

**MINUTES OF THE REGULAR MEETING OF THE PRESIDENT
& BOARD OF TRUSTEES OF THE VILLAGE OF BEECHER
HELD AT THE WASHINGTON TOWNSHIP CENTER,
30200 TOWN CENTER ROAD, BEECHER, ILLINOIS
NOVEMBER 9, 2009 -- 7:00 P.M.**

All present joined in the Pledge to the Flag.

A moment of silence was observed in reflection of the killings of members of the military at Fort Hood the previous week and Veterans Day the coming Wednesday.

President Lohmann called the meeting to order.

ROLL CALL

PRESENT: President Lohmann and Trustees Cleary, Ahrendt, Szymanski, Gardner, Kuhlman and Wehling.

ABSENT: None.

STAFF PRESENT: Clerk Janett Conner, Administrator Robert Barber, Treasurer Nelson Collins, Public Works Superintendent Harold "Bud" Cowger, Chief Jeffrey Weissgerber, Ray Koenig from Baxter & Woodman and Economic Development Coordinator Marcy Meyer.

GUESTS: Lynn Dill from the Beecher Herald, Bill Byrns from the Daily Journal, Kim Koutsky, Chuck Hoehn, Bill Voss, Joanne Buchmeier, Bob Carter, George Schuitema, Virginia Bath, Kenneth Bath, Ian Tully, Bob Tully and Ashley Shelby.

President Lohmann asked for consideration of the minutes of the October 26, 2009 Board meeting and October 29, 2009 workshop meeting. Trustee Szymanski made a motion to approve the minutes with an amendment to the minutes of the October 26th meeting, Page 4, paragraph 2, line 3 under Planning, Building and Zoning Committee: change "Chamber of Commerce" to Planning and Zoning Commission. Trustee Cleary seconded the motion.

AYES: (6) Trustees Cleary, Ahrendt, Szymanski, Gardner, Kuhlman and Wehling.

NAYS: (0) None.

Motion Carried.

CLERK'S REPORT: 1) A report on income received since the last meeting was provided. 2) Bills were presented for the Beautification Commission (\$660.68) and the Police Department Community Activities (\$26.96). Trustee Kuhlman made a motion to approve the list of bills totalling \$687.64 as listed on the Clerk's Report. Trustee Szymanski seconded the motion.

AYES: (6) Trustees Cleary, Ahrendt, Szymanski, Gardner, Kuhlman and Wehling.

NAYS: (0) None.

Motion Carried.

3) Clerk Conner read aloud a thank you note from Jeanette O'Grady.

RECOGNITION OF GUESTS: Bob Carter read aloud an information sheet explaining his opposition to the proposed third airport.

Joanne Buchmeier from the Beecher Historic Downtown Business Association asked for permission to have a Christmas tree lot in the municipal parking lot next to her building at Penfield and Reed. She only plans to sell 30 trees this year. There were no objections. She also asked for the Police Department to check the area periodically. According to Mrs. Buchmeier, the trees will be sold for non for profit. President Lohmann said no business license will be required if sold for non profit. Ms. Buchmeier requested to be on the agenda to make a formal presentation at a future meeting.

Chuck Hoehn, President of the Beecher Chamber of Commerce announced details of the upcoming Hometown Holiday Weekend events to be held the first weekend of December.

Chuck Hoehn and Bill Voss presented Virginia Bath with the Chamber of Commerce 2009 Citizen of the Year award. Mr. Hoehn gave a presentation on Mrs. Bath's accomplishments and her work with the historical society. President Lohmann congratulated Mrs. Bath and told her the award is well deserved.

Bob Tully was present to explain his side of the problems with his next door neighbor and the problems with kids on the weekends in the area of his business on Gould Street. He wanted to explain that there have been no incidents within his business but there have been some problems with kids in front of his business and in the street. Mr. Tully has been working with Chief Weissgerber to try and address problems in the area.

A. FINANCE AND ADMINISTRATION COMMITTEE

TREASURER'S REPORT: A copy of the Treasurer's report was provided to the Board for review and the Treasurer was present to answer questions. There was some discussion on the Taxes Collected report provided to the Board for review.

A list of bills totalling \$150,553.39 to be paid was available for review. Trustee Cleary made a motion to approve payment of the list of bills as presented. Trustee Szymanski seconded the motion.

AYES: (6) Trustees Cleary, Ahrendt, Szymanski, Gardner, Kuhlman and Wehling.

NAYS: (0) None.

Motion Carried.

Results were provided from the October 29th workshop meeting. Trustee Cleary asked that the next workshop meeting be held in November because he can't make it at all in December.

A chart of cash flow trends for operating accounts of the Village was provided in the packet for review.

The State Comptroller has released a fiscal year 2007/2008 comparative municipal revenue and expense report, as provided in the packet for review.

Trustee Cleary made a motion to cancel the December 28th Village Board meeting. Trustee Ahrendt seconded the motion.

AYES: (6) Trustees Cleary, Ahrendt, Szymanski, Gardner, Kuhlman and Wehling.

NAYS: (0) None.

Motion Carried.

B. PUBLIC SAFETY COMMITTEE

The Police Department monthly report was provided for review. President Lohmann asked Chief Weissgerber if 121 building checks per month was normal as reported in the Police Department monthly report. The Chief explained that the CAD system went down and data was lost for two weeks of the month.

Chief Weissgerber reported that there were no incidents to report on Halloween.

ORDINANCE #1124 - An Ordinance increasing the towing fee from \$100 to \$300 for criminal offenses. Chief Weissgerber explained changes to the ordinance. Trustee Kuhlman made a motion to approve Ordinance #1124. Trustee Wehling seconded the motion.

AYES: (6) Trustees Cleary, Ahrendt, Szymanski, Gardner, Kuhlman and Wehling.

NAYS: (0) None.

Motion Carried.

C. STREETS AND ALLEYS COMMITTEE

Trustee Szymanski described each road included in the 2010 road resurfacing program. The Baxter and Woodman summary of costs letter was provided in the packet for review. Ray Koenig from Baxter and Woodman explained the cost for all four projects. Repairs are to be done on Route 1, a section of East Church Road, in Nantucket Cove Subdivision and Cardinal Creek Subdivision. The majority of the work is paving. Cost is estimated at \$1.3 million for all the work. Concerns were expressed about State reimbursement for work on Route #1. Concerns were also expressed about keeping all four projects separate for reimbursements and payouts.

The last pass for leaf collection will be on Monday, November 30th.

The last pass for brush pickup will be on Tuesday, December 1st.

Holiday decorations and banners will go up the week of November 16th.

Trustee Szymanski made a motion authorizing Baxter and Woodman to submit a Phase II stormwater MS4 Compliance Permit application for an amount not to exceed \$2,850. Trustee Ahrendt seconded

the motion.

AYES: (6) Trustees Cleary, Ahrendt, Szymanski, Gardner, Kuhlman and Wehling.

NAYS: (0) None.

Motion Carried.

RESOLUTION #2009-19 - A Resolution authorizing the use of \$10,000 in Motor Fuel Tax funds to pay for the engineering portion of the Church Road ARRA project. Trustee Szymanski made a motion to adopt Resolution #2009-19. Trustee Cleary seconded the motion.

AYES: (6) Trustees Cleary, Ahrendt, Szymanski, Gardner, Kuhlman and Wehling.

NAYS: (0) None.

Motion Carried.

President Lohmann said he wants to look at having someone else do observation services of Church Road improvement project other than Baxter and Woodman. Administrator Barber discussed that no matter what firm does the observation, the fee would probably be the same. It was unsure if changing who does observation would change the bid letting process.

Trustee Szymanski made a motion authorizing the Village President and Clerk to sign an engineering services agreement with Baxter and Woodman for the observation and bid letting of Church Road improvements in an amount not to exceed \$10,000. The motion failed due to lack of a second. Administrator Barber asked for direction on this so the job can get done. More discussion followed on how to proceed with this particular project. The matter was tabled until the next meeting.

D. SEWER AND WATER COMMITTEE

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

The water billing register for September and October was provided in the packet for review.

Ray Koenig of Baxter and Woodman reported that plans and specifications have been sent to the Illinois Environmental Protection Agency (IEPA) for replacing watermains. The Village would now have to wait for another stimulus to see if funds become available.

Trustee Gardner made a motion to authorize an application to the University of Illinois at Chicago Department of Public Administration Capstone Project to conduct a water and sewer rate study on behalf of the Village of Beecher. This would be at no cost to the Village. Trustee Wehling seconded the motion.

AYES: (6) Trustees Cleary, Ahrendt, Szymanski, Gardner, Kuhlman and Wehling.

NAYS: (0) None.

Motion Carried.

E. PUBLIC BUILDINGS, PROPERTIES, PARKS AND RECREATION COMMITTEE

Trustee Wehling made a motion to approve payment of a list of bills from the General Obligation Bond Redemption Account in the amount of \$96,014.24. Trustee Ahrendt seconded the motion.

AYES: (6) Trustees Cleary, Ahrendt, Szymanski, Gardner, Kuhlman and Wehling.

NAYS: (0) None.

Motion Carried.

An update was provided on the new Public Works facility. Superintendent Cowger wants to get the building built and worry about additional rooms when all contractors are done and gone. Staff will have to see what money is available in the future to do additional rooms. The Board discussed security for the building. Staff has received quotes from S&K of Beecher for cameras, a burglar alarm and a keyless entry system. Superintendent Cowger is getting competing proposals on these items. The Board discussed security in the area around the building since there are no plans to fence it in at this time.

The Board discussed Washington Township's proposal for a Bark Park. Trustee Wehling is looking at other possible locations besides the area by the new Public Works facility.

