



# THE BEECHER BULLETIN

"Your Village Newsletter"

Fall 2024

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## NEW PUBLIC SAFETY FACILITY TO BE COMPLETED IN EARLY 2025

Construction on the new Public Safety Facility is coming along quickly! Barring any setbacks, the project is proceeding along as scheduled and should be completed in April, 2025.

As you can see from the photo, construction on the roof has started and we hope to have the building completely enclosed with roof, windows and doors by the time this newsletter is mailed.

Updates on the progress of the Public Safety Facility and photos will continue to be posted on our website, so keep an eye out!



## Village of Beecher

### OFFICIALS

Marcy Meyer  
*President*

#### Trustees:

Todd Kraus  
Joseph Tieri  
Roger Stacey  
Erik Gardner

David Weissbohn  
Brian Diachenko

Janett McCawley  
*Clerk/Office Mgr*

Donna Lippelt  
*Treasurer*

Charity Mitchell  
*Administrator*

Terrence Lemming  
*Chief of Police*

Matt Conner  
*Supt. of Public Works*

Robert Heim  
*EMA Director*



## HAVE YOU HEARD ABOUT BEECHER BLESSINGS?

Beecher Blessings, established in 2023, is a local nonprofit organization dedicated to helping families and individuals within the Beecher community. We raise funds throughout the year and work with local schools, churches, and community groups to identify those most in need, providing assistance and support. Our goal is to provide assistance and bring happiness to those who need it. With your donation, we are able to do just that!

### WHO ARE WE?

Beecher Blessings is a 501C3 organization that operates within the boundaries of the Beecher 200U School District and the Beecher Fire Protection District.

### WHAT DO WE DO?

Our mission is to help families in the community that are struggling financially, with major medical issues or another major life event that may need help and support. We try to ease the burden by helping with utility payments, clothing, grocery vouchers and Christmas presents. Last year, through generous donations, we were able to help six families.

Beecher Blessings members are all volunteers and we have no overhead. **100%** of every donation that we receive goes to help out members of our community. Please consider donating, and be a blessing to the Beecher community!

[www.BeecherBlessings.com](http://www.BeecherBlessings.com)



## VILLAGE PRESIDENT'S CORNER



*Marcy Meyer*  
Village President

Autumn is here, and we've finally completed the Penfield and Gould Street construction projects. Again, we would like to express our deep gratitude to the homeowners and businesses that were affected by this project. We know it was frustrating and construction never seems to go according to schedule, no matter how well you plan. It is a huge relief to see these projects completed. We are currently working with the Chamber of Commerce and local businesses to create Christmas banners for the light poles. We may be able to do some other decorating in this area as well.

Speaking of construction, the new public safety facility is the next major project in the works, and thanks to the great weather we have had, it is proceeding on schedule. The projected completion date is April of 2025. Updated floor plans and photos with construction updates have been loaded on our website.

We've had a surge in business activity over the summer:

- ◆ Golden Brew and Creamery at 759 Penfield opened this summer, offering gourmet coffee, sweet rolls, ice cream, and more.
- ◆ The owners of Golden Brew, Mike and DeeDee Hurley, have just purchased Sophia's next door, and will be opening a new eatery soon.
- ◆ The Gould Vault on Gould Street has been purchased by the owners of Corky's Dogg House in Cedar Lake and they offer a large dine-in and carry-out menu along with specialty drinks.
- ◆ Domino's Pizza has opened at 985 S. Dixie Highway.
- ◆ Union Electronics, currently located in an unincorporated area south of the Village, is building a 100,000 square foot warehouse within the Village limits, on Church Road.
- ◆ Silver Screen Vapes has just added U-Haul truck rentals to the products that are currently offered.

We would like to thank everyone involved with the concert series this year. We trimmed the dates to four, but due to the partnership with Washington Township, we were able to bring some bigger name bands to the park. Even though we had to grapple with some inclement weather again this year, we had huge crowds that came out to support these events.

Stay safe this winter and enjoy the upcoming holiday season!



### Washington Township to Offer Early Voting for Upcoming General Election

Early Voting for the General Election will be held at the Washington Township Center located at 30200 Town Center Road in Beecher, on Monday through Friday from October 21 through November 1. (Early Voting will also be conducted on Saturday Oct. 26) All residents of Washington Township (Beecher) and Will County are eligible to vote at their site.

