

AC

**MINUTES OF A SPECIAL MEETING OF THE PRESIDENT  
& BOARD OF TRUSTEES OF THE VILLAGE OF BEECHER  
HELD AT THE WASHINGTON TOWNSHIP CENTER,  
30200 TOWN CENTER DRIVE, BEECHER, ILLINOIS  
AUGUST 29, 2012 -- 7:00 P.M.**

**JOINT TAXING BODY MEETING**

All present joined in the Pledge to the Flag.

The meeting was called to order.

**ROLL CALL:**

PRESENT: President Lohmann and Trustees Cleary, Ahrendt, Szymanski, Kypuros, Kuhlman and Wehling.

ABSENT: None.

Other taxing bodies called roll.

**STAFF & OTHERS PRESENT:** Clerk Janett Conner, Administrator Robert Barber, Mike Mach, Debbie VonAlven, Tom Stluka, Dan Strick, Paul Goldrick, Tammy Roskamp, Drew Beck, Debbie Mach, Harold Karstensen, Bob Howard, Pat Peters, Tom Brislane, Jerry Meyer, Marge Cook, Dave Lagesse, George Schuitema, Kevin Bouchard, Phil Serviss, Althea Machtemes, Shirley Biery, Don Thomas, Cory Singer, Susan Shea, Steve Schilke and Nelson Collins.

A Joint Taxing Body meeting was held to share information relating to each taxing body. The Village, Planning and Zoning Commission, School District, Fire District, Library District, Township and Community Hall Building Board had representatives present.

Steve Schilke representing IDOT provided an update on the Phase 1 study process for the proposed Illiana Expressway. He explained the two corridors now under consideration. The routes are A3S2 and B3. The Village of Beecher is supporting the B3 Route and a resolution of support was provided in the packet for review. After the presentation, there were questions asked by taxing body members including; the effect of truck traffic on Route 1 with an interchange at Route 1, reasons for the changes to the preferred route since earlier in the year, the impact on property values, sound mitigation, how the state will buy homes from people who are under water in their mortgages, why the state is proposing putting multiple expressways so close together, the difference in routes and traffic numbers, the cost to build the road, how many overpasses will there be over county roads and what happens if land is purchased but nothing ever gets built due to lack of funding.

Susan Shea, Chief of Aeronautics for IDOT provided an update on the South Suburban Airport and the status of the FAA approval process. President Lohmann asked about an airport authority and stated that the Iron Ring Mayors should sit on the airport authority. He felt a development district is also needed. There were questions regarding the economic benefits of airports, the impact of lost tax revenue to the school district of land taken off the tax roles for the airport, the probability of the state purchasing Jim Bult's airport or airspace, needed repairs to Eagle Lake Road, runway configuration, other airports in the state and that no companies have committed to using the airport so far. There was also discussion on the economic impacts of the proposed South Suburban Airport and need for an eastern access road or this will hurt Beecher.

Bob Howard reported he received a phone call that a company wants to put solar panels on the Beecher Landfill and the need to look further into this.

President Lohmann said he feels the number one complaint in Beecher is high property taxes. He is working together with administration to balance the budget with no tax levy increase next year and asked if the other taxing bodies can try and cut costs and do the same. He also commented on previous tax rebates given to local businesses as incentives. Trustee Kypuros asked Village Board members how they felt about a 0% tax levy increase.

The next meeting of the Intergovernmental Committee is scheduled for January 30, 2013 at 7:00 p.m.

Trustee Szymanski made a motion to adjourn the meeting. Trustee Cleary seconded the motion.

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

NAYS: (0) None.

Motion Carried.

Meeting adjourned at 9:09 p.m.

Respectfully submitted by:

  
Janett Conner, Village Clerk