

**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
JANUARY 13, 2025 -- 6:00 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, Diachenko and Weissbohn.

ABSENT: None.

STAFF PRESENT: Clerk Janett McCawley, Administrator Charity Mitchell, Public Works Superintendent Matt Conner, Chief Terry Lemming, Treasurer Donna Lippelt, Code Enforcement Officer David Harrison, EMA Director Bob Heim and members of the Beecher Police Department.

GUESTS: George Schuitema and Joe Burgess (arrived at 6:50 p.m.).

APPROVAL OF MINUTES

President Meyer asked for consideration of the minutes of the December 9, 2024 Board meeting. Trustee Kraus made a motion to approve the minutes as written. Trustee Stacey seconded.

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

NAYS: (0) None.

Motion carried.

RECOGNITION OF AUDIENCE – None.

VILLAGE CLERK REPORT

- 1) A report of tax income received in December, 2024 was provided.
- 2) Clerk McCawley provided a copy of the Certification of Ballot for the April 1, 2025 election.

VILLAGE PRESIDENT REPORT

Chief Lemming presented a service award to Officer Drew and thanked Fire Chief Falaschetti for bringing the details to Chief Lemming's attention. On December 13, 2024 there was a house fire and Officer Drew was first on the scene. The house was fully engulfed, and he knew an elderly woman lived there. He made forcible entry and searched the whole house to see if there was anyone home. Afterwards he was treated for smoke inhalation. He then came out and directed traffic since he knew they needed help. Officer Drew was recognized and thanked for his actions.

President Meyer appointed Gus Athanasopoulos to the 4th of July Commission. Trustee Kraus made a motion to approve the appointment. Trustee Weissbohn seconded.

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



REPORTS OF VILLAGE COMMISSIONS

Trustee Kraus provided a 4th of July Commission report. Next meeting will be held in March. A meeting was held the previous week. The Commission reported that they made approximately \$52,000 in 2024 and will be putting the money back into Firemen's Park.

Trustee Weissbohn provided a Youth Commission report. The next meeting is January 21st.

Trustee Gardner reported that the next Historic Preservation Commission meeting will be held on Wednesday, January 15th at the Depot.

FINANCE AND ADMINISTRATION COMMITTEE

Trustee Kraus made a motion approving the Treasurer's report. Treasurer Lippelt was present and provided a report. Trustee Diachenko seconded.

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

Variance reports for the previous month were provided for review.

Trustee Kraus made a motion approving the list of bills in the amount of \$638,206.20 and payrolls. Trustee Diachenko seconded.

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

PUBLIC BUILDINGS AND PROPERTIES, PARKS AND RECREATION COMMITTEE

No report.

PLANNING, BUILDING AND ZONING COMMITTEE

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

ORDINANCE #1415 – An Ordinance amending Village Code Section 4-1-2(c) of the Village of Beecher as it pertains to building permit fees. Trustee Gardner made a motion to approve Ordinance #1415. Trustee Tieri seconded.

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

The next PZC meeting is scheduled for January 23, 2025 at 7 p.m. A Public Hearing will be held to consider a proposed Zoning Ordinance and amend the Zoning District Map.

PUBLIC SAFETY COMMITTEE

The Police Department, EMA and Code Enforcement monthly reports were provided in the packet for review.

Trustee Tieri made a motion approving a 3-year renewal of the contract with Flock Safety in an amount not to exceed \$32,500 per year. Trustee Stacey seconded.

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

NAYS: (0) None.

Motion carried.

A report was provided on the joint meeting of the Public Works and Public Safety Committees held on January 3, 2025. Trustee Tieri reported that they went over fire hydrants and reviewed some of the things that need to be addressed that resulted from the recent house fire. Superintendent Conner met with the Fire District and plans to fix some hydrants that are not positioned correctly or need to be repaired. Many of the items were already addressed between the Public Works Superintendent and Fire Chief before the committee meeting.

PUBLIC WORKS COMMITTEE

The Water Department monthly report, billing register and Wastewater Treatment Plant monthly report were provided in the packet for review.

ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT AND COMMUNITY RELATIONS COMMITTEE

An update was provided on the summer concert series. The Committee will meet after the Board meeting to discuss the concerts.

OLD BUSINESS – None.

ADJOURN TO EXECUTIVE SESSION

There being no further business to discuss in regular session, Trustee Weissbohn made a motion to adjourn into Executive Session at 6:18 p.m. to discuss the appointment, employment, compensation, discipline, performance, or dismissal of specific employees 5 ILCS 120/2(c)(1). Trustee Gardner seconded.

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

NAYS: (0) None.

Motion carried.

Trustee Diachenko made a motion to return to regular session at 6:47 p.m. Trustee Weissbohn seconded.

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

NAYS: (0) None.

Motion carried.

NEW BUSINESS

Chief Lemming and Administrator Mitchell met with School Superintendent Gaham about the SRO program. School wants to continue program but pay 50% in the future instead of the current 75% cost to the school. School District also may not want to continue having SRO teaching in the school. Chief Lemming recommended to write into agreement that overtime hours at the school for special events would be paid by the them or adjust the officer schedule in the school. Will need to interview current officers for the position. A 60/40% split with school was discussed. The Public Safety Committee can meet with the District Superintendent and discuss the program and cost. Trustee Kraus also raised question of reimplementing the school impact fees since the moratorium has expired.

President Meyer said that she as Village President usually gives the local bar owners a break during certain holidays that fall during the week so they can stay open until 2 a.m. She recently had a bar owner reach out to her the last minute asking for extending the time but it was too late to schedule an additional officer. She'd like to set certain holidays during the year to allow staying open late to give the bars guidance moving forward so these issues don't have to be addressed at the last minute.

President Meyer also noted that she may change the names of the Committees to simplify their names and reflect better what they represent.

Administrator Mitchell reported that Lennar Homes reached out to her and wants to meet with her and the Village President to ask if they can get their new home permits at a reduced cost. The Board wants to look at current fees, do a study of the costs and determine appropriate fees moving forward. The Board also wants to look at the school impact fees. The Committee will meet and discuss.

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


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

NAYS: (0) None.

Motion carried.

Meeting adjourned at 7:15 p.m.

Respectfully submitted by:



Janett McCawley
Village Clerk