Skip the long lines and crowds of Election Day and consider voting early! The process is quick and 100% secure.

The 2024 General Election will be held on November 5.

#### WASHINGTON TOWNSHIP

**30200 Town Center Road**

#### Early Voting Hours

Oct 21 (Mon) - 9 am - 3 pm	Oct 28 (Mon) - 9 am - 5 pm
Oct 22 (Tue) - 9 am - 3 pm	Oct 29 (Tue) - 9 am - 5 pm
Oct 23 (Wed) - 9 am - 3 pm	Oct 30 (Wed) - 9 am - 3 pm
Oct 24 (Thu) - 9 am - 3 pm	Oct 31 (Thu) - 9 am - 3 pm
Oct 25 (Fri) - 9 am - 3 pm	Nov 1 (Fri) - 9 am - 3 pm
Oct 26 (Sat) - 9 am - Noon	

*The schedule is also available on the Beecher Community Calendar APP!*



## BEECHER'S 4TH ANNUAL HOLIDAY CELEBRATION

### SUNDAY, DECEMBER 1ST

### 5 p.m. - 7 p.m.



We're excited to announce the 4th Annual Village of Beecher Holiday Celebration and Christmas Tree Lighting to be held at Firemen's Park!

The Village, Township, 4th of July Commission, Beecher Fire Protection District and several local churches are planning festivities on Sunday, December 1st for all to enjoy.

A light parade will kick off at 5 p.m., followed by the official tree lighting. Santa will then make a personal appearance, and the kids can enjoy his workshop with art and craft activities.

The Beecher 4th of July Commission will be providing free food as a thank you to the residents for their support. There will also be free cookies, hot chocolate and goodie bags for the kids provided by the churches.

### TENTATIVE HOLIDAY SCHEDULE

**1-3:30 p.m. ★Pop-up Christmas Market at Peace Lutheran Church, 540 Oak Park Ave**

**4:45 p.m. ★Line up for holiday light parade - corner of Reed & Penfield  
(in newly paved parking lot east of the railroad tracks)**

*★Parade registration forms available at the Village Hall & [villageofbeecher.org](http://villageofbeecher.org) ★*

**5:00 p.m. ★Parade begins at corner of Reed & Penfield & ends in Firemen's Park  
(ROUTE: Begins at corner of Reed & Penfield; Reed north to Hodges;  
Hodges east to Woodward; Woodward south to Penfield; Penfield  
east to Firemen's Park.**

**5:15 p.m. ★Santa arrives in Firemen's Park.  
★Food Stand & Santa's workshop with arts & crafts for the kids begins**

**5:20 p.m. ★Tree lighting ceremony**

**5:30 p.m. ★Santa & his workshop will be in the north pavilion for pictures**

*We hope to see you there!*

### BEECHER CHAMBER OF COMMERCE 6TH ANNUAL LIGHTING UP DIXIE HIGHWAY

The Beecher Chamber of Commerce will be having their annual "Lighting Up Dixie Highway" again this year.

Anyone can decorate a tree placed along Dixie Highway to honor a loved one and the top three decorated trees will be awarded cash prizes.

