

**MINUTES OF THE REGULAR MEETING OF THE PRESIDENT AND BOARD OF TRUSTEES OF THE VILLAGE OF EAST HAZEL CREST, Wednesday, 6/11/08 - 8 PM**

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

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

**ALSO PRESENT WERE:** I. Harrison, M. Nelson, A. Kolodziej, Wm. Mills, A. Brown, Mrs. Prestley, Sgt. Wasek, PW Supervisor Maltrotto and Fire Chief Vallow.

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

**MINUTES:** Trustees Ortiz and Johnson made the motions to approve the minutes of the regular meeting held on 5/28/08 as presented.

**REPORTS OF VILLAGE OFFICIALS:**

**MAYOR:** The So/SW United Way Proclamation. This Proclamation declared the *month of June LIVE UNITED MONTH in East Hazel Crest*. Trustees Ortiz and Smith made the motions approving this Proclamation. All Trustees present were in favor. Motions carried.

Mayor Brown read the request from the Knights of Columbus to conduct their annual fund raiser (*Tootsie Roll Drive*) at three locations in East Hazel Crest on September 19<sup>th</sup> & 29<sup>th</sup>. Trustees Ortiz and Smith made the motions to approve the request. All Trustees present were in favor. Motions carried.

The Weglarz Plat of Subdivision was removed from the Agenda.

**CLERK:** A letter has been received from the **Il. Municipal Retirement Fund**. They are asking this board to select Option 1 or Option 2 as the 2009 IMRF employer contribution rate. Option 1 would make the rate 9.21% and Option 2 would make the rate 8.55%. If IMRF makes less than 7.5% interest in 2008 the 2010 employer contribution rate would be increased. After discussion, Trustees Kearns and Forte made the motions to approve Option 1. Roll Call: all trustees present voted aye. Motions carried.

**ADMINISTRATOR:**

**Construction update:**

- 1) The Parking Lot at 171<sup>st</sup> & Wood/Park should be open on 7/1. Landscaping and installation of the coin boxes should be ready next week.

The entrance to the METRA station on 171<sup>st</sup> Street is still closed. PW Supervisor Maltrotto will notify METRA that our parking lot will be open on 7/1 and commuters using that lot will use the Hazel Crest Station.

The recent rain storms have caused delays in completion of the pump station on 171<sup>st</sup> St. The sidewalks have been completed but the railing has to be installed and final landscaping done.

2) This line item was removed from the Agenda. As a point of information – The two new squad cars are been received and are being readied for street use.

3) Cleaning of the house at 1222 W. 173<sup>rd</sup> St. Three proposals have been received ranging from \$80.00 per hr. to \$150 to \$250 (flat rate). It was suggested that carpet cleaning and windows should also be done. Trustees Forte and Smith made the motions to proceed with the cleaning, not to exceed \$500.00. All trustees present were in favor. Motions carried.

4) PW equipment. It has become apparent there is a disparity between water purchased and water sold. Some can be attributed to 22 water main breaks in the last fiscal year. Over the next few month meters will be replaced. It would be economically prudent for our Public Works employees to do the job. That would entail overtime hours – on Saturdays. Meters will be replaced on a rotating basis yearly. Identifying water leaks is a problem especially where the mains are located above sewer lines. An outside contractor charges \$95.00 per hr.

Adm. Lazuka asked members to allow her to get prices to contract for grass cutting of the commuter parking lots and the Lathrop Avenue and Dixie Highway ditches. It would make more sense that spending big dollars on equipment that could only be used in special areas. Silvestry and Thornton Equipment are two companies currently doing this type of work for other municipalities. Trustees Johnson and Kearns made the motions to proceed with contract pricing for the grass cutting. All trustees present were in favor. Motions carried.

Public Works is in need of additional equipment to maintain/grass cutting. She said it will take \$1600 to put new tires on the Kobuta and buy a new mower and weed whipper. Trustees Ortiz and Smith made the motions to approve the purchases requested. Roll Call: All trustees present voted aye. Motions carried.

Fire Chief Vallow has requested approval to conduct a **“Fill the Boot”** campaign on the following dates and locations: Calumet Station on **June 13<sup>th</sup>**, at 175<sup>th</sup> & Dixie and 175<sup>th</sup> & Center on **June 14<sup>th</sup>**, and at 171<sup>st</sup> & Halsted and 171<sup>st</sup> & Dixie on **June 21<sup>st</sup>**.

Trustees Ortiz and Smith made the motions to approve the request. All trustees present were in favor. Motions carried. This campaign will benefit Muscular Dystrophy.

PROPERTY MAINTENANCE CODE. 95 letters were sent out about debris, etc. 79 residents responded.

16 letters were sent out regarding posting addresses on the houses. Of these 13 responded.

29 letters were sent out about structural problems. 18 responded.

75 letters addressed overgrown grass and weeds. 65 responded.

**ENGINEER:** absent.

**OPEN TO VISITORS:** Trustees Smith & Ortiz made the motions to open this segment of the meeting to the public. All trustees present were in favor. Motions carried. Time: 8:30 pm

Alonzo Brown informed members the EHCNA has cancelled the Block Party scheduled for 6/28/08. They will be holding the 4<sup>th</sup> Annual Picnic on the 4<sup>th</sup> Sat. in July. (7/26) at Memorial Park, 190<sup>th</sup> & Halsted, Chicago Heights. A Voters Registration will be conducted on Wooded Path Drive on 6/28/08.

**CLOSE:** There being no other input from those present, Trustees Ortiz and Smith made the motions to close this segment of the meeting. Time: 8:35 pm

**COMMITTEE REPORTS:**

**Finance/License:** Trustees Kearns and Smith made the motions to pay all bills on the Claims Sheets dated 6/11/08 in the amount of \$61,128.15. All trustees present were in favor. Mtn. carried.

**Streets:** Trustee Forte said there is a problem with cats in Bremerton Woods. Seven were noted at 1812 W. 172<sup>nd</sup> St. [six black ones and one humongous white one]

She asked how late basketball can be played? 10 PM was the answer.

The grass is tall at 17307 Forestway Drive. Mayor Brown said after Code Enforcement has sent out the letters, then the Village can have the grass cut and lien the property owner.

**Signs/Buildings:** Trustee Johnson noted he has contract the Public Storage District Manager about cutting grass on Lathrop Avenue.

**Health/Safety/Personnel:** Trustee Ewan was absent.

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

**Police/Fire:** Trustee Ortiz read the reports from the EHCPD and EHCVFD for the month of May. These reports are on file in the Clerk's office.

**OLD BUSINESS:** none

**NEW BUSINESS:** none

**ANNOUNCEMENTS:** Mayor Brown announced the So. Sub. Mayors & Managers annual Golf Outing will be held on July 18<sup>th</sup> at the Lincolnshire Country Club in Crete.

Costs for Village representation is

1) price of the tickets (\$1,440.00),

2) Shirts (\$270.00) and,

3) prizes (\$180.00)

with no expense to the Village.

Fire Chief Vallow has received a Bulletin from the State Fire Marshall.

Whenever a propane tank is exchanged, special attention should be taken in noting if there is a blue or greenish residue around the valve area. They may have been previously filled with anhydrous ammonia. It can be dangerous when mixed with propane. Caution should be used when renting propane tanks.

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

Time: 8:44 pm

Respectfully submitted,

Helen M. Minnis  
Village Clerk