

**MINUTES OF A SPECIAL MEETING OF THE PRESIDENT  
& BOARD OF TRUSTEES OF THE VILLAGE OF BEECHER  
HELD AT THE WASHINGTON TOWNSHIP CENTER,  
30200 TOWN CENTER DRIVE, BEECHER, ILLINOIS  
JANUARY 30, 2013 -- 7:00 P.M.**

**JOINT TAXING BODY MEETING**

All present joined in the Pledge to the Flag.

The meeting was called to order.

**ROLL CALL:**

PRESENT: President Lohmann and Trustees Ahrendt, Kuhlman and Wehling.

ABSENT: Trustees Cleary, Szymanski and Kypuros.

Other taxing bodies called roll.

**STAFF & OTHER TAXING BODY MEMBERS PRESENT:** Clerk Janett Conner, Administrator Robert Barber, Margie Cook, Shirley Biery, Michael Mach, Harold Karstensen, Mike Stanula, Kevin Bouchard, Althea Machtemes, Judy Ogalla, Marla Heldt, Jerry Meyer, George Schuitema, Paul Goldrick, Debbie VonAlven, Phil Serviss, Tami Roskamp and Dan Strick.

A Joint Taxing Body meeting was held to share information relating to each taxing body. The Village, Will County, School District, Fire District, Township and Community Hall Building Board had representatives present.

Tami Roskamp, Beecher School Superintendent noted that safety remains the first priority for the schools and training is being set up to be prepared for the future. She then provided a Power Point presentation on the Common Core Curriculum being implemented at the schools. She explained the standards, why the State adopted this change, what will be different, the time line for adopting the plan and changes to the assessment tests. Members present asked questions regarding the new curriculum. Ms. Roskamp was also asked about the school's proposal to change their hours by implementing an earlier start time. She indicated the question of changing the hours is being put out to the community to obtain input to decide whether to make the change or not.

President Lohmann provided a report on the Illiana Expressway. IDOT held meetings with the local taxing bodies this week to discuss local issues related to road closures, etc. A list of proposed road closures in Washington Township was provided to the group. IDOT will be meeting next with landowners to be directly affected by the expressway and those meeting dates were provided. Washington Township Highway Commissioner Jerry Meyer stated that he wants Cottage Grove to remain open.

President Lohmann reported that the Village is working on establishing boundary agreements with Grant Park and Peotone.

President Lohmann said that Maxwell Street will be closed at times in the next week due to watermain replacement.

All members of the group were then given an opportunity to report to the group:

Trustee Kuhlman said the Village is actively working with local schools for safety and security in the future.

School Board member Debbie VonAlven noted the Daily Journal articles about State funding and SRO officers in the schools.

Highway Commissioner Jerry Meyer reported that meetings are being held with other highway commissioners regarding the bi-state effects of the Illiana Expressway.

Will County Board member Judy Ogalla reported she met with IDOT and pressed for the State to protect private property rights pertaining to land acquisition.

PZC member Althea Machtemes asked questions of the School District pertaining to the new curriculum program and changes to school hours.

PZC member Kevin Bouchard said he would like to see the Village Board and PZC hold future workshops to work through issues as was done with the digital sign ordinance.

Washington Township Plan Commission member Mike Stanula said the comprehensive Land Use Plan is being redone to address issues relating to the Illiana Expressway. They are also still working on the bike path plan. President Lohmann asked that the Village be included in their land use planning and bike path discussions. He also said he would like to appoint someone from the Village PZC to attend the Washington Township Planning Commission meetings.

Community Hall Board member Harold Karstensen reported on the improvements made to the Community Hall and indicated that they are trying to obtain a grant to get a lift for access to the second floor of the building.

Shirley Biery said the Library was in the Beautification Commission's House walk in December. She also announced the annual used book sale which will be held on February 22<sup>nd</sup> and 23<sup>rd</sup> in the Community Hall basement and answered questions regarding the book sale. She also noted that the driveway to the library was closed for a limited time due to the watermain replacement project.

Fire District Board member Margie Cook reported that four new cadets from Beecher graduated from the Peotone academy the previous Sunday. The Fire District is also offering CPR classes to the community and hope to offer five classes per month.

Trustee Scott Wehling told the group a new committee has been formed to put up a cancer memorial. The project was started by Dean Bettenhausen. The committee will meet on January 31<sup>st</sup> at the Township Center. The memorial will be located in the north end of Firemen's Park. They will be looking for local support to fund the project and have already received donation dollars. The groundbreaking for the memorial will be held on July 13 during the Tractor's for a Cure event. The memorial will be called "Ribbon of Hope" according to Mike Stanula. The group is still gathering information to determine the cost of the memorial.

Administrator Barber provided the following reports:

A copy of the resident survey done in 2012 was provided to all members present as an FYI as to views on some local issues affecting Beecher.

The Board met Monday at a workshop meeting to discuss the future refuse contract. It appears the Board prefers to stay with Star Disposal and he explained the increase in costs to the residents.

The Beecher Fire District was thanked for donating a Chevy Suburban to the Police Department. The vehicle is being painted black by Goldie's Auto Body at no cost to the Village.

The Fuel Committee has locked in a one year fuel price for fuel for the local taxing bodies.

The Village Board has approved a paving plan for this summer for certain streets on the West side of town.

The 4<sup>th</sup> of July Festival will be held this year from July 3-6.

Chase Bank will be doing a Wounded Warrior project rehabbing a foreclosed home in Hunters Chase to be given to a wounded soldier. President Lohmann said he would like to see some kind of fundraiser held for this project and will be looking for community support.

School Superintendent Tammy Roskamp informed the group that the school will be asking different groups in the community for their input on different topics pertaining to the schools and would like President Lohmann to participate in one of the groups.

Administrator Barber reported that Bob Howard called him this afternoon and said that wind turbines are being planned for the south end of town West towards Kankakee.

School District Board member Dan Strick thanked President Lohmann for bringing the Joint Taxing Body Committee together since he knows President Lohmann is not running in the next election. Will County Board member also said she likes how Beecher works together on issues in a way many other communities do not.

The next meeting of the Intergovernmental Committee is scheduled for August 29<sup>th</sup> at 7:00 p.m.

Trustee Wehling made a motion to adjourn the meeting. Trustee Ahrendt seconded the motion.

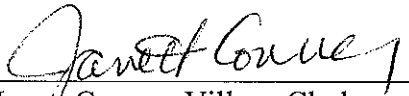
AYES: (3) Trustees Ahrendt, Kuhlman and Wehling.

NAYS: (0) None.

Motion Carried.

Meeting adjourned at 8:40 p.m.

Respectfully submitted by:

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

Janett Conner, Village Clerk