



# The Beecher Bulletin

## “Your Village Newsletter”



**Inside this issue:**

<b>Board Mtg Highlights</b>	<b>3,4</b>
<b>Brush Collection</b>	<b>5</b>
<b>Firemen’s Park Improv.</b>	<b>6</b>
<b>4th of July Information</b>	<b>2</b>
<b>Garbage, Recycling Rules</b>	<b>5</b>
<b>Memorial Tree Planting</b>	<b>2</b>
<b>Mow Your Lawn</b>	<b>5</b>
<b>Pet Waste Pick-up</b>	<b>5</b>
<b>Road Resurfacing Program</b>	<b>1</b>
<b>Yard Waste Bags</b>	<b>5</b>

**THE VILLAGE BOARD WANTS TO HEAR FROM YOU!**

*Please complete the enclosed survey and return to the Village Hall*

Last month, the Township mailed out a survey asking questions that affect the entire area. This month, the Village Board would like to ask you more specific questions on your level of satisfaction with Village services. The results of this survey will be compared to a similar survey conducted in 1997 to see if we are doing better or worse. Adjustments to Village service levels can then be made to respond to problem areas expressed by residents. There are also many new residents in town and we need to hear from them as well.

Please take the time to complete this survey and return it to the Village Hall in person at 724 Penfield Street or by mail to the Village of Beecher, P.O. Box 1154, Beecher, Illinois. The deadline is Friday, May 12<sup>th</sup> at 5:00 p.m. Here is your opportunity to tell the Village how you feel without anyone knowing who you are! We need honest opinions.



*Village Resident Fred Hoffmeyer dropping off his Township Survey*

**Village of Beecher**

**OFFICIALS**

Paul Lohmann  
*President*

**Trustees:**

- Roger Heldt
- Ronald Kuhlman
- Scott Wehling
- Chris Peterson
- Jim Rehborg
- Gayle Ahrendt

Janett Conner  
*Clerk*

Nelson Collins  
*Treasurer*

Robert O. Barber  
*Administrator*

Jeffrey Weissgerber  
*Chief of Police*

Harold “Bud” Cowger  
*Supt. of Public Works*

Julie Riechers  
*Code Enforcement Off.*

**VILLAGE BOARD APPROVES MASSIVE ROAD RESURFACING PROGRAM**

***\$380,000 allocated for resurfacing several streets in the Fall of 2006***

On March 14<sup>th</sup>, the Village Board approved the largest road resurfacing program in Beecher’s history and authorized a ten year, \$380,000 loan from First Community Bank and Trust at 4.23% interest. Payments on the loan will be made from future motor fuel tax collections the Village receives. This is the first of a two-phase resurfacing program planned for the Village. The second phase is planned for 2009 when the Village Board will ask residents in a referendum for permission to roll over a current General Obligation bond issue for an additional 20 years which would free up another \$800,000 for resurfacing streets without increasing taxes.

Street conditions were rated by the Village Engineer and the lowest rated streets were selected. The streets scheduled for resurfacing this Fall are as follows: Oak Park from Indiana to Miller, Miller from Oak Park to Elliott, Dunbar from Hodges to Miller,

Continued from page 1

Miller and Orchard streets from Dixie to Lange, Pasadena from Maxwell to the creek, Melrose Lane, and the alley south of Indiana Avenue from Maxwell to Prairie. Sidewalks are also planned for repair on Penfield in front of the fire station, post office and the Myrick building at the corner of Penfield and Reed Streets.

In 2009, the following streets are planned for resurfacing if the referendum is approved: Miller from Woodward to the creek, Catalpa Street from Country to Miller, Dunbar from Hodges to Indiana Avenue, Orchard, Meadow and Country Lanes from Catalpa to Dixie, Reed from Penfield to Miller, Church Road from Dixie to the railroad and the parking lot at Reed and Penfield. The list for 2009 is subject to change based on changing street conditions and the cost of the program at that time.