F. PLANNING, BUILDING AND ZONING COMMITTEE

The Board considered an ordinance amending the Zoning Code pertaining to signs. Trustee Szymanski expressed concerns about the definition of "window" pertaining to the size of signs allowed in windows. After some discussion, it was noted that originally the changes to the Zoning Code were only sent to the Planning and Zoning Commission (PZC) to regulate outdoor LED signs. Other types of signs were included at the request of the PZC. Trustee Ahrendt made a motion to direct staff to redraft the sign ordinance to only address LED signs inside and outside buildings and the issue with political signs. Trustee Szymanski seconded the motion.

AYES: (6) Trustees Cleary, Ahrendt, Szymanski, Gardner, Kuhlman and Wehling.

NAYS: (0) None.

Motion Carried.

Administrator Barber said the Village Attorney provided an opinion that the Village has the right to go onto private property to abate a nuisance, but should not use a letter of credit for that purpose.

Trustee Ahrendt made a motion authorizing payment in the amount of \$122.00 from the Nantucket Cove Escrow Account for engineering services by Baxter and Woodman. Trustee Wehling seconded the motion.

AYES: (6) Trustees Cleary, Ahrendt, Szymanski, Gardner, Kuhlman and Wehling.

NAYS: (0) None.

Motion Carried.

Trustee Ahrendt made a motion to authorize payment from the escrow account in the amount of \$3,325 to Sunset Sewer and Water to adjust and repair five buried b-boxes and shut off water service for unpaid accounts on model homes in The Preserve at Cardinal Creek. Trustee Cleary seconded the

motion.

AYES: (6) Trustees Cleary, Ahrendt, Szymanski, Gardner, Kuhlman and Wehling.

NAYS: (0) None.

Motion Carried.

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

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

The Economic Development Coordinator's monthly report was provided in the packet for review.

Ray Koenig of Baxter and Woodman provided an update on the following:

- a. Curb work in Hunter's Chase Original Subdivision: Work will be done later this week and John Lotton will be paying for most of the cost.
- b. Prairie Crossings South punch list items (Sova): Work is 95% completed. Some landscaping still needs to be done.
- c. Prairie Crossings South retention pond (Igoe): There has been some erosion on the north bank. Julie Riechers has the list and will advise Mr. Igoe.
- d. MGM and Nantucket Cove punch list items: Some deep patching still needs to be done. Public Works is doing some pothole patching.

Staff will invite representatives from a company who builds windspires to provide a presentation at a PZC meeting to get a better idea of what windspires are and how they work. Trustee Ahrendt made a motion to refer an amendment to the Beecher Zoning Ordinance pertaining to windspires to the Planning and Zoning Commission. Trustee Szymanski seconded the motion.

AYES: (6) Trustees Cleary, Ahrendt, Szymanski, Gardner, Kuhlman and Wehling.

NAYS: (0) None.

Motion Carried.

G. VILLAGE PRESIDENT'S REPORT

President Lohmann asked if the Board wants to have a public officials forum in January. It was the consensus to hold a forum on January 11, 2010.

An update was provided on the Illiana Expressway. President Lohmann reported that a letter was drafted to the Will County Center for Economic Development (CED) in reaction to not being notified about Illiana meetings being held at the State and County level. Trustee Cleary made a motion to approve the letter be sent to the Will County CED with corrections. Trustee Ahrendt seconded the motion.

AYES: (6) Trustees Cleary, Ahrendt, Szymanski, Gardner, Kuhlman and Wehling.

NAYS: (0) None.

Motion Carried.

Representative Anthony DeLuca wants the Village to host a public meeting on the Illiana expressway before January 11th. Concerns were expressed about who would provide information at the meeting and who would be invited to attend. President Lohmann will determine a date to hold this meeting.

President Lohmann has a meeting with Congresswoman Halvorson this week and asked Board members to email any questions or concerns to him that they want addressed.

H. NEW BUSINESS

Administrator Barber expressed concerns that the Board did not pass a motion regarding the engineering services agreement with Baxter and Woodman for the observation and bid letting of Church Road improvements. Administrator Barber is afraid the failure to pass this motion may delay the project. The original Illinois Department of Transportation (IDOT) contract only had a place for one engineer on the form so it is uncertain if a different engineer can be designated for this project. Administrator Barber expressed concern of missing out on money if a motion is not approved. Trustee Szymanski made a motion to authorize the Village President and Clerk to sign the contract if there are no other options available to the Village; if we find we cannot add a different engineer to this contract. Trustee Wehling seconded the motion.

AYES: (6) Trustees Cleary, Ahrendt, Szymanski, Gardner, Kuhlman and Wehling.

NAYS: (0) None.

Motion Carried.

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

AYES: (6) Trustees Cleary, Ahrendt, Szymanski, Gardner, Kuhlman and Wehling.

NAYS: (0) None.

Motion Carried.

Meeting adjourned at 9:12 p.m.

Respectfully submitted by:

Janett Conner
Village Clerk