

**PUBLIC HEARING
NOVEMBER 24, 2008**

MINUTES OF THE PUBLIC HEARING OF THE PRESIDENT & BOARD OF TRUSTEES OF THE VILLAGE OF BEECHER, ILLINOIS HELD AT THE WASHINGTON TOWNSHIP CENTER, 30200 TOWN CENTER ROAD, BEECHER, ILLINOIS BEGINNING AT 7:53 P.M. ON NOVEMBER 24, 2008.

ROLL CALL:

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

ABSENT: None.

STAFF PRESENT: Clerk Janett Conner, Administrator Robert Barber, Chief Jeffrey Weissgerber, Public Works Superintendent Harold "Bud" Cowger, Economic Development Coordinator Marcy Meyer and Treasurer Nelson Collins.

GUESTS: Terry Gatlin from the Beecher Herald, Bill Byrns from The Daily Journal, Kim and Betty Koutsky, Tim Smith, Conrad Sweet, Sue Teske, Katrina Deutsche, Andrew Ahrendt, Bob Howard, Tom Stluka, Kevin Bouchard, Bobbie Peterson, Alan Beseke, Mike Smetana, George Schuitema, Fred Postma and Paul Caldwell.

Trustee Cleary made a motion to open the public hearing at 7:53 p.m. Trustee Szymanski seconded the motion.

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

NAYS: (0) None.

Motion Carried.

A public hearing was held to consider a property tax levy for 2008 collectible in 2009. Administrator Barber provided an overview of the levy. Questions were asked from the Board and the audience. Trustees Szymanski and Cleary provided input and asked questions. Kim Koutsky asked about why the EAV increased as much as it did in a slow growth period. The 18-month lag in collection was explained.

When there were no further questions or comments, President Lohmann asked for a motion to close the public hearing. Trustee Szymanski made a motion to close the hearing at 8:00 p.m. Trustee Ahrendt seconded the motion.

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

NAYS: (0) None.

Motion Carried.

Respectfully submitted by:

Janett Conner, Village Clerk