

**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
JULY 24, 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 Basile, Meyer, Kraus, Mazurek, Kypuros and Wehling.

ABSENT: None.

STAFF PRESENT: Deputy Clerk Patty Meyer, Administrator Robert Barber, Superintendent of Public Works Bud Cowger and Chief of Police Jeff Weissgerber.

GUESTS: None.

President Szymanski asked for consideration of the minutes of the July 10, 2017 Board meeting. Trustee Meyer made a motion to approve the minutes as written. Trustee Basile seconded the motion.

AYES: (6) Trustees Basile, Meyer, Kraus, Mazurek, Kypuros and Wehling.

NAYS: (0) None.

Motion Carried.

CLERKS'S REPORT

There were no objections from the Board to a request from the Knights of Columbus to hold their 49th Annual Intellectual Disabilities (ID) Fund Drive in Beecher on September 15th-17th.

A. FINANCE AND ADMINISTRATION COMMITTEE

Trustee Basile provided a report to the Board on why there was a difference of \$184,000 from last month to the same month last year in General Fund cash flows. This included payment of reserves for the Gould Street boardwalk, slower real estate and income tax payments, missing bond payment, and squad car purchase. Trustee Kypuros commented that in 2014/2015 reserves were used for the new Village Hall, but that all of those funds were recovered last year. There is still over \$50,000 which couldn't be explained but will continue to be monitored.

Trustee Basile reported that the Illinois Municipal League has issued new projections of state income tax revenues based on the newly adopted budget. The Village is projected to lose about \$6 per capita in projected income tax next year but will gain about \$2 per capita in use tax. This is a result of people leaving the State of Illinois. Report was provided in the packet for review.

Trustee Basile provided a report on the status of the electrical aggregation plan. Three bids were opened and the result is that the ComEd market price is now comparable. A copy of the report was provided in the packet for review.

Trustee Basile reported that the Illinois Municipal Insurance Cooperative pool currently has \$1,107,178 in reserves with \$142,980 of this amount being totally unrestricted. The founding members are coming up with a formula on how to fairly distribute these unrestricted funds. A chart was provided in the packet for review.

B. PUBLIC BUILDINGS AND PROPERTIES, PARKS AND RECREATION COMMITTEE

Trustee Wehling stated that the Committee still needs to review the newest draft of park rules from the Attorney before presenting it to the Board.

The Village received appraisals on all buildings for insurance coverage. A report was provided in the packet for review.

C. PLANNING, BUILDING AND ZONING COMMITTEE

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

Trustee Mazurek stated that the Planning and Zoning Commission (PZC) will meet on July 27th at 7 p.m. to hold a public hearing on a special use permit for a second accessory structure at 607 Penfield Street.

D. PUBLIC SAFETY COMMITTEE

The Board considered an Ordinance permitting non-highway vehicles on Village streets. A draft of the Ordinance was provided for review. Chief Weissgerber stated one change needs to be made to Section B, Item #3, to read "...and the speed limit of the highway to be crossed is forty (40) miles per hour or less at the place of crossing." Chief Weissgerber explained the registration process, which will include an application for permit, equipment checklist, and statement of ownership for non-titled vehicles. The Ordinance will not cover ATVs. Trustee Kypuros questioned penalties for offenses and the registration fee.

ORDINANCE #1271 - An Ordinance permitting non-highway vehicles on Village streets, with one change to Ordinance draft, Section B, Item #3, "and the speed limit of the highway to be crossed is forty (40) miles per hour or less at place of crossing." Ordinance will be effective August 1, 2017. Trustee Kraus made a motion to approve Ordinance #1271. Trustee Meyer seconded the motion.

AYES: (6) Trustees Basile, Meyer, Kraus, Mazurek, Kypuros and Wehling.

NAYS: (0) None.

Motion Carried.

President Szymanski and staff have been working on an ordinance which will require certain levels of maintenance for wet bottom and dry basin ponds. There currently is no guidance for owners of ponds as to proper maintenance which makes it difficult for Code Enforcement. The recent heavy rains has caused some ponds to get flushed out.

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

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

Superintendent Cowger stated that mosquito abatement will be on-going until the end of September.

E. PUBLIC WORKS COMMITTEE

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

The water billing register including the pumped to billed ratio was provided. The pumped to billed ratio is currently at 73.49% compared to 80.59% for the same period last year. Superintendent Cowger explained that water was used during the Penfield watermain construction and flushing of hydrants. He is working with the Fire Department to continue improving communication about use of hydrants.

Superintendent Cowger stated that leak detection to identify leaks in the water system is planned for the coming month. Next week leak detection will occur in Prairie Crossings South. Detection is on-going in Nantucket Cove Subdivision.

A Penfield Street watermain replacement update was provided. All of the main has been installed and converting of the water services to the new main will be done soon. Superintendent Cowger stated that some streets will be closed for service tie-ins. Work should be completed by Labor Day. Trustee Kypuros stated that a three-year patch will be put in on the one side of the road that has been torn up, and then in the future the STP project will include the entire road and bridge to be done. President Szymanski reported that silk screening was put under the drain grates in order to keep debris and rocks out, which causes slower water drainage.

Curb and sidewalk repair should begin this week by Perino Brothers. Sidewalk repair will be dependent upon money left over after curbs are completed.

Superintendent Cowger provided an update of mudjacking of handicapped ramps.