**COUNTDOWN TO BEECHER'S ANNUAL  
FOURTH OF JULY CELEBRATION BEGINS!**  
*4<sup>th</sup> of July Festival in Firemen's Park to Run June 30 - July 4 this Year*

Planning for Beecher's largest community event is well underway, and there are a few new twists this year. A bean bag tournament is scheduled for the weekend, so start practicing! This year, the carnival and festivities will be from 8:00 p.m. to midnight on Friday, June 30<sup>th</sup>, from 2:00 p.m. to midnight on Saturday and Sunday, July 1<sup>st</sup> and 2<sup>nd</sup>, and from 6:00 p.m. to midnight on Monday, July 3<sup>rd</sup>. There will be entertainment on stage each evening, including Small Time Dave and the Windy City Groove, the Blues Brothers Revue, and the Gone Country Band. Katherine Kay will perform nightly in the beer garden. On Tuesday, July 4<sup>th</sup> the carnival will be open from 2:00 p.m. to midnight. A "garage band" demonstration begins the festivities at 2:00 p.m. The parade will be in the afternoon once again, with line-up at 2:30 p.m. and parade kick-off at 4:00 p.m. Five Guys Named Moe play on the main stage during the evening, and at 9:30 p.m. Melrose Pyrotechnics will light up the sky with the largest Fourth of July fireworks show in the south suburbs. A Chevrolet Colorado pick-up truck will be raffled off at 11:00 p.m.

All proceeds from the celebration have been reinvested in Firemen's Park. Last year, the Commission paved all of the stone walkways and installed drain tiles with funds from the 2005 celebration. This will make it easier for families with strollers and wheel-chair bound patrons to move around in the park. It is getting harder to break even each year due to the rising costs of the festival, and without the help of the celebration's sponsors the celebration would have to be scaled back.

This celebration requires a massive volunteer effort, and your help is needed. If you would like to help out by manning a booth or assisting with clean-up, please call the Village Hall at 946-2261 to be placed on a call list.



One of the many award winning floats from a past 4th of July parade

**MEMORIAL TREE PLANTING**



In Beecher, our residents have a unique opportunity to honor a loved one or an occasion (anniversary, birthday, tribute) in the form of a living tree. For a donation of \$275, a tree will be planted in any one of our parks at a location of your choice to honor a person or occasion. A plaque may also be placed at the tree for an additional fee. In addition, your name or the person/event being honored will be inscribed on a plaque in the Village Hall. A tree will create a memorial that will last for generations to come. Contact Tree Board Chairman Ron Kuhlman for more information.

## VILLAGE BOARD MEETING HIGHLIGHTS

### The following actions taken by the Beecher Village Board since the Fall of 2005:

- ◆ Entered into a development agreement and approved the Fieldgate Subdivision consisting of 243 single-family lots, and 140 townhomes located at the southeast corner of Cardinal Creek Boulevard and Church Road. The development agreement provided for 10 acres of land for the school district and a 10-acre park to the Village in exchange for the waiver of impact fees.
- ◆ Approved an exploratory planned unit development as a site plan to a proposed annexation agreement for Southgate, formerly Sedera Ridge, as proposed by J Land Development. This revised PUD called for 565 residential units and approximately 37 acres of commercial land on 290 acres east of Dixie Highway between Corning Road and Indiana Avenue.
- ◆ Approved a preliminary plat of subdivision for Creekside as proposed by RJR Development which allows for 183 single-family homes on 100 acres of land, commonly known as the Crescenzo property, located west of the railroad tracks, south of Church Road and west of Dixie Highway.
- ◆ Approved condemnation proceedings for dilapidated structures for the Wehmhoeffer Hardware building on Gould Street owned by Bud VonAlven and the Myrick Building at Penfield and Reed Streets owned by Mike Buchmeier. Condemnation of these buildings would proceed if the property owners fail to continue to make improvements.
- ◆ Approved a contract in the amount of \$3,850 to Design Perspectives, Inc., to design the new parks in Nantucket Cove and Prairie Park Subdivisions.
- ◆ Approved a resolution requesting that the State of Illinois consider requiring the sale of land it has purchased for the airport by public auction on a parcel by parcel basis with the original owner having the right of first purchase in the event an airport is not constructed on state-owned land in eastern Will County.
- ◆ Approved a planned unit development and site plan as an exhibit to a possible annexation agreement for the Summerfield Subdivision by Olthof Homes on 76 acres south of Indiana Avenue, west of Cardinal Creek Boulevard, currently known as the Triezenberg farm. This subdivision would have 173 residential units of age-restricted housing, having a gross density of 2.57 units per acre.
- ◆ Approved the final plat of subdivision for Prairie Park, located at the northeast corner of Church Road and Dixie Highway, for 114 single-family and multi-family units.
- ◆ Approved the hiring of an economic development director and appointed Ed Papesh of Streamwood, Illinois, to the position. Mr. Papesh was given a 15-month contract.
- ◆ Hired Terry Burghard of Local Government Management Services, Inc., to be the chief negotiator for the pending annexations of Southgate, Summerfield and Prairie Meadows Subdivisions.
- ◆ Approved a special use permit in a B-3 district to allow for the expansion of mini-warehouses on 2.5 acres owned by Tom Knuth on the north side of Church Road, 1/4 mile west of Dixie Highway.
- ◆ Approved a motion not objecting to a request for rezoning from A-1 to E-1 for two 5-acre parcels on Cottage Grove Avenue, north of Indiana Avenue, currently known as the Dani property. Pre-annexation agreements for these parcels were also approved.
- ◆ Approved a template annexation agreement to be used in all future developments which laid out the amount of impact fees and other charges applied to development.
- ◆ Approved motions expanding the Village's facilities planning area for sewer treatment by 266 acres on the south side of the Village. Facilities planning area designation requires any future development to connect to the Village's wastewater treatment plant.

