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**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
FEBRUARY 23, 2015 -- 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, Meyer, Kypuros, Kuhlman and Wehling.

ABSENT: Trustee Cleary.

STAFF PRESENT: Clerk Janett Conner, Administrator Robert Barber, Chief Jeffrey Weissgerber, Treasurer Kim Koutsky, Deputy Treasurer Nelson Collins and Superintendent of Public Works Bud Cowger.

GUEST: George Schuitema.

President Szymanski asked for consideration of the minutes of the January 26, 2015 and February 9, 2015 Board meetings. Trustee Ahrendt made a motion to approve the minutes as written. Trustee Meyer seconded the motion.

AYES: (5) Trustees Ahrendt, Meyer, Kypuros, Kuhlman and Wehling.

NAYS: (0) None.

Motion Carried.

CLERK'S REPORT: 1) A report on income received since the last meeting was provided.
2) Clerk Conner reminded the Board that dog tags are on sale, and the price will increase from \$10 to \$15 after March 13th.

A. FINANCE AND ADMINISTRATION COMMITTEE

Trustee Meyer reported that the Finance Committee budget workshop will be held on Saturday, February 28th at 7 a.m.

B. PUBLIC BUILDINGS AND PROPERTIES, PARKS AND RECREATION COMMITTEE

Trustee Wehling made a motion to move the March 9th Board meeting to the Beecher Depot, 620 Reed Street. At that meeting the Board will pay bills, tour the depot facility, and have an informal

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discussion with members of the Depot Museum Committee. Trustee Ahrendt seconded the motion.
AYES: (5) Trustees Ahrendt, Meyer, Kypuros, Kuhlman and Wehling.
NAYS: (0) None.
Motion Carried.

Trustee Wehling provided a report on the Park Use Coordination meeting held between all of the organizations that plan to use Firemen's Park this year. Topics discussed included park scheduling, usage, cleanup, mowing, Beecher Recreation storage shed, the Beecher Recreation fall schedule, concession stand and removing outfield fence once a month to get the field mowed. The Firemen's Park lights, scoreboard, restrooms and Welton Stedt Park were also discussed. Trustee Wehling felt it was a good meeting.

C. PLANNING, BUILDING AND ZONING COMMITTEE

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

Trustee Ahrendt provided a report on the Basil Bistro on Gould Street. At the last Planning and Zoning Commission meeting (PZC), Mr. Scarborough did not produce a site plan for the proposed dining porch so the PZC tabled the special use request. There is also a need to upgrade the water line into the building to service the restaurant.

Trustee Ahrendt provided a report on the Land Use Plan. Governor Rauner has placed this planning project on hold pending his review of the merits of the project. The Village had to suspend the project until the Illinois Department of Transportation (IDOT) gives the green light to proceed. Administrator Barber stated that he received a bill in the amount of \$6,000 from Teska for their planning services on this project.

DeJong Equipment wants to build another storage building in the rear of their property but after review it was discovered that the rear portion of the property is zoned residential. DeJong now intends to apply for rezoning of the parcel from R-1 to B-3 so that the building can be built.

Trustee Ahrendt requested that an ordinance concerning pigs as pets be tabled at this time and considered when the full Board is present.

The Board considered authorizing the use of \$4,950 in Nantucket Cove Escrow funds for M.E. Simpson for leak detection of service lines in vacant lots. Trustee Kypuros asked when we plan to do this leak detection. Superintendent Cowger said he would like to do it when the weather is better. Trustee Kypuros would like M.E. Simpson to be called in only once Public Works does their own trouble shooting and see if they find anything. The consensus of the Board agreed. Trustee Ahrendt made a motion to authorize the use of \$4,950 in Nantucket Cove Escrow funds for M.E. Simpson for leak detection of service lines in vacant lots. Trustee Wehling seconded the motion.

AYES: (5) Trustees Ahrendt, Meyer, Kypuros, Kuhlman and Wehling.
NAYS: (0) None.
Motion Carried.

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D. PUBLIC SAFETY COMMITTEE

The Police Department monthly report was provided for review.

The Police Department annual report was provided to the Board for review. Chief Weissgerber provided a summary of the report.

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

Chief Weissgerber provided a summary of the Code Enforcement annual report.

