

**MINUTES OF THE REGULAR MEETING OF THE PRESIDENT AND BOARD OF TRUSTEES OF THE VILLAGE OF EAST HAZEL CREST, Wednesday, 7/23/08 - 8 PM**

**OFFICIALS:** Mayor Brown, Administrator Lazuka, and Clerk Minnis

**ROLL CALL:** Trustees Forte, Kearns, Johnson, Ewan, Smith and Ortiz were present.

**ALSO PRESENT WERE:**, FD Chief Vallow, PW Supervisor Maltrotto, Sgt. Mrjenovich, Antwon Russell, Mary Ervin and Rafah Muhammed of WDM Ministries.

**PRAYER AND PLEDGE:** After a moment of silent prayer, Mayor Brown lead the assembly in the Pledge to the Flag.

**MINUTES:** Trustees Smith and Ortiz made the motions to approve the minutes of the regular meeting held on 6/25/08 as presented. All trustees voted aye. Motions carried.

**REPORTS OF VILLAGE OFFICIALS:**

**MAYOR:**

1) Mayor Brown presented **Ordinance 08-01 APPROPRIATIONS ORDINANCE for the fiscal year 2008-2009**. Trustees Smith and Kearns made the motions to adopt Ordinance 08-01.

2) **Ordinance 08-02- VACATION OF PUBLIC ALLEYS (Weglarz)** Trustees Ortiz and Smith made the motions to adopt Ordinance 08-02. Roll Call: all trustees voted aye. Motions carried.

3) **Ordinance 08-03 –Plat of Subdivision (Weglarz)**. Trustees Forte and Ewan made the motions to adopt Ordinance 08-03. Roll Call: all trustees voted aye. Motions carried.

4) **AGREEMENT – WATER MAINS (Weglarz)**. Mayor Brown brought members up to date on the years long effort to have verification of the integrity of the water mains in the Weglarz development. There is a possibility of one additional water main engineers were unable to locate. This agreement assures easement to East Hazel Crest if it is proven to exist. Trustees Smith and Ewan made the motions to approve the Agreement. Roll Call: all trustees voted aye. Motions carried.

5) **Resolution 08-02 – Acceptance of Infrastructure (Weglarz)**. Trustees Kearns and Ewan made the motions to adopt Resolution 08-02. Roll Call: all trustees voted aye. Motions carried.

6) **Appeal of owners of “A Friend’s Place”**. No one present to make the appeal on behalf of the owners of this business.

Mayor Brown noted the Il. Department of Labor made a 'Safety & Health' inspection of all Village buildings recently. They found no violations.

**CLERK:** Members were reminded of the IL. Municipal League Annual conference to be held at the Chicago Hilton September 25-28<sup>th</sup>.

Notification has been received from Blue Cross/Blue Shield that there will be no increase in fees for life insurance for our full time employees.

The Clerk attended a workshop conducted by Kevin Smith of Alexi Giannoulis, State Treasurer office on 'Fighting Foreclosure/Foreclosure Prevention'. She said the bottom line is: if you are having problems making your payments – whether they are water bills or house payments – call the office/ your lender and tell them. The banks don't want your property – they want their money and will work with you to resolve the problem.

Local Officials Day at the Il. State Fair is August 9<sup>th</sup>, in Springfield and on August 23<sup>rd</sup> in DeQuoin.

**ADMINISTRATOR:**

- 1) Construction news. Nothing to report. Park Avenue at 171<sup>st</sup> is still closed. County and the contractor have issues to resolve.
- 2) FD Car - \$1,000. Chief Vallow negotiated the price down to \$800; but some repairs must be made and he is asking for \$1,800 for the purchase and needed repairs. Trustees Kearns and Ortiz made the motions to approve the \$1,800 request. Roll Call: all trustees voted aye. Motions carried. [the old 1992 FD car will be sold].
- 3) Diversity Dues: The administrator was directed to ask Diversity, Inc. if they would re-consider the dues assessed. The Executive Committee of Diversity Inc. said 'no'. Trustees Smith and Ortiz made the motions to pay the \$2,300.00 assessment. Roll Call: Trustees Ortiz, Johnson, Smith and Mayor Brown voted aye; Trustees Forte, Kearns and Ewan voted nay. Motions carried.
- 4) Housing Center dues: Trustees Ortiz and Smith made the motions to pay the \$500.00 dues. Roll Call: Trustee Forte, Johnson, Ewan, Smith and Ortiz voted aye; Trustee Kearns voted nay. Motions carried.

5) Clear Channel proposal for sign. The Bremerton Woods water standpipe will be demolished and in its place we could put a billboard/sign. The administrator has an on-going communication with the sign company.

**Administrator's announcements:**

Back in Feb. she made an appeal went to Cook County for funds for playground Equipment, A notice has been received that we will get \$30,000 for ground preparation for playground equipment. She needs clarification for the use of the money.

