

MINUTES OF THE REGULAR MEETING OF THE PRESIDENT AND BOARD OF TRUSTEES OF THE VILLAGE OF EAST HAZEL CREST, Wednesday, 6/27/07 - 8 PM

OFFICIALS: Mayor Brown, Administrator Lazuka, and Clerk Minnis

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

ALSO PRESENT WERE: M. Clumpner of Robinson Eng., Two Representatives of MSI, and numerous EHC residents.

PRAYER AND PLEDGE: After a moment of silent prayer, everyone in attendance to this meeting pledged their Allegiance to the Flag.

MINUTES: Trustees Ortiz and Johnson made the motions to approve the minutes of the regular meeting held on 6/13/07 as presented. All trustees present were in favor. Motions carried.

REPORTS OF VILLAGE OFFICIALS:

MAYOR: ORDINANCE 07-01; Ratifying Proposed 2006-2009 Police Collective Bargaining Agreement. Trustees Ortiz and Johnson made the motions to adopt Ordinance 07-01. Roll Call: All trustees present voted aye. Motions carried.

Marian Council Knights of Columbus sent in a request to hold their annual Fund raiser to aid the Mentally Handicapped on September 21st & 22nd. Trustees Ortiz and Ewan made the motions to approve the request. All trustees present were in favor. Motions carried.

CLERK: no report

ADMINISTRATOR:

- 1) a) ISTHA (tollroad) still has some clean up to do in the area.
b) The County project on 171st St. is a few days behind schedule. Excavation for our water main should commence next week The contractor hit the Hazel Crest water main last week.
c) There will be nightly closures of 159th St. on 6/28 & 6/29 – 9 pm to 5 am
- 2) **A/C Unit in 1904 Building.** The condition of the a/c units in the 1904 Building was discussed at the 5/23/07 meeting. The temporary measures to correct the problems didn't work. We had to buy a new compressor at \$9,700.
- 3) **Strategic Plan for the future.** Trustees Johnson, Smith & Ortiz will work with Administrator Lazuka on a Strategic Plan for the Village.

- 4) **Status of the Taylor Property.** We had several inquiries about the house at 1222 W. 173rd St. It was suggested the property could be put in the hands of a realtor if it doesn't sell in a few month.

ENGINEER: no report.

OPEN TO VISITORS: Trustees Smith & Ortiz made the motions to open this segment of the meeting to visitors. Time: 8:10 pm

Roger Woods of MSI (Municipal Systems Inc.) made a presentation about the services his company renders. They do 'all the work' in collecting police fines, etc. The term of their contract is flexible. If we are not satisfied with the job they are doing – they'd void the contract. The presentation ended at 8:34 pm.

Renee Clay of 17324 Throop St. complained about the letter she received from Public Works about the weeds in the ditch in front of her house. She cannot cut the weeds because of the water in the ditch. There is only 3 inches of 'pitch' for the storm water to flow from 175th to 172nd St. This is a historical problem. The complaint will be sent to the PW Director to resolve.

Alonzo Brown thanked those board members and the clerk for participating in the EHC Neighborhood Assn. fund raiser on 6/16th. He invited everyone to attend the 3rd Annual EHC Picnic to be held at the water park at 190th & Halsted – next to Wal Mart – on 7/21.

Discussion followed on the condition of the lot at 1208 W. 174th St. Mayor Brown said the people who bought the property at the Tax Sale are seeking title. The Village are earnestly working on acquiring the property of the Old Village Store. We are 'shooting for' the end of August to get the property.

Alonzo said the Association has been doing 'clean up' in the Village and asked for use of a Village truck for a Village Wide Clean Up. Mayor Brown said this could be arranged.

The property owner at 1929 W. 171st St. asked if the tall weeds along Dixie Highway at 171st St. could be cut. There is ISTHA drainage into this IDOT ditch. Neither of these agencies are cooperative in addressing the problem. Mayor Brown told everyone that ISTHA wasn't going to put lighting in the underpass at Dixie until the Village stepped up and agreed to pay for the energy costs. It's an ISTHA highway over an IDOT highway – but in order to provide safety for our residents we're shouldering the expense of lighting for the sidewalk along Dixie Highway.

Complaints of the 17305 and 17307 Forestway Drive properties were made. We're waiting for the demolition of the 17305 house. The 17307 house has been vacated by the owner.

CLOSE: There being no other business to come before the council, Trustees Ortiz and Smith made the motions to Close this segment of the meeting. All trustees present were in favor. Motions carried. Time: 8:55 pm.

REPORTS OF STANDING COMMITTEES:

Finance/License: In the absence of Trustee Kearns, Mayor Brown presented the bills on **Claims Sheets dated 6/27/07** for payment. Trustees Ortiz and Smith made the motions to **pay bills in the amount of \$69,627.00**. All trustees present were in favor. Motions carried.

RETRO ACTIVE PAY INCREASES. Trustee Johnson said all employees should be treated equally. Trustees Johnson & Ortiz made the motions to make retro active pay increases of 3.5% to all employees. Roll Call: All trustees present voted aye. Motions carried.

Streets: Trustee Forte noted downed limbs along Dixie Highway from 171st to 173rd St.

Signs/Buildings: No report by Trustee Johnson

Health/Safety/Personnel: No report by Trustee Ewan

Water/Sewers: Trustee Smith had nothing to report.

Police/Fire: No report by Trustee Ortiz.

OLD BUSINESS: none

NEW BUSINESS: Trustee Forte said a resident called into the radio station commending our Police and Fire Departments.

ANNOUNCEMENTS: NONE

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: 9 PM

Respectfully submitted,