E. PUBLIC WORKS COMMITTEE

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

Superintendent Cowger provided the Public Works annual report to the Board. There were less watermain breaks last year. Superintendent Cowger reported on the meter replacement program. IPEARL meters are being installed to replace existing PMM meters.

Superintendent Cowger reported on the leak detection and water loss school that he and Utility Billing Technician Donna Rooney attended. Some additional reporting will be required with this program. Superintendent Cowger will be working with Donna Rooney on getting this information into the computer program.

Trustee Kypuros provided a report on the plan for dredging Lange's dry basin detention pond. The Committee recommended to offer Lange another winter for storage in the old garage annex in lieu of digging out the pond and hauling the material away. Public Works would then restore the bottom of the pond and mow around the edges.

A meter replacement program update was provided. The Committee has met and agreed to replace 180 meters this year, wanting to get all meters in town replaced with IPEARLS, which have no moving parts.

Trustee Kypuros reported on the Penfield Street rehabilitation and watermain replacement. A meeting was held with the engineers, and it was decided that we would accelerate the project on Penfield, with perhaps a Labor Day 2015 start date. Engineers are working hard to make deadlines and get this done.

F. ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT AND COMMUNITY RELATIONS COMMITTEE

Trustee Meyer reported that she met with Emily from Constituent Outreach Consultants to discuss the new platform being introduced for the Village smartphone app. The new platform should be much more functional. There are issues with the notifications on the current program. Trustee Meyer explained how the look of the app will change and how the buttons will work. The business directory will need to be redone. The changeover should occur in March. There may be the capability of linking the app to Nixle for notifications.

Board members were asked for their input for what they would like to see in the spring newsletter.

Staff is working on a new communications policy for the flow of information to residents using several different forms of message delivery.

G. VILLAGE PRESIDENT'S REPORT

President Szymanski provided a report on the Inland Bank properties. There is a contract on the sale of Striker's Bowling Alley and Buddys. Closing is scheduled by March 1st. There is nothing new on the sale of Cardinal Creek Golf Course. Administrator Barber stated that the Village has not been approached regarding the purchase of the golf course. There are only rumors, but the property is being appraised.

President Szymanski reported on the Eastcom Board meeting. The Board discussed the need for a new facility for the dispatch center. President Szymanski was assigned to the Codes and Regulations Committee and Administrator Barber was placed on the Finance Committee.

Administrator Barber reported on the Illinois #394/Route #1 corridor study. A PZC meeting will be held on March 26th or April 23rd to hear from the consultant on the study to make a presentation and hear comments.

President Szymanski reported on the railroad quiet zone investigation. He believes we should get a precise cost of the project before submitting applications. A copy of the Request for Proposal letter that was sent to four engineering firms was provided in the packet for review. It was learned that Crete has done this and is willing to help us with our application. President Szymanski will keep the Board informed.

Trustee Wehling made a motion to adjourn into closed session at 7:33 p.m. to discuss personnel relating to employees salaries. Trustee Ahrendt seconded the motion.

AYES: (5) Trustees Ahrendt, Meyer, Kypuros, Kuhlman and Wehling.

NAYS: (0) None.

Motion Carried.

Trustee Wehling made a motion to return to regular session at 7:44 p.m. Trustee Meyer seconded the motion.

AYES: (5) Trustees Ahrendt, Meyer, Kypuros, Kuhlman and Wehling.

NAYS: (0) None.

Motion Carried.

H. NEW BUSINESS

Administrator Barber reported that Governor Rauner is proposing to cut LGDF in his proposed budget which has the potential of cutting Village Income Tax revenues by more than \$100,000. Staff is working on preparing a balanced budget with the current revenues included in it so the money will be appropriated but will include a two-page list of potential cuts that can be made if the Income Tax is cut. The Administrator reported he will not know what the State will do with the budget until June

so we are planning for the potential of the budget being cut. It is unknown if it will be as bad as what is being proposed, but the Village is planning accordingly. Structural changes will need to be made to future budgets if the cuts are made, because these cuts are not just for one year, they would be permanent.

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

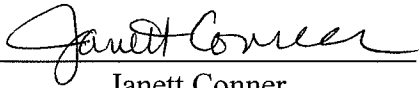
AYES: (5) Trustees Ahrendt, Meyer, Kypuros, Kuhlman and Wehling.

NAYS: (0) None.

Motion Carried.

Meeting adjourned at 7:54 p.m.

Respectfully submitted by:



Janett Conner
Village Clerk