*Continued on next page*

- ◆ Approved a resolution supporting the expansion of the Beecher wastewater treatment plant in 2008 by submitting a Phase 1 planning report to the IEPA.
- ◆ Approved a property tax levy for 2005, collectible in 2006. The overall levy increase was 22.9% with 3.4% coming from existing property owners and 19.5% coming from new developments and annexations which occurred during the past year. The anticipated Village tax rate as a result of this levy request is .6130, which is .0005 higher than last year's rate of .6125, but less than the .750 rate approved in 1994.
- ◆ Authorized the Village engineer to study all sanitary sewers west of Trim Creek for repairs. This work includes televising and manhole inspections. In addition, \$75,000 was authorized for routing the sanitary sewers at six of the worst locations.
- ◆ Approved a motion hiring Design Perspectives, Inc., to prepare an Oslad park grant at a cost not to exceed \$15,406. This grant will be used to improve Firemen's Park.
- ◆ Approved an amended planned unit development for Phase 8 of the original Hunter's Chase Subdivision to convert 22 duplex units into 13 single-family lots on the east side of Trailside Drive.
- ◆ Approved a final plat of subdivision for Hunter's Chase East, consisting of 108 single-family lots on approximately 37 acres on the north side of Church Road, 1/4 mile east of Dixie Highway.
- ◆ Denied a request to add 10 additional apartment units to an existing 12-unit building located at 647 and 648 Pasadena. However, the petitioner was granted approval to expand the existing garage on the parcel.
- ◆ Approved a street sweeping program for Illinois Route #1 at a cost not to exceed \$900 per year.
- ◆ Approved a bid in the amount of \$146,106 to Contracting and Material Company for the replacement of watermain on Meadow Lane.
- ◆ Approved an amended planned unit development for Nantucket Cove Subdivision by eliminating 28 townhomes and replacing with 13 single-family lots.
- ◆ Adopted a resolution supporting an airport authority consisting of seven members, two of which would be appointed by the eastern Will County communities in the event that an airport is constructed in eastern Will County.
- ◆ Approved an application for a grant to install a traffic signal at Dixie Highway and Chestnut Lane in the spring of 2007.
- ◆ Approved an application for a grant to widen and improve Church Road in the amount of \$2,000,000 in 2009.
- ◆ Approved an animal control program for 2006 through the Beecher Veterinary Clinic. In 2005 a total of 19 dogs, 17 cats and one rabbit were taken to the Vet Clinic by residents and the police for adoption, euthanasia, or rightful return to owners.
- ◆ Approved a motion authorizing the Village Engineer to design a new well and pump station in Hunter's Chase East Subdivision for an amount not to exceed \$15,300.
- ◆ Approved a contract with Independent Inspections, Ltd. to conduct all building department services for the Village for a fee of 38 cents per square foot for residential and 48 cents per square foot for commercial.
- ◆ Authorized the Village Planner to draft a landscape ordinance and architectural code for all residential, commercial and industrial development in the Village for an amount not to exceed \$10,000. A committee, under the direction of the Beecher Plan Commission, will be drafting these codes and ordinances. Nick Grutzius, Gayle Ahrendt and Althea Machtemes were appointed to this Committee.



*The Village Board meets on the second and fourth Tuesday of each month at 7:00 p.m. at Washington Township Center, 30200 Town Center Drive. Residents are invited and encouraged to attend these meetings.*

# DID YOU KNOW.....

## YARD WASTE BAGS

Collection of yard waste bags by Star Disposal Service resumed April 1st. Yard waste bags may be placed at the curb for regular Monday pick-up until the end of November. Residents must use bags with the Star Disposal logo on them. The cost of the bag includes the fee for disposal of the yard waste. Bags can be purchased at various local businesses and at the Village Hall. Yard waste bags without the Star Disposal logo will not be picked up.



