

**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
APRIL 22, 2024-- 7:00 P.M.**



All present joined in the Pledge to the Flag.

President Meyer called the meeting to order.

ROLL CALL

PRESENT: President Meyer and Trustees Kraus, Gardner, Stacey and Tieri.

ABSENT: Trustee Gianotti.

STAFF PRESENT: Clerk Janett McCawley, Administrator Charity Mitchell, Public Works Superintendent Matt Conner, Chief Terry Lemming and EMA Director Bob Heim.

GUESTS: David Weissbohn, George Schuitema, Byron and Soliel Harden, Wendy Hoekstra, Celia Munoz, Jordan Belknap from Turning Point Energy and other guests.

APPROVAL OF MINUTES

President Meyer asked for consideration of the minutes of the April 8, 2024 Board meeting. Trustee Kraus made a motion to approve the minutes as written. Trustee Stacey seconded.

AYES: (4) Trustees Kraus, Gardner, Stacey and Tieri.

NAYS: (0) None.

Motion carried.

RECOGNITION OF AUDIENCE

Wendy Hoekstra from Elm Street asked that attention be given to the road in her block. The condition and width of the road is deteriorating.

VILLAGE CLERK REPORT – No report.

VILLAGE PRESIDENT REPORT

President Meyer read aloud a Proclamation for Professional Municipal Clerk's Week.

The Board discussed an application from The Huddle Sports Cards and Collectibles for a block party on Gould Street. They want to close the street from The Gould Vault to Penfield Street, and are hoping to bring in food trucks, a band, and a bouncy house as well as other activities to bring business to the downtown area. They want to have liquor in the street during the event. This would be for May 11th from approximately 2-9 p.m. Area needs to be barricaded where liquor is held and would possibly have some police officers present. Chief Lemming will work out details with

business owners for security for the event. They were asked to provide a drawing of how the area will be set up and provide it to the Chief. No objections were voiced by the Board.

Celia Munoz-Pina was present regarding a request for a liquor license for a new restaurant to be located on Indiana Avenue. Celiz Munoz said she plans to be open approximately from 7 a.m. to 2 p.m. daily, closing and then re-opening in the evening for dinner. The Board would need to change the ordinance to allow another liquor license. Consensus of the Board was in support of the restaurant concept along with the liquor license. The Board will change the ordinance to add the liquor license and it will be designated for their business.

FINANCE AND ADMINISTRATION COMMITTEE

Trustee Kraus made a motion to approve payment of the list of bills in the amount of \$209,545.90 and payroll since the last meeting. Trustee Gardner seconded.

AYES: (4) Trustees Kraus, Gardner, Stacey and Tieri.

NAYS: (0) None.

Motion carried.

Trustee Kraus made a motion to approve the purchase of the 4th of July Commission raffle car in the amount of \$22,475 for a Chevy Trax from Dralle Chevrolet. Trustee Stacey seconded.

AYES: (4) Trustees Kraus, Gardner, Stacey and Tieri.

NAYS: (0) None.

Motion carried.

PUBLIC BUILDINGS AND PROPERTIES, PARKS AND RECREATION COMMITTEE

– No report.

PLANNING, BUILDING AND ZONING COMMITTEE

Petitioner, Jordan Belknap, from Turning Point Energy was present and provided a detailed presentation for a proposed commercial solar energy facility. Board members asked questions about the project. Trustee Gardner made a motion to submit a letter of non-objection to Will County Land Use Department for a special use permit for a proposed commercial solar energy facility on approximately 39.9 acres to be located south of West Indiana Avenue and east of South Western Avenue. The petitioner provided a presentation at the March 28, 2024 Planning and Zoning Commission meeting. After review and discussion, the PZC voted unanimously to recommend not to object to the project. Trustee Tieri seconded.

AYES: (4) Trustees Kraus, Gardner, Stacey and Tieri.

NAYS: (0) None.

Motion carried.

PUBLIC SAFETY COMMITTEE

Trustee Tieri made a motion to waive the formal bid process to purchase body cameras in the amount of \$49,995.20 from Axon Enterprises. This purchase will be made from the current budget. Trustee Stacey seconded.

AYES: (4) Trustees Kraus, Gardner, Stacey and Tieri.
NAYS: (0) None.
Motion carried.

Trustee Tieri made a motion to waive the formal bid process to purchase a 2024 Ford Explorer from Terry's Ford in the amount of \$44,705. This purchase will be from the Police CESFA fund in the Fiscal year 2024/2025 budget. Trustee Stacey seconded.

