

**MINUTES OF THE REGULAR MEETING OF THE PRESIDENT  
& BOARD OF TRUSTEES OF THE VILLAGE OF BEECHER  
HELD AT THE BEECHER VILLAGE HALL,  
625 DIXIE HIGHWAY, BEECHER, ILLINOIS  
MARCH 13, 2017 -- 7:00 P.M.**

All present joined in the Pledge to the Flag.

President Szymanski called the meeting to order.

**ROLL CALL**

**PRESENT:** President Szymanski and Trustees Ahrendt, Kypuros, Wehling, Kuhlman, Basile and Meyer.

**ABSENT:** None.

**STAFF PRESENT:** Deputy Clerk Patty Meyer, Administrator Robert Barber, Chief Jeffrey Weissgerber, Treasurer Lynne Orr and Superintendent of Public Works Bud Cowger.

**GUEST:** George Schuitema, Chris Snedeker and Stacy Mazurek.

President Szymanski asked for consideration of the minutes of the February 23, 2017 Board meeting. Trustee Wehling made a motion to approve the minutes as written. Trustee Basile seconded the motion.

**AYES:** (6) Trustees Ahrendt, Kypuros, Wehling, Kuhlman, Basile and Meyer.

**NAYS:** (0) None.

Motion Carried.

**REPORTS OF VILLAGE COMMISSIONS**

Trustee Ahrendt reported on the Beautification Commission. The next meeting is scheduled for March 14<sup>th</sup> at 7 p.m. at the Village Hall.

Trustee Kuhlman reported on the Fourth of July Commission. The raffle car bidding process has begun. The new car raffle stand has been constructed.

Trustee Kypuros reported that the Youth Commission will be hosting the Mom/Son Dance on April 1<sup>st</sup>. Those participating need to register on-line.

Trustee Basile reported on the Ribbon of Hope Commission. The next meeting is scheduled for April 6<sup>th</sup> at 5:30 p.m. at the Village Hall.

Trustee Wehling reported that the Historic Preservation Commission meets the third Tuesday of every month. Trustee Wehling provided a copy of a Depot Museum billboard drawing and bid from Watseka Signs. The chalkboard look was used and there will be plexiglass to protect messages posted inside. Money has been allocated for this project.

Beecher Public Works has provided photos to the Historic Preservation Commission of display cases that are being stored in the Public Works building. Members of the Historical Society will be asked to view them to see if they could utilize them for showcasing items at the Museum.

## **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.

Trustee Meyer made a motion to approve the Treasurer's Report and the Report of Financial Activity in the prior month. Trustee Basile seconded the motion.

AYES: (6) Trustees Ahrendt, Kypuros, Wehling, Kuhlman, Basile and Meyer.

NAYS: (0) None.

Motion Carried.

Variance reports for the preceding month were provided in the packet for review.

A list of bills to be paid totalling \$150,092.56 was available for review. A summary of the list of bills was provided. A bill was added for Watseka Signs in the amount of \$850, which is the 50% deposit required for the Depot Museum billboard to be ordered. Trustee Meyer made a motion to approve payment of the list of bills for a total amount of \$150,942.56 to include the bill from Watseka Signs. Trustee Kypuros seconded the motion.

AYES: (6) Trustees Ahrendt, Kypuros, Wehling, Kuhlman, Basile and Meyer.

NAYS: (0) None.

Motion Carried.

The Board considered a bid award for the Gould Street Boardwalk. Five bids were received and opened. The bid form sheet and copies of the five bids were provided in the packet for review. The difference in the lowest two bids was discussed.

Trustee Wehling expressed concerns about the cost and regarding the maintenance of the wooden boardwalk, and felt the Quiet Zone would better benefit the Gould Street businesses.

Trustee Meyer stated that she likes the boardwalk idea and promises have been made to invest in the old downtown area.

Trustee Ahrendt stated that she would like to see commitments from the Gould Street property owners.

Trustee Kypuros reported that construction is occurring in some of the vacant buildings on Gould Street. The main reason for the boardwalk project is safety. Railings are needed and stairs need to be brought up to Village code. Sidewalks currently have trip hazards. The Board passed a budget of \$50,000 for this project last year.

Trustee Basile felt that boardwalk would make the area more attractive and bring people there.

Trustee Kuhlman stated that it doesn't appear that work is being done in the old hardware building. He felt that a commitment is needed from building owners.

President Szymanski stated that he has contacted the property owner of one of the vacant buildings to address the front of the building. He feels the area is showing improvement.

Trustee Ahrendt stated that construction of a boardwalk should wait until buildings are close to completion, so boardwalk wouldn't get damaged during construction. President Szymanski stated that if a contractor damaged the boardwalk they would be required to fix it.

Trustee Basile made a motion to award bid for construction of the Gould Street boardwalk to T & K Construction, for an amount of \$42,900.00 which would include a two year warranty on labor only. Trustee Meyer seconded the motion.

AYES: (2) Trustees Basile and Meyer.

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

ABSTAIN: (1) Trustee Kypuros.

Motion failed.

The matter was referred back to Committee.

### **OLD BUSINESS**

Trustee Ahrendt expressed concerns about the proposed business sign for Penfield Street and Dixie Highway, and that perhaps a community sign could represent more than just one business. This matter was referred to the Economic Development Committee.

### **NEW BUSINESS**

President Szymanski provided a copy of a letter to the Board that was recently sent to the Illinois Department of Transportation (IDOT) regarding the need for lighting on Route #1 where it merges with Route #394.

President Szymanski reported on the South Suburban Airport. The state sent out requests for information, looking for partnerships for the airport.

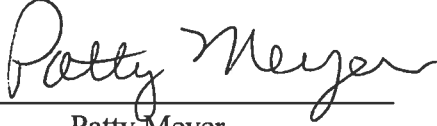
President Szymanski and Administrator Barber will be attending Lobby Days in Springfield this week, and they plan to meet with the IDOT contact while in Springfield.

There being no further business, President Szymanski asked for a motion to adjourn. Trustee

Kypuros made a motion to adjourn the meeting. Trustee Wehling seconded the motion.  
AYES: (6) Trustees Ahrendt, Kypuros, Wehling, Kuhlman, Basile and Meyer.  
NAYS: (0) None.  
Motion Carried.

Meeting adjourned at 7:35 p.m.

Respectfully submitted by:

A handwritten signature in cursive script that reads "Patty Meyer". The signature is written in black ink and is positioned above a horizontal line.

Patty Meyer  
Deputy Village Clerk