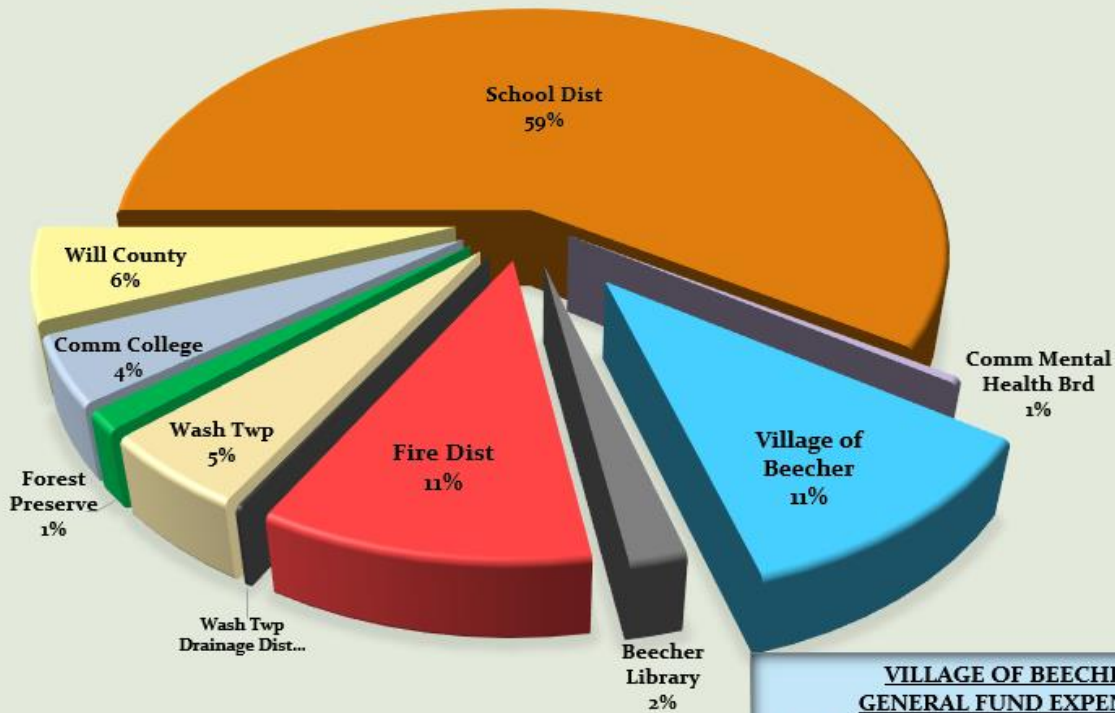
*(Tree purchase required to be eligible for decorating contest.)*

Trees must be purchased by November 5th.

**For more information visit [Beecherchamber.org](http://Beecherchamber.org)**



**REAL ESTATE TAXES IN THE VILLAGE OF BEECHER**  
**WHEN I PAY MY TAX BILL WHERE DOES THE MONEY GO?**



**VILLAGE OF BEECHER**  
**GENERAL FUND EXPENSES**

- Police Protection
- Street Maintenance, lighting, snow removal
- Park Maintenance
- Building & Code Enforcement
- Administrative Costs & Supplies
- Wages/Workers Comp/Health Ins
- Engineering
- Equipment/Vehicle Replacement

The chart above gives a visual representation of where each of your property tax dollars ended up in 2024. The Village of Beecher receives 11% of the property tax you pay. Other local governments receive more or less. The Village has other options for obtaining revenue, such as income taxes, sales taxes and water and sewer fees. The fire and school districts rely on the property tax as their main source of revenue which is why they receive a higher percentage.

Only those in the Village of Beecher limits will have "Village of Beecher" listed on their tax bill. If Village of Beecher is not listed on your tax bill, then you would be considered in unincorporated Will County and would not pay taxes to the Village.

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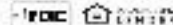
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# VILLAGE BOARD MEETING HIGHLIGHTS

The following actions were taken by the Beecher Village Board since Spring of 2024:

