

MINUTES OF THE REGULAR MEETING OF THE PRESIDENT AND BOARD OF TRUSTEES OF THE VILLAGE OF EAST HAZEL CREST, Wednesday, 9/24/08 - 8 PM

OFFICIALS: Mayor Brown, Administrator Lazuka, and Clerk Minnis

ROLL CALL: Trustees: Forte, Kearns, Johnson, Ewan, Smith and Ortiz

ALSO PRESENT WERE: Ron Amen of *Amen and Lauderbach*, Michael Liebert of *Red Speed*, PD Chief Robertson & Officer Drake, PW Supervisor Rory Maltrotto and numerous residents.

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

MINUTES: Trustees Ortiz and Kearns made the motions to approve the minutes of the regular meeting held on 8/27/08 as presented. All trustees were in favor. Mtn. carried.

REPORTS OF VILLAGE OFFICIALS:

MAYOR: Mayor Brown thanked everyone for the expressions of sympathy given to him and his wife Ginny in the recent passing of his father-in-law, Edward Masier. Ed and his wife Lil lived several decades in the Village. They were strong supporters of EHV Volunteer Fire Department and all village activities.

Michael Liebert addressed the board about the *RedSpeed Illinois*, RLR contract. His brief presentation reaffirmed previous discussion on the installation of *Red Light Running*. The proposed installation at 171st & Halsted Street has to be approved by IDOT.

Mayor Brown presented *Ordinance 08-05 – Automated Traffic Law Enforcement System of the Municipal Code of the Village of East Hazel Crest*. Trustees Forte and Ewan made the motions to adopt Ordinance 08-05. Roll Call: Trustees Kearns, Ewan, Smith, Ortiz and Forte voted aye; Trustee Johnson voted nay. Mtn. carried.

Mayor Brown presented *RESOLUTION 08-04 Indemnifying the State of Illinois for any claims brought forth as a result of the Red Light Running (RLR) Camera Enforcement System*. Trustees Smith and Ewan made the motions to adopt Ordinance 08-04. Roll Call: All trustees voted aye. Mtn. carried.

CONTRACT. Trustees Kearns and Ewan made the motions to execute the contract for RLR. Roll Call: All trustees voted aye. Mtn. carried.

Chief Robertson noted a meeting has been set up for Monday, 9/29/08 at 10:30 am. between all parties involved in RLR.

Ron Amen of *Lauterbach & Amen, LLP*, made a presentation on the recently completed audit of village records for the fiscal year 2007/2008. He went thru the audit report highlights. He complimented administrative staff for their cooperation and organized information that allowed the audit process to move expeditiously.

CLERK: The 2nd annual Open House of the Lincoln School Pre K/Kindergarten will be held on Monday, 9/29/08 from 6:30-8:00 pm. Village officials voiced their approval that School District 152 ½ had reopened the school after it had been closed for a few years. The Clerk noted the school is fully occupied with 3-5 yr. olds from throughout the district.

Voters registration is open in the Clerk's office until Tuesday, October 7th during regular office hours.

ADMINISTRATOR:

1) **Construction update.** The rain storm from hurricane Ike destroyed the work done on the retention pond. The village has no monetary interest in the retention pond. However, we have concerns about the incompleted project and the inconvenience to our residents. Costs incurred will be resolved between Cook County and the contractor. The railing on 171st has yet to be done. Lighting is incomplete. The electric service is tied to the completion of the pump station at the retention pond.

IDOT will be resurfacing Park Avenue from 159th St. to 171st St. It was noted that Park Avenue will be **CLOSED** north of 171st St. IDOT is doing a design change for the Park Avenue stop light.

2) **HVAC.** West Side Mechanical was looking into a Com Ed grant for upgrading the HVAC in the 1904 Building. The \$25,000 grant is not what had been expected. The HVAC system will have to be replaced sometime in the near future. Questions were asked: should we go out for prices or stay with West Side Mechanical and the Com Ed grant? Some of the HVAC equipment has been replaced in the past. Triple R Electric gave us a proposal a few years ago for lighting. The administrator will seek an updated proposal and call an HVAC company to bid. We have 30-45 days to decide if we use the Com Ed. Grant..

3) **Salt purchase.** Over the last 11 years the cost of road salt has increased from \$24.00 to \$37.00 a ton. The Central Management Service (CMS) contract is \$96.74 a ton. We were told we would get 100% of last yr. allotment (300 tons) and no more; but we will need more this year. One supplier will be importing from five (5) other countries at a cost of \$130-\$140.00 a ton – only until September 12th. Discussion followed.

It was estimated the additional salt over our CMS allotment will cost \$13,000. Trustees Forte and Ortiz made the motions to purchase an additional 100 tons of salt. Roll Call: