole new band lineup is being considered for next year. Trustee Szymanski thanked the Commission members, Board members and those who attended the festival.

Bid specifications for the Church Road resurfacing project from the Beecher Junior High east to South Park Avenue were presented. The Village should get at least seven to ten additional years out of the road by doing this resurfacing. Ray Koenig of Baxter and Woodman explained what would be done to the road. Mr. Koenig said the project should be done in October if the Village wants to get it done this year. Discussion also followed about adding the stoning of shoulders, engineering and soil borings to cost estimates of the job. Much discussion followed. Trustee Szymanski made a motion to approve bid specifications for the Church Road resurfacing from Beecher Junior High east to South Park Avenue. Trustee Gardner seconded the motion.

AYES: (5) Trustees Ahrendt, Szymanski, Gardner, Kuhlman and Wehling.  
NAYS: (1) Trustee Cleary.  
Motion Carried.

The Board considered a crack sealing program for 2009. Trustee Szymanski felt that Church Road improvements may have to be delayed until next year because of cash flow problems, so the Village should go ahead and get crack sealing completed. Administrator Barber suggested sending a letter to Church Road residents so they know road improvements are to be delayed since they were promised repairs would be done this year. Trustee Szymanski made a motion to approve the crack sealing program for 2009 at a price not to exceed \$19,900, to be completed in the month of October, 2009. Trustee Cleary seconded the motion.

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

An update was provided on the traffic signal at Chestnut and Dixie Highway. Illinois Department of Transportation (IDOT) delays will be costing the Village an additional \$60,000 on this project. Trustee Szymanski made a motion approving the additional \$13,573 for the Village's share of the cost of the project for the traffic signal at Chestnut and Dixie Highway. Trustee Cleary seconded the motion.

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

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

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

The water billing register for the months of May and June were provided in the packet for review.

An update was provided on the watermain replacement project.

The Illinois Environmental Protection Agency (IEPA) has conducted an inspection of the Village's water system records and equipment, as is customary every three years. Superintendent Cowger is happy with the results of the inspection.

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

The Board considered authorizing payment from the Bond Redemption Account for the following list of bills:

Baxter and Woodman	Staking of Property	\$ 2,522.50
Baxter and Woodman	Progress payment for design of watermain replacement project	11,475.00

Baxter and Woodman	ARRA loan application progress payment	2,082.43
Service Sanitation	Port-a-john rental	193.28
Area Erectors	Payment #1	6,523.20
Witech Excavating	Payment #1	15,426.00
Ryan Fire Protection	Payment #1	1,598.85
C+M Pipe	Manhole grates	129.25
C+M Pipe	Manhole risers and rings	134.30
C+M Pipe	Raise existing manhole three feet	975.00

Trustee Wehling noted that we do have waivers for the first four items on the list after the Baxter & Woodman bills. Trustee Wehling went through each bill. All waivers will be obtained before checks are sent out. Trustee Wehling made a motion to approve payment of bills from the Bond Redemption Account in the amount of \$14,059.81. Trustee Szymanski seconded the motion.

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

NAYS: (0) None.

Motion Carried.

The Board considered a change order in an amount not to exceed \$9,469.75 for underground plumbing in the unfinished rooms of the Public Works facility. Jim Maciejewski from JMA Architects was present to answer questions. Trustee Cleary voiced his opposition to spending the money for this. Trustee Wehling made a motion to approve the change order in an amount not to exceed \$9,469.75 as stated above. Trustee Gardner seconded the motion.

AYES: (4) Trustees Szymanski, Gardner, Wehling and President Lohmann.

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

Motion Carried.

Ehlers Memorial Committee Chair Wehling reported that the committee is scheduled to meet before the end of July.

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

Ray Koenig from Baxter and Woodman reported on the following items:

a. Nantucket Cove (Montalbano). The letter of credit for this project expires on August 26, 2009 and the Village Attorney has already been instructed to draw for failure to complete the subdivision if work was not completed by July 6th. The work is not complete. The Village is holding \$516,369.10 for final surface and punch list items. There also is an agreement with the Washington Township Highway Commissioner that Eagle Lake Road be resurfaced at an estimated cost of \$125,219 but it is unclear if the amount of money retained is sufficient to fulfill that requirement. It is believed that the bank plans to take over the project as construction manager to make the improvements.

b. The Preserve at Cardinal Creek (MGM). This letter of credit expires on April 27, 2010 and the Board gave MGM until August 1<sup>st</sup> to complete the improvements prior to a full draw. Mr. Koenig

reported that it looks like MGM will be the same situation as Montalbano, and will force the banks hand.

c. Hunter's Chase West's final surface was installed the week of June 29<sup>th</sup>. Mr. Koenig still needs to check underground utilities, remove silt fencing, etc.

d. Hunter's Chase Original. The developer expressed a willingness to repair some of the failed curbs in the original phase which have settled. All of the curbs have been inspected and a replacement list has been developed. Mr. Koenig looked at curb repairs that had been requested to be done. About 50% that were requested by residents actually needed to be done.

e. Hunter's Chase East. Street lights are in and are fully operational.

f. Sunset Cove Boulevard. The Attorney is in the process of pulling the \$15,000 letter of credit for final grade and landscaping so that some of this work can be completed for the homeowners. The Village needs to get money in the bank and have a landscaper look at the properties to get a price to get sodding done.

g. Prairie Crossings South (Sova, Landmark). Final surface was installed the week of June 22<sup>nd</sup>. Punch list items remain before the Village releases the letter of credit.

h. Prairie Crossings South Retention Pond (Igoe). The condition of this pond is starting to slip again. The banks have not been maintained and the silt fences are damaged. The trough is full of clay and weeds are beginning to sprout. Mr. Igoe needs to address the condition of this pond once again. The lots to the west are eroding according to Mr. Koenig. Some silt is in the trough. Mr. Igoe is expected to be out to Beecher this week and will fix any silt fence and address the Village's concerns. The grass didn't take from last year because of the clay.

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

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

The Economic Development Coordinator's monthly report was provided in the packet for review.

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

The next meeting for the Complete Count Committee for Census 2010 will be held on August 13<sup>th</sup>. Promotional items to be used at the August 1<sup>st</sup> Business Expo have not yet been received.

Results were provided of the CMAP Go To 2040 planning meeting. Approximately 30 people were in attendance. Some of the concerns expressed were regarding commuting, density, open space, etc.

Another CMAP meeting was held earlier the day of the Board meeting. A summary of forecasts for the year 2040 was discussed.

## **H. NEW BUSINESS**

Administrator Barber suggested the cancellation of the July 27<sup>th</sup> Board meeting due to a lack of agenda items. Trustee Gardner made a motion to cancel the July 27<sup>th</sup> Board meeting. Trustee Ahrendt seconded the motion.

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

NAYS: (0) None.

Motion Carried.

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

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

NAYS: (0) None.

Motion Carried.

Meeting adjourned at 8:44 p.m.

Respectfully submitted by:

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Janett Conner  
Village Clerk