- ✓ Approved a construction staking proposal submitted by Piggush Engineering for the new Public Safety Facility in the amount of \$25,325. (4/8/24)
- ✓ Recognized May 5-11, 2024 as the 55<sup>th</sup> Annual Professional Municipal Clerks Week. (4/22/24)
- ✓ Approved an application from The Huddle to hold a block party on Gould Street. (4/22/24)
- ✓ Adopted the FY24/25 budget and approved an ordinance of appropriation. (4/22/24)
- ✓ Approved the purchase of the 4<sup>th</sup> of July Commission raffle car in the amount of \$22,475 for a Chevy Trax from Dralle Chevrolet. (4/22/24)
- ✓ Approved submitting 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 at the corner of Indiana Avenue and Western Avenue. (4/22/24)
- ✓ Approved waiving the formal bid process to purchase body cameras for the Police Department in the amount of \$49,995.20 from Axon Enterprise. (4/22/24)
- ✓ Approved waiving the formal bid process to purchase a 2024 Ford Explorer for the Police Department in the amount of \$44,705 from Terry's. (4/22/24)
- ✓ Approved waiving the formal bid process to purchase a John Deere Z960M ZTrak mower in the amount of \$14,093.31 from Shorewood Home and Auto. (4/22/24)
- ✓ Approved an estimate from Superior Pumping Services to replace two broken gear boxes and bearings at the oxidation ditch at the sewer treatment plant in the amount of \$86,026. (4/22/24)
- ✓ Appointed and sworn in David Weissbohn to the office of Village Trustee. (5/13/24)
- ✓ Recognized May 12-18, 2024 as National Police Week and May 19-25, 2024 as National Public Works Week. (5/13/24)
- ✓ Approved ordinances amending Village Code pertaining to liquor and gaming licenses. (5/13/24).
- ✓ Approved an ordinance amending Village Code pertaining to EMA and appointed Robert Heim as EMA Director. (5/13/24)
- ✓ Approved a Resolution adopting the Village of Beecher Emergency Operations Plan. (5/13/24).
- ✓ Approved declaring 2012 Ford Taurus EMA vehicle as surplus property so it could be auctioned. (5/13/24)
- ✓ Reviewed IDOT documentation Review No. 63 covering the receipt and disbursement of MFT funds by the Village for the period beginning January 1, 2019 and ending December 31, 2023 as required by IDOT. (5/13/24).
- ✓ Approved proposal from Baxter & Woodman to assist Village Staff with 2024 NPDES MS4 program permitting requirements in an amount not to exceed \$6,700. (5/13/24)
- ✓ Approved applying for DCEO grant in the amount of \$50,000 to replace Village Hall parking lot and roadway. (6/10/24)
- ✓ Approved an Ordinance amending Village Code pertaining to rates for sewer service. (6/10/24)
- ✓ Approved the purchase of replacement UV lamps for the Wastewater Treatment Plant from Trojan Technologies in the amount of \$12,781.85. (6/10/24)

*Continued on next page*

*Board Meeting Highlights Continued*

- ✓ Approved a Resolution for maintenance of Village streets with MFT funds under the Illinois Highway Code. (6/24/24)
- ✓ Discussed the Village's stormwater permit requirements and pollution prevention. (6/24/24)
- ✓ Approved an Ordinance authorizing the execution of an intergovernmental agreement between the County of Will and the Village of Beecher for the provision of animal protection services. (7/8/24)
- ✓ Presented former Village Administrator Robert Barber with a shadow box in recognition of his 35+ years of service. (7/22/24)
- ✓ Recognized Public Works staff and IPWMAN agencies for their hard work and assistance with storm damage cleanup. (7/22/24)
- ✓ Approved declaring a 2005 Chevrolet 3500 Pickup with snowplow and a 2006 Chevrolet 3500 mini-dump with snowplow as surplus property and setting minimum bid price. (7/22/24)
- ✓ Approved a proposal from Wirkus Paving to replace the Village Hall parking lot and roadway in the amount of \$52,501. (8/12/24)
- ✓ Appointed Robert Barber to the Village of Beecher Planning and Zoning Commission. (8/26/24)
- ✓ Accepted the bid from K.R.T. Concrete for sidewalk replacement in the amount of \$21,600. (8/26/24)
- ✓ Appointed and sworn in Brian Diachenko to the office of Village Trustee. (9/9/24)
- ✓ Discussed the IEPA final loan closing amendment for the Lead Service Line Replacement project. (9/9/24)

The Beecher Village Board meets on the second and fourth Mondays of each month at 7:00 p.m. at the Beecher Village Hall, 625 Dixie Highway. Residents are invited and encouraged to attend.

Video recordings of the meetings are available to be viewed on the [Village's YouTube Channel](#) and are shared on the Village of Beecher Facebook page at <https://www.facebook.com/beecher.il.60401/>. A link to our YouTube Channel may also be found on the Village website.



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## Protect Water Quality in Your Own Yard in Every Season!

### In the Fall

- Gardens need bedcovers. When cleaning out vegetable and flower gardens, don't leave the soil bare for the winter. Use chopped leaves as mulch or plant a "green mulch" to add nutrients and organic matter to the soil.
- Plant! Early autumn is the best time to transplant shrubs and other perennials and to reseed lawns. Choose grass seed mixes that match your site. Consider adding a little clover seed for a free source of nitrogen fixation. Early autumn is the best time for a single dose of fertilizer for good grass root growth and a healthy lawn next spring. Slow-release or organic fertilizers stay where plants can use them and out of the local waters and wells. Keep watering all new plantings until the ground is frozen to give the roots plenty of opportunity to grow.
- Save the leaves. Leaves have lots of landscaping uses. Make a compost pile, chop them and mulch the landscaping and garden beds, or create new beds under the trees from which they fell. If your property is just too small and the town has community composting, use it, but go back for your leaf mulch next spring.



To learn more or report possible illegal discharges to the storm drain system, call the Village of Beecher at 708-946-2261.

(Source: Clean Water Fact Sheet, produced by NEMO and Sea Grant Connecticut)

## Stormwater: Where It Flows, Everything Goes

When it rains, snows, or sleet, water hits hard surfaces and takes anything on that surface with it, through drains, pipes, and ditches to local rivers, lakes, and streams.



## Where Stormwater Flows, Everything Goes



## CURBSIDE LEAF COLLECTION

The cooler weather has arrived and leaf raking season is here again! Leaves raked in rows along the curbside are picked up by a large vacuum machine used by Public Works crews until the end of November (depending on the weather).

Residents should place leaves in a pile or row in the parkway, between the sidewalk and curb as near to the street as possible. Leaves should not be placed in the streets because it will clog storm drains when it rains, potentially causing flooding. In areas without curbs, leaves should be placed in long rows on the grass or parkway at the edge of the street. Do not mix leaves with branches or grass clippings. These things will damage the leaf machine.

## SNOW PARKING REGULATIONS DURING WINTER WEATHER

Even though many of us don't want to think about that white stuff, with winter approaching, the Village wants to remind residents that "It shall be unlawful to park any vehicle on any public street in the Village at any time within a twenty-four (24) hour period following a snowfall of two inches (2") or more. Such prohibited parking on any public street shall include the paved portion of any roadway or thoroughfare and also the paved portion of any Village-owned right of way adjacent to such roadway in a business district." This does not include parkways maintained by residents.



It is also illegal to deposit snow onto public streets. When clearing your driveway, direct the snow into the yard and not the street. Remember, the snow will end up back in your driveway anyway when the plow comes back by! The Police Department may issue tickets to those that deposit their snow onto the street.

## DOG TAGS GO ON SALE MONDAY, DECEMBER 2ND



Dog tags go on sale Monday, December 2nd. The price is \$10 per dog and the deadline for purchase is March 14, 2025. After the March 14th deadline, the price of dog tags increases. Tags may be purchased at the Village Hall or online by clicking on the "ePay" option on the Village website. The dog's name, breed, color and date of last rabies vaccination will be required to purchase the tag. If you pay online, the tags will be mailed to you.

Dog tag fees are used to pay for the services provided by the Beecher Veterinary Clinic for picking up, feeding and boarding stray animals and lost pets.



## HALLOWEEN



Trick-or-Treat hours

4-7 p.m.

Thursday, October 31<sup>st</sup>

Have a Safe and Happy Halloween!



*(Rain or Shine)*

Presented by the Beecher Lions Club



## HALLOWEEN IN THE PARK



Join us on Halloween after "Trick or Treat" for our annual FREE HOT DOG roast (rain or shine), fun and games (weather permitting). Activities start at 6:30 pm at Firemen's Park in Beecher.





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## Village of Beecher

625 Dixie Highway / P.O. Box 1154  
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### Village Hall Hours

Monday thru Friday:  
8:00 a.m. - 4:30 p.m.

### Village Hall Phone

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)

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*Newsletter Editor: Janett McCawley, Village Clerk*



**PEACE LUTHERAN TRUNK OR TREAT**  
540 Oak Park Ave  
Saturday, October 26th 11 am - 1 pm

**HALLOWEEN TRICK-OR-TREAT HOURS**  
Thursday, October 31st 4 - 7 pm

**LIONS CLUB HALLOWEEN IN THE PARK**  
(hot dogs, fun & games)  
Thursday, October 31st 6:30 pm

**BEECHER PART-TIME PLAYERS MUSICAL "CARRIE"**  
October 25th & 26th, November 1st & 2nd  
<https://www.facebook.com/bcptp>

**ANNUAL HOLIDAY CELEBRATION**  
Lighted Parade / Tree Lighting / Santa / Santa's Workshop  
Sunday, December 1st (rain or shine)  
5 - 7 pm (see page 3 for details)  
Firemen's Park / 675 Penfield