



VILLAGE OF BEECHER

INCORPORATED 1883

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SPECIAL MEETING OF THE PRESIDENT AND BOARD OF TRUSTEES
AN MEMBERS OF THE BEECHER PLANNING AND ZONING COMMISSION (INVITED)
MONDAY, JANUARY 28, 2013 AT 7:00 P.M.
WASHINGTON TOWNSHIP CENTER
30200 TOWN CENTER ROAD
BEECHER, ILLINOIS

NOTE: THIS IS A MEETING OF THE BEECHER VILLAGE BOARD. ALTHOUGH PZC MEMBERS ARE INVITED TO ATTEND AND PARTICIPATE, IT IS NOT AN OFFICIAL MEETING OF THE PZC AND THEY ARE GUESTS IN THE AUDIENCE OF AN OPEN MEETING. THEREFORE, THERE IS NEED FOR ONLY ONE SET OF MINUTES TO BE TAKEN BY THE VILLAGE CLERK.

I. PLEDGE TO THE FLAG

II. ROLL CALL

III. WORKSHOP ITEM: CONSIDER AN ORDINANCE AMENDING THE ZONING CODE PERTAINING TO SPECIAL USES FOR DIGITAL SIGNS. At the last Village Board meeting, the ordinance as recommended by the PZC was tabled so that a joint workshop between the PZC and the Village Board could be held to discuss a concern that density is not addressed in the proposed ordinance. Concerns were expressed that too many digital signs could obtain special use permits especially along Dixie Highway. The minutes of that meeting are enclosed for your review, along with the proposed ordinance and back-up material which was used to support the language in the proposed ordinance. At the end of the packet is our current zoning ordinance pertaining to signs.

Much time has been spent trying to satisfy all parties involved in this process. A question is also raised as to why the PZC cannot amend the zoning ordinance to include "aesthetics" as a criteria for judging special uses. The Village Attorney has an issue with this term since it cannot be quantified. He recommends that measurable criteria be used so that it can be legally defensible. The Village Attonrey will be at the workshop to assist the Village in drafting any amendments to our current proposal from the PZC. I have also asked him to lead the discussion since he is the "scribe" for all of the past proposed amendments which have lead us to this workshop.

It is hoped that this workshop will result in an ordinance amendment that parties can successfully use in evaluating special use permit requests for digital signs. I believe we are getting close to an acceptable ordinance. Perhaps this last meeting will produce an agreeable amendment.

Depending on the degree of amendment to what has been proposed, the Attorney will have to opine as to whether an additional public hearing will be necessary. After two hearings on this ordinance no member of the public has questioned or commented on the ordinance.

AFTER THIS PORTION OF THE WORKSHOP IS ENDED THE PZC MEMBERS ARE FREE TO LEAVE. THE NEXT MEETING OF THE PZC HAS BEEN SCHEDULED FOR THURSDAY, FEBRUARY 28TH AT 7:00 P.M.