

**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  
JULY 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 Stacey, Tieri, Kraus, Gardner, Weissbohn and Gianotti.  
ABSENT: None.

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

**GUESTS:** Bob and Donna Barber, George Schuitema and Scott Franko from SurfAir Wireless.

**APPROVAL OF MINUTES**

President Meyer asked for consideration of the minutes of the July 8, 2024 Board meeting. Trustee Weissbohn made a motion to approve the minutes as written. Trustee Gardner seconded.

AYES: (5) Trustees Stacey, Tieri, Kraus, Gardner and Weissbohn.

NAYS: (0) None.

ABSTAIN: (1) Trustee Gianotti.

Motion carried.

**RECOGNITION OF AUDIENCE** – None.

**VILLAGE CLERK REPORT** – None.

**VILLAGE PRESIDENT REPORT**

Scott Franko from SurfAir Wireless introduced himself and his company and provided a presentation on their plans to put fiber cable throughout the Village for internet service. They want to self-fund a broadband internet project through the Illinois Connect grant funding to serve Beecher and its rural residents. He explained his company and plans for the future. They serve a lot of schools and governments. He asked for any questions from the Board. They are planning directional boring throughout the Village for the future.

Former Village Administrator Bob Barber was invited to attend this meeting. He was presented with a shadowbox honoring his many years at the Village and his own honorary street sign. The

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original street sign is displayed on the corner of Maxwell and Penfield in honor of all his work on the Penfield Street project.

President Meyer provided an update on B&F Construction Code Services' proposal for conducting annual fire inspections this year. The person that was with the company when the contract was originally negotiated is no longer there. After discussions with the new representatives, the contract increased by 3% per hour as was agreed to in the previous contract for future years. There were no objections to continuing with B&F for fire inspections and continuing the contract.

### **FINANCE AND ADMINISTRATION COMMITTEE**

Trustee Kraus made a motion to approve the Treasurer's report and activity for the previous month. Trustee Weissbohn seconded.

AYES: (6) Trustees Stacey, Tieri, Kraus, Gardner, Weissbohn and Gianotti.

NAYS: (0) None.

Motion carried.

Trustee Kraus made a motion to approve payment of the list of bills in the amount of \$427,755.00 and payroll since the last meeting. Trustee Stacey seconded.

AYES: (6) Trustees Stacey, Tieri, Kraus, Gardner, Weissbohn and Gianotti.

NAYS: (0) None.

Motion carried.

### **PUBLIC BUILDINGS AND PROPERTIES, PARKS AND RECREATION COMMITTEE**

An update was provided on the new Public Safety facility construction. Trustee Gianotti reported that Chief Lemming met with JMA to discuss colors for exterior. JMA will be sending an update this week on the progress of the project. Construction is moving forward. Infrastructure is being installed.

### **PLANNING, BUILDING AND ZONING COMMITTEE**

The next Planning and Zoning Commission meeting is scheduled for July 25, 2024 at 7 p.m. A public hearing for a special use permit in a B-1 Historic Downtown Business District for a U-Haul rental business located at 759 W. Indiana Avenue is scheduled for that meeting.

An update was provided on the Zoning Ordinance revision. Trustee Gardner said the Steering Committee meeting met for the final time and ordinance draft should be available for the August PZC meeting.

### **PUBLIC SAFETY COMMITTEE**

Trustee Tieri provided an update on the Laraway Communication Center budget workshop. It was learned that dispatching costs will be increasing by \$50,000 but some reserve fund money may be available for equipment, according to Chief Lemming.

Chief Lemming reported that the adjudication program is going well.



August 6<sup>th</sup> is the National Night Out from 5-8 p.m. in Firemen's Park.

### **PUBLIC WORKS COMMITTEE**

The Public Works monthly report for June was provided in the packet for review.

The Board recognized the Beecher Public Works staff and Illinois Public Works Mutual Aid Network agencies for their hard work and assistance with storm damage cleanup. Trustee Stacey commended the Public Works Department for their hard work in the cleanup efforts as well as all the other departments that came in to assist in the cleanup.

Trustee Stacey made a motion declaring the 2005 Chevrolet 3500 pickup with Boss snowplow as surplus property and setting a minimum bid price. The vehicle has 152,000 miles and would be sold as-is. Trustee Gardner seconded.

AYES: (6) Trustees Stacey, Tieri, Kraus, Gardner, Weissbohn and Gianotti.

NAYS: (0) None.

Motion carried.

Trustee Stacey made a motion declaring the 2006 Chevrolet 3500 mini-dump with Boss snowplow as surplus property and setting a minimum bid price. This vehicle has 97,000 miles and would be sold as-is. Trustee Gardner seconded.

AYES: (6) Trustees Stacey, Tieri, Kraus, Gardner, Weissbohn and Gianotti.

NAYS: (0) None.

Motion carried.

The Committee will discuss setting minimum bids for the surplus vehicles.

The purchase of the 2024 Ford 150 was tabled until a financial review of the CESFA Fund is completed and a new resolution is drafted and approved for how CESFA funds may be spent.

Superintendent Conner introduced new Assistant Public Works Superintendent Adam Held. He thanked everyone for the opportunity to work here.

### **ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT AND COMMUNITY RELATIONS COMMITTEE**

No report.

### **OLD BUSINESS**

Trustee Gianotti read aloud a letter of resignation as Village Trustee effective at the end of this meeting, due to changes in family obligations. He thanked everyone he has served with as Trustee as well as Village staff, Police and Public Works employees, and the support of his family.

President Meyer said she will be speaking to people who may be interested in the Board seat.

There being no further business to be discussed in regular session, Trustee Gianotti made a motion to adjourn into Executive Session at 7:38 p.m. to discuss specific personnel. Trustee Stacey seconded.

AYES: (6) Trustees Stacey, Tieri, Kraus, Gardner, Weissbohn and Gianotti.

NAYS: (0) None.

Motion carried.

Trustee Weissbohn made a motion to return from Executive Session at 8:20 p.m. Trustee Gianotti seconded.

AYES: (6) Trustees Stacey, Tieri, Kraus, Gardner, Weissbohn and Gianotti.

NAYS: (0) None.

Motion carried.

### **NEW BUSINESS**

Administrator Mitchell informed the Board that there is another solar facility going in at the corner of Western Avenue and Indiana Avenue, outside of the Village's planning jurisdiction and in Will Township.

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: (6) Trustees Stacey, Tieri, Kraus, Gardner, Weissbohn and Gianotti.

NAYS: (0) None.

Motion carried.

Meeting adjourned at 8:22 p.m.

Respectfully submitted by:

  
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Janett McCawley  
Village Clerk