The Illinois Environmental Protection Agency (IEPA) conducted a MS4 stormwater management permit inspection. Superintendent Cowger explained some of the testing procedures. In the next five years alternatives to road salt will have to be identified since chloride is becoming an issue in streams.

The Village is now required by law every year to discuss stormwater management during a public meeting. The minutes then have to be submitted to the IEPA. The Village also has a stormwater management page on the website and publishes stormwater management articles in the Village newsletter as part of the MS4 process. Material was provided in the packet for review. The Board conducted a public informational session during tonight's Board meeting, and there were no comments from the public.

A Chestnut/Willow streetlight update was provided. Public Works will put the poles up. ComEd will install two decorative pole lights on Chestnut since this is the only location with easements. The poles will be daisy-chained by a single wire and brought up to the transformer by a Village contractor for ComEd to connect the wiring. These will become Village lights.

Trustee Kypuros reported that Route #1 shoulder widening north and south of town is scheduled for August or September. Locate flags have been put up.

Trustee Kypuros stated that the Illinois Department of Transportation (IDOT) has reprogrammed the traffic signal at Chestnut and Dixie Highway in response to concerns raised by Trustee Basile about traffic from the west having to wait a long time for the light.

Trustee Kypuros made a motion authorizing the letting of bids on the wastewater treatment plant rehabilitation project. Trustee Wehling seconded the motion.

AYES: (6) Trustees Basile, Meyer, Kraus, Mazurek, Kypuros and Wehling.

NAYS: (0) None.

Motion Carried.

Trustee Kypuros reported that the wastewater treatment plant design is now 99% complete. The completion of improvements is expected in the 2019/2020 fiscal year and sewer rates may have to be raised \$1.00 per 1,000 gallons in the near future to pay for the new operating costs.

F. ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT AND COMMUNITY RELATIONS COMMITTEE

Trustee Basile provided an update on the Gould Street boardwalk. This project should begin by July 31st depending on weather. The railing has been delivered to the old Public Works building. T & K Construction will be coordinating directly with the business owners as they start the project.

Trustee Meyer stated that the Sesquicentennial Committee will begin discussions after the summer for the 2020 celebration.

Trustee Meyer provided a Facebook page update.

Trustee Meyer stated that President Szymanski drafted a letter to be sent to certain developers about senior housing projects in hopes of attracting some interest for a 50-100 unit project. The Village has a letter of commitment to sell land on the south side of Church Road, east of Trim Creek, which has been determined to be a viable location for such a project but there are other properties as well.

A Vietnam Veteran 50th anniversary commemoration is scheduled for November 9th at Prairie State College. The Village has been asked to be the lead contact in this effort to attract all Beecher veterans that served in the military from 1955 through 1975. The Amvets will be asked to help for this commemoration.

Trustee Meyer reminded the Board of the Lions Club Summerfest being held on Saturday, August 5th, from 9 a.m. to 9 p.m. in Firemen's Park. Trustee Basile mentioned that in addition to the food there will be a car show, herder dogs, PAKT demonstration, magic show, chainsaw carving demonstration, bingo, vendors, and many activities for the whole family.

ORDINANCE #1272 - An Ordinance amending the sunset for economic incentives for the old Historic Downtown District. The old Ordinance expired May 1, 2017. Trustee Meyer explained the incentives. Trustee Meyer made a motion to approve Ordinance #1272. Trustee Kypuros seconded the motion.

AYES: (5) Trustees Basile, Meyer, Mazurek, Kypuros and Wehling.

NAYS: (0) None.

ABSTAIN: (1) Trustee Kraus.

Motion Carried.

G. VILLAGE PRESIDENT'S REPORT

President Szymanski reported that the Princess Café will be holding a 40th anniversary celebration of the Dousias family ownership on Sunday, September 10th.

The strategic planning process will begin soon. An anonymous survey will be drafted to be taken by all Board members relating to finance, economic development, Public Works, public safety and parks and recreation. Strategic planning sessions will then be held to discuss the results.

H. OLD BUSINESS

Trustee Mazurek asked if there was an update on the school zone solar panel along Route #1 being blocked by tree branches. Additional trimming of branches was discussed.

Trustee Kypuros asked about the one page in packet regarding amendments to recreational vehicles parked in residential areas. Page was included in packet in error. Committee needs to meet again to discuss the matter.

Trustee Mazurek reported on the recent Beecher Youth Commission Movie in the Park. There were approximately 20-25 children in attendance. It rained very hard and the event was cancelled when lightning was present.

Administrator Barber reported that Beecher received 4-1/2" of rain Friday/Saturday of last week. Public Works responded and was on 24-hour call performing manual operation of the system due to electrical service problems. The Public Works Department was commended for their efforts after the heavy rains.

There being no further business, President Szymanski asked for a motion to adjourn. Trustee Wehling made a motion to adjourn the meeting. Trustee Kraus seconded the motion.

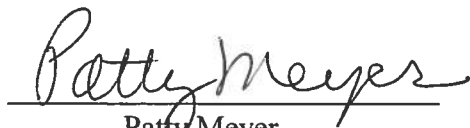
AYES: (6) Trustees Basile, Meyer, Kraus, Mazurek, Kypuros and Wehling.

NAYS: (0) None.

Motion Carried.

Meeting adjourned at 8:08 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