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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
MARCH 26, 2018 -- 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: Clerk Janett Conner, Administrator Robert Barber, Superintendent of Public Works Bud Cowger and Police Chief Greg Smith.

GUEST: George Schuitema and Ray Koenig.

President Szymanski asked for consideration of the minutes of the March 12, 2018 Board meeting. Trustee Kraus 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.

CLERK'S REPORT

1) A report on income received since the last meeting was provided. 2) Clerk Conner announced that the Will County Clerk's office sent out filing information for Economic Interest Statements to those required to file. The deadline to file is May 1st.

A. FINANCE AND ADMINISTRATION COMMITTEE

The Board was provided a revised budget with changes made at the budget workshop. Board members were asked to review this and it will be discussed on April 9th. Trustee Kraus asked about combining all of the police part-time hours including the EMA hours. The EMA employee's rate of pay will be discussed in Executive Session.

Trustee Basile reported that the Village's tax rate for 2017 collectible in 2018 will be 0.7399, which is 0.0069 less than last year.

B. PUBLIC BUILDINGS AND PROPERTIES, PARKS AND RECREATION COMMITTEE

Trustee Wehling provided an update on the tot lot proposed for Firemen's Park. The Fire Department has been approached and has not made any decision on a contribution amount yet. Beecher Recreation has also been approached. There may be a need to relocate the equipment depending on the location of some pipes in the Park.

An update on ballfield lights for Firemen's #2 field was provided. There was nothing new to report, still waiting on Beecher Recreation for more information.

A Welton Stedt Park update was provided. Public Works has begun working on preparing the fields for practice and the Committee was going to obtain a price for an overhaul of the two south infields. Trustee Wehling asked that the fields be rolled. The two south fields will only be used for practice at this point, according to Beecher Recreation.

C. PLANNING, BUILDING AND ZONING COMMITTEE

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

Trustee Mazurek provided a Comprehensive Plan grant update. The Village attended a pre-RFP meeting at CMAP headquarters. CMAP is accepting proposals until March 30th and a selection committee consisting of George Schuitema, Bob Heim, Administrator Barber and two CMAP representatives will interview the finalists and make a selection by May 1st. \$20,000 worth of work must be completed by June 30th to ensure sufficient program funds moving forward.

D. PUBLIC SAFETY COMMITTEE

The Police Department monthly report was provided for review.

The EMA and Code Enforcement monthly reports were provided in the packet for review.

The results of the state-wide tornado drill on March 6th was provided. All schools participated and all sirens were working.

E. PUBLIC WORKS COMMITTEE

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

The water billing register for January and February was provided in the packet for review. The pumped to billed ratio was 60%. A big leak was discovered at the end of the billing cycle on Linden so the numbers will be looked at again after the next billing to see if the ratio improves.

The Board discussed replacement of Floyd Burger, who plans to retire on May 4th. There was discussion on hiring a Class 1 Sewer Operator by combining the MMI pay and the pay for the contractual sewer plant operator. Trustee Kypuros would like to advertise for both positions to see if there is interest for a Class 1 Operator or potential operator, but also advertise for the MMI in the event that the Village does not find the right fit for the Class 1 Operator. The intent is to only hire one person, but it could be two if the price was right. We can wait and see what we can get and make a decision from there. The jobs will be posted on Tuesday.

A wastewater treatment plant project update was provided. The loan agreement arrived in the mail today and was signed and returned. Engineer Ray Koenig from Baxter and Woodman provided a handout on the construction timeline for the improvements. Administrator Barber asked about any considerations on plant operations going into the winter time, depending on the construction progress.

A Penfield Street watermain project close-out update was provided. The Village received the final payment and are still waiting for the Illinois Environmental Protection Agency (IEPA) inspector to come out and walk the job with the engineer and sign off on the project.

Ray Koenig provided a Penfield Street STP project update. He said the project was delayed by a year due to the Historic Preservation Commission wanting historical designation for the Penfield Street bridge. The project should be completed in one year with restoration occurring the following year.

A Dunbar Street watermain update was provided by Mr. Koenig. The project is entering the final design phase and it should be a 60-day project with 60 days for final restoration. There are still some permit issues to deal with through Will County.

The Chestnut Street lights still haven't been turned on by ComEd.

Superintendent Cowger reported on the curb and sidewalk repair program. Public Works will be first making a list of areas to be addressed, and then the project starts in May if the budget is approved.

Street sweeping will be conducted in late April. The program will be done during daytime hours due to noise complaints about night sweeping in previous years.

Superintendent Cowger reported that in the next 3-4 weeks, spring hydrant flushing will be done. Signs will be put out to let residents know.

The Village has about 600 tons of road salt in storage and 600 more tons on order for next winter. Approximately 900 tons were used this winter.

F. ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT AND COMMUNITY RELATIONS COMMITTEE

Comcast provided an annual report and notification to modify channel line-up on some of its packages. A letter was provided in the packet for review.

Board members were asked if they had any suggestions for the Spring newsletter. Articles on the new Chief, Dunbar watermain, President's corner, sewer plant and other seasonal articles are planned. Trustee Wehling commented to put a note in the newsletter that if anyone comes across any historical items in Spring cleaning, they can donate them to the museum.

G. VILLAGE PRESIDENT'S REPORT

President Szymanski reported that the Will County Governmental League sponsored a county forum on the future of groundwater supply. It was learned that on the western edge of Will County the water tables are drying up. It was also learned that the water we get today took 1000 years to get here. It was a very interesting meeting.

Beecher, Peotone and Monee will host a South Suburban Mayors and Managers dinner meeting on Thursday, May 17th at Bult Field. Plans are underway for this event and we are inviting each Trustee to attend since we are hosting.

President Szymanski provided a report on the Will County Governmental League Lobby Day. A meeting was held with Governor Rauner in the morning, but all other meetings were cancelled.

President Szymanski appointed Dawn Bruno to the Beecher Youth Commission, replacing Phil Salmen. Trustee Mazurek made a motion to approve President Szymanski's appointment of Dawn Bruno to the Beecher Youth Commission. Trustee Kypuros seconded the motion.

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

NAYS: (0) None.

Motion Carried.

President Szymanski requested an Executive Session be held to discuss the pay rate for the Treasurer, pay rate for the EMA employee and discuss the Lieutenant's Memorandum of Understanding (MOU).

Trustee Kraus made a motion to adjourn into Executive Session at 7:43 p.m. Trustee Meyer seconded the motion.

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

NAYS: (0) None.

Motion Carried.

Trustee Kraus made a motion to return to regular session at 8:36 p.m. Trustee Basile seconded the motion.

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

NAYS: (0) None.

Motion Carried.

I. NEW BUSINESS

Trustee Kraus made a motion to rescind the Memorandum of Understanding (MOU) with Denis Tatgenhorst dated September 19, 2016. Trustee Kypuros seconded the motion.

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

NAYS: (0) None.

Motion Carried.

Trustee Kraus discussed the Police Department full-time hiring list procedures. There were interviews done previously and three part-time candidates were ranked and put on a hiring list. Promoting from within has been past practice by the previous chief and the hiring process was discussed with and approved by Trustee Kraus at that time. Trustee Kraus would like to throw out the full-time hiring list established and advertise outside of the department. Trustee Kraus explained what he learned about how other departments do their hiring. Administrator Barber expressed concerns about possible litigation that could come out of throwing out the list. Other Board members were asked their opinions about this. Chief Smith said the officers on the hiring list are very dedicated to the community and he is willing to work with and mentor them if hired full-time. President Szymanski said this list couldn't be scrapped by Committee. This would be the Chief's decision. If hiring from the outside, the three part-timers on the hiring list could also apply, be considered again and could be hired.

Administrator Barber reported that a meeting was held earlier in the day with other communities about the Intergovernmental Agreement with WPAL and will be discussed further in April.

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

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

NAYS: (0) None.

Motion Carried.

Meeting adjourned at 9:00 p.m.

Respectfully submitted by:



Janett Conner
Village Clerk