When Cook County relinquished/turned over Center Avenue to the Village it lost its FAU designation. PW Director Maltrotto is working with SSMMA to get FAU designation reinstated so that East Hazel Crest is again able to request federal funds for repairs to this street.

**A) Police Department.** We've waited for some time to get the 2 million dollar CUSTOMS case settled and now we've received \$244,000. \$89,000 will be reimbursed for police salary to the Corporate Account from the Customs Account.

Chief Robertson is requesting approval to purchase eighteen (18) lockers at a cost of \$17,180.00. Trustees Smith and Ortiz made the motions to approve the purchase of the lockers. Much discussion. Trustees Smith and Ortiz withdrew their motions and will request further information.

B) Camera installation in the booking area was discussed. Trustees Kearns and Johnson made the motions to approve the \$2,010.00 expense. Roll Call: all trustees voted aye. Motions carried.

C) Sale of Car 23. Sgt. Mrjenovich has received bids ranging from \$200.00 to \$1,000 for the old squad car. Trustees Johnson and Ortiz made the motions to accept the \$1,000 bid from Joe Watt Auto. Roll Call: all trustees voted aye. Motions carried.

D) Incentive for fuel saving. PD Chief Robertson asked members to consider \$250.00 in prize money as an incentive for employees to come up with methods of saving fuel. \$150.00- 1st prize, \$75.00 -2<sup>nd</sup> prize and \$25.00 -3<sup>rd</sup> prize. After discussion, members said they would consider the request.

**7) Use of old Village Store.** After the 7/16 Committee Meeting members adjourned to 1208 W. 174<sup>th</sup> St. to view the Old Village Store. The question is: how much money and effort will it take to refurbish and make the building safe for community activities? Volunteers could do some of the work. Costs including plumbing and electric work will have to be worked out.

Supt. Maltrotto and Adm. Lazuka will pursue costs – volunteers and report back to the board for final consideration.

**ENGINEER:** Eng. Dolan was absent.

**OPEN TO VISITORS:** Trustees Ortiz and Smith made the motions to open this segment of the meeting to the public. All trustees were in favor. Motions carried. Time: 8:45 pm  
Antwon Russell of 1921 W. 171<sup>st</sup> wasn't present at the beginning of the meeting and wanted to know what the Ordinances and Resolution were that were on the Agenda under the Mayor's Report. Mayor Brown explained them to him.

Mr. Rafah Muhammend of WDM Ministries at 929 W. 171<sup>st</sup> St. asked for a permit for their members to assemble outside monthly – weather permitting. There would be some sales by their members – but definitely not a 'flea market'. Mayor Brown informed him that the Village would need proof of ownership of the property, proof of registration with IDOR for sales tax, and business licenses for each vendor. The property is zoned "B-1 – Retail Sales" – not for social gatherings.

**CLOSE:** There being no input from those present, Trustees Smith and Ortiz made the motions to close this segment of the meeting. Time: 8:50 pm

**COMMITTEE REPORTS:**

**Finance/License:** Trustee Kearns and Johnson made the motions to pay all bills the Claims Sheets dated 7/9/08 and 7/23/08 in the amount of \$120,094.93. Roll Call: all trustees voted aye. Motions carried.

**Signs/Maintenance/Construction:** Trustee Johnson had nothing to report, He asked the Clerk to prepare the 2008 Sign Inspection forms for him.

**Health/Safety/Personnel:** Trustee Ewan had nothing to report.

**Water/Sewers:** Trustee Smith had nothing to report.

**Police/Fire:** Trustee Ortiz read the June monthly report of Fire Department activities.

**OLD BUSINESS**

Trustee Ewan received a complaint from a resident about the condition of property at 17208 Hawthorne. The Code Enforcement Officer will follow up on this complaint.

Discussion followed on parking on both sides of the streets on the East side of town. It's a safety issue. Perhaps "No Parking on this side of the street" signs should be posted.

The issue of four (4) vans, etc. being parked in a driveway on Forestway Drive. It was observed, when the garage doors were open, that large rolls of carpet are being stored there. This matter will be referred to the Code Enforcement Officer.

**NEW BUSINESS: American Legion Post 1139** would like to have use of the grassy area north of the water pump house for a Post picnic on a Sunday afternoon. Members had no objections. The Clerk will inquire of the Pastor Dellasandro of the Bible Church if they would allow Post members and families to park their vehicles in the Church parking lot.

**ANNOUNCEMENTS: none**

**ADJOURNMENT:** Trustees Ortiz and Smith made motions to adjourn to Executive Session. All trustees were in favor. Mtns. carried. Time: 8:58 pm

**RECONVENE TO REGULAR SESSION:** Trustees Ortiz and Smith made the motions to reconvene to Regular Session. All trustees were in favor. Mtns. carried. 9:51 pm

**ADJOURNMENT:** There being no other business to come before the council, Trustees Ortiz and Smith made the motions to adjourn. All trustees were in favor. Motions. carried. Time: 9:52 pm

Respectfully submitted,

Helen M. Minnis  
Village Clerk