AYES: (4) Trustees Kraus, Gardner, Stacey and Tieri.
NAYS: (0) None.
Motion carried.

PUBLIC WORKS COMMITTEE

A Penfield Street improvement project update was provided by Superintendent Conner. Superintendent has received Iroquois Paving right of way entry permit with railroad. Once permit is signed off and railroad schedules a flagger the contractors will be able to complete the surface layer on whole project at once. He hopes to have permit secured in next three weeks. He is mainly waiting on the railroad to proceed.

Pavement has been ground down on Gould Street. Work is on hold due to potential weather.

Trustee Stacey made a motion to waive the formal bid process to purchase a John Deere Z960M ZTrack mower. This purchase will be from the Fiscal year 2024/2025 budget. Trustee Gardner seconded.

AYES: (4) Trustees Kraus, Gardner, Stacey and Tieri.
NAYS: (0) None.
Motion carried.

Trustee Stacey made a motion to accept the estimate from Superior Pumping Services in the amount of \$86,026.00 to replace two broken gear boxes and bearings at the oxidation ditch in the Sewer Plant. Trustee Gardner seconded.

AYES: (4) Trustees Kraus, Gardner, Stacey and Tieri.
NAYS: (0) None.
Motion carried.

ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT AND COMMUNITY RELATIONS COMMITTEE

A concert series update was provided. Food has been secured for three events and the Committee will secure food for the 4th event in the coming weeks.

ADJOURN TO EXECUTIVE SESSION

Trustee Stacey made a motion to adjourn into Executive Session at 7:41 p.m. to discuss the appointment, employment, compensation, discipline, performance or dismissal of personnel...5ILCS 120/2(c). Trustee Kraus seconded.

AYES: (4) Trustees Kraus, Gardner, Stacey and Tieri.
NAYS: (0) None.
Motion carried.

Trustee Stacey made a motion to return from Executive Session at 8:35 p.m. Trustee Gardner seconded.

AYES: (4) Trustees Kraus, Gardner, Stacey and Tieri.
NAYS: (0) None.
Motion carried.

OLD BUSINESS

Trustee Kraus made a motion to open a public hearing at 8:36 p.m. for the proposed budget for Fiscal Year 2024/2025. Trustee Gardner seconded.

AYES: (4) Trustees Kraus, Gardner, Stacey and Tieri.
NAYS: (0) None.
Motion carried.

Trustee Kraus presented the budget to the Board. It was noted that a line item was added to the Water Department salaries to add Assistant Public Works Superintendent position. Trustee Kraus also noted that it was learned that the water billing rates were being calculated incorrectly so once it's adjusted in the billing system the Water Department increase in the budget this year will only need to be an additional .25 cents instead of .50 cents. Otherwise, it is the same budget discussed at budget workshop with minor changes. Superintendent Conner asked if grocery tax is cut if any projects will be held in case for budget cuts. Board members were given an opportunity to ask questions. There was no public present.

When there were no further questions or comments, Trustee Kraus made a motion to close the public hearing at 8:43 p.m. Trustee Stacey seconded.

AYES: (4) Trustees Kraus, Gardner, Stacey and Tieri.
NAYS: (0) None.
Motion carried.

RESOLUTION 2024-02 – A Resolution adopting the budget for Fiscal Year 2024/2025. Trustee Kraus made a motion to adopt Resolution #2024-02. Trustee Tieri seconded.

AYES: (4) Trustees Kraus, Gardner, Stacey and Tieri.
NAYS: (0) None.
Motion carried.

ORDINANCE #1405 – An Ordinance of appropriation in the same amount of authorization as contained in the Fiscal Year 2024/2025 budget. Trustee Kraus made a motion to approve Ordinance #1405. Trustee Tieri seconded.

AYES: (4) Trustees Kraus, Gardner, Stacey and Tieri.
NAYS: (0) None.
Motion carried.

NEW BUSINESS – None.

There being no further business, President Meyer asked for a motion to adjourn. Trustee Stacey made a motion to adjourn the meeting. Trustee Gardner seconded.

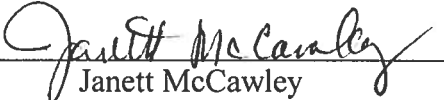
AYES: (4) Trustees Kraus, Gardner, Stacey and Tieri.

NAYS: (0) None.

Motion carried.

Meeting adjourned at 8:44 p.m.

Respectfully submitted by:



Janett McCawley
Village Clerk