## BRUSH COLLECTION PROGRAM



Beginning April 1st, the Village public works crew along with Star Disposal began collecting brush from the parkways on all streets every Monday morning. In an effort to continue providing a successful and cost effective program, residents are asked to observe the following rules to ensure their brush is collected:

1. Place brush by the roadside or on parkway by 7:00 a.m. on collection day. Brush placed out after 7:00 a.m. on the same day of pick-up is not guaranteed to be collected that week. (Brush will not be collected in alleys.)
2. Branches cannot exceed 6 feet in length or 4 inches in diameter.
3. Grass clippings, leaves or mulch mixed with brush WILL NOT BE PICKED-UP. These items should be disposed of in yard waste bags.
4. Brush is defined as sticks and branches removed during routine trimming of trees and bushes or branches resulting from storm damage. Entire trees or large bushes that have been taken down by a private resident or contractor will not be picked up. It will be the resident's responsibility to arrange for disposal through the refuse company or other source.
5. The Village does not pick-up brush on a request basis.

## RECYCLING COLLECTION



Recyclables are picked up in the Village every other Monday by Homewood/Star Disposal (unless a major holiday falls on Monday then collection is on Tuesday). Residents must use the recycling bin provided free of charge by Homewood/Star Disposal and place at the curb by 6:30 a.m. on collection day with the handle of the container facing the house. For a list of items that may be recycled, contact the Village Hall.

## GARBAGE PICK-UP RULES

Residential garbage collection is conducted by Homewood/Star Disposal in the Village every Monday (unless a major holiday falls on Monday then collection is on Tuesday). Garbage should be placed at the curb by 7:00 a.m. on collection day. Garbage should not be placed at the curb for pick-up any earlier than the evening before collection day and cans should be removed from the curb and put away by the end of collection day. Garbage should be placed in a container with a close-fitting cover so as not to blow around. Recycling, brush and yard waste bags are also collected on Mondays.



## BE A RESPONSIBLE PET OWNER



The Village has received complaints about people allowing their dogs to do their "duty" in other people's yards and in public parks. As a pet owner you are responsible for picking up after your pet does his "duty". Be a responsible pet owner and clean up after your dog. Failure to do so could result in a fine. Leave local parks clean for the kids to play and be considerate of your neighbors!

## THE WARM WEATHER MEANS IT'S TIME TO MOW LAWN

It is unlawful to permit any grasses or weeds to grow to a height exceeding eight (8") inches anywhere in the Village. The code enforcement officer will issue tickets to those who violate this ordinance.





## Village of Beecher

724 Penfield Street/P.O. Box 1154  
Beecher, IL 60401

### Village Hall Hours

Mon-Tues-Thurs-Fri  
8:00 a.m. - 5:00 p.m.  
Wednesday  
8:00 a.m. - 7:00 p.m.

Village Hall  
946-2261

Emergency Police & Fire  
9-1-1

Police Non Emergency:  
946-2341

Fire Non Emergency:  
946-6585

Web Site: [www.villageofbeecher.org](http://www.villageofbeecher.org)  
E-Mail: [clerk@villageofbeecher.org](mailto:clerk@villageofbeecher.org)

PRESORTED  
STANDARD  
U.S. POSTAGE  
PAID  
PERMIT#57  
BEECHER, IL

**PO BOX HOLDER  
BEECHER, IL 60401**

## **FIREMEN'S PARK GETTING A FACELIFT**

*Portions of the park are being re-graded and seeded to provide a more level playing surface*

Last Winter, Firemen's Park south of Miller Street looked like a construction yard. Certain trees were removed, other trees were added, and the property was re-graded. Massive piles of clay fill were spread across low spots. The park is being hydroseeded and will be treated with tender loving care by the public works crew so that the park is ready for the Fourth of July Celebration. Until that time, portions of the park that are under repair cannot be used for baseball practice or other recreation uses.

This work is being done as the first phase of the Firemen's Park restoration project instituted by the Park Board. In the end, there will be more usable areas in the park for baseball, soccer and other recreational activities. The Park Board is sorry for any inconveniences experienced this Spring by the restoration project.

### DATES TO REMEMBER

Chamber of Commerce Garage Sale Days - June 16-17 \* Drivin' the Dixie & Annual Street Dance - June 17  
4th of July Celebration - June 30 - July 4 \* Lions Club Annual Beef Roast/Craft Show - August 5  
Chamber of Commerce Golf Outing - September 7