

**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  
OCTOBER 28, 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 Diachenko.

ABSENT: None.

**STAFF PRESENT:** Clerk Janett McCawley, Administrator Charity Mitchell, Assistant PW Superintendent Adam Held, Treasurer Donna Lippelt, Chief Terry Lemming, EMA Director Bob Heim, Code Enforcement Officer David Harrison, Police Administrative Assistant Sandy Rukavina and many Beecher Police officers.

**GUESTS:** Grant Park Police Chief, Auditors Jennifer Doss and Dale Gerretse, Vic Reato and his Attorney James Hess, Byron and Soliel Harden, Pastor Ed D’Andrea, Jonathan Rukavina and George Schuitema.

**APPROVAL OF MINUTES**

President Meyer asked for consideration of the minutes of the October 15, 2024 Board meeting. Trustee Kraus made a motion to approve the minutes as written. Trustee Weissbohn seconded.

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

NAYS: (0) None.

Motion carried.

**RECOGNITION OF AUDIENCE** – None.

**VILLAGE CLERK REPORT**

Clerk McCawley provided a report on tax income received in September, 2024 and provided the filing dates for the April 1, 2025 election.

**PRESENTATION OF POLICE DEPARTMENT AWARDS**

Chief Lemming presented an award to Sargeant DaCorte for his work in apprehending individuals that passed counterfeit money in Beecher and then moved on to Grant Park. He then contacted the Grant Park Chief and they worked together to catch the offenders who were also attempting to do the same in Grant Park.

Chief Lemming presented a lifesaving award to Officer Lorek who helped locate an elderly man who went missing in the Beecher area. He is a member of a K-9 group who works for this purpose. The gentleman and his wife were also present in the audience for the award.

### **VILLAGE PRESIDENT REPORT**

Trustee Weissbohn made a motion to hold the first meeting of November on Tuesday, November 12<sup>th</sup> due to the Veterans Day holiday. Trustee Stacey seconded.

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

NAYS: (0) None.

Motion carried.

ORDINANCE #1412 – An Ordinance amending Village Code section 1-6-6 of the Village of Beecher. Trustee Kraus made a motion to approve Ordinance #1412 which amends Village Code section 1-6-6 changing the time of the regular meetings of the Village President and Board of Trustees from 7 p.m. to 6 p.m., effective with first meeting in December 2024. Trustee Gardner seconded.

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

NAYS: (0) None.

Motion carried.

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

Trustee Gardner made a motion directing the Village Attorney to draft an ordinance granting a special use permit in a B-1 Historic Downtown Business District for a vape and smoke shop at 759 W. Indiana Avenue. The Planning and Zoning Commission (PZC) voted unanimously to recommend approval of the special use permit request with the following conditions listed below:

1. No one under the age of 21 permitted into the establishment unless accompanied by an adult over 21 years of age;
2. The establishment must maintain a video surveillance system, and allow such video surveillance system to be accessible upon request to law enforcement;
3. Minimum of 50% exposed glass on exterior windows for law enforcement;
4. There shall be no flashing string or rope lights – solid colors only. Neon lighting is permitted, but LED is not. Light levels of any signage, window or door dressing cannot exceed normal brightness of neon as determined by the Zoning Administrator.
5. A new sign shall be erected within a reasonable timeframe to replace the existing wall sign on the building, similar to the exhibit presented at the public hearing.

Trustee Weissbohn seconded.

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

NAYS: (0) None.

Motion carried.

Trustee Gardner made a motion to approve a third amendment of Professional Services Agreement between the Village of Beecher and SAFEbuilt Illinois in an amount not to exceed \$10,000. SAFEbuilt will provide assistance to staff with the adoption of and transition to new building codes. Trustee Diachenko seconded.

AYES: (6) Trustees Stacey, Tieri, Kraus, Gardner, Weissbohn and Diachenko.  
NAYS: (0) None.  
Motion carried.

The next Planning and Zoning Commission meeting is scheduled for Thursday, December 12, 2024 at 7 p.m.

### **FINANCE AND ADMINISTRATION COMMITTEE**

Trustee Kraus made a motion to approve payment of the list of bills in the amount of \$145,415.49 and payroll since the last meeting. Trustee Tieri seconded.

AYES: (6) Trustees Stacey, Tieri, Kraus, Gardner, Weissbohn and Diachenko.  
NAYS: (0) None.  
Motion carried.

Accountant Jennifer Doss provided a presentation on the audit for Fiscal Year 2023/2024 and answered any questions. Trustee Kraus made a motion to accept the audit report for Fiscal Year 2023/2024. Trustee Stacey seconded.

AYES: (6) Trustees Stacey, Tieri, Kraus, Gardner, Weissbohn and Diachenko.  
NAYS: (0) None.  
Motion carried.

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

Trustee Diachenko provided an update on the Christmas tree lighting event. At the meeting the group prepared a bullet list of items and activities that will make up the event. Planning is going well.

### **PUBLIC SAFETY COMMITTEE**

Trustee Tieri made a motion to approve a Collection Services Agreement with Municipal Collections of America, Inc. for collection services. Trustee Stacey seconded.

AYES: (6) Trustees Stacey, Tieri, Kraus, Gardner, Weissbohn and Diachenko.  
NAYS: (0) None.  
Motion carried.

### **PUBLIC WORKS COMMITTEE**

Trustee Stacey made a motion declaring the 2012 Cub Cadet lawn tractor as surplus property and donating it to Beecher Recreation. They will be keeping it at Welton Stedt Park/Jr. High to maintain the newly renovated fields. Trustee Gardner seconded.

AYES: (6) Trustees Stacey, Tieri, Kraus, Gardner, Weissbohn and Diachenko.  
NAYS: (0) None.  
Motion carried.

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

The Village newsletter was mailed out last week and is also available on the Village website.

**OLD BUSINESS** – None.

### **ADJOURN TO EXECUTIVE SESSION**

Trustee Weissbohn made a motion to adjourn into Executive Session at 7:29 p.m. to discuss personnel: the appointment, employment, compensation, discipline, performance or dismissal of specific employees. Trustee Gardner seconded.

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

NAYS: (0) None.

Motion carried.

Trustee Tieri made a motion to return from Executive Session at 8:12 p.m. Trustee Stacey seconded.

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

NAYS: (0) None.

Motion carried.

**NEW BUSINESS** - None.

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

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

NAYS: (0) None.

Motion carried.

Meeting adjourned at 8:12 p.m.

Respectfully submitted by:

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Janett McCawley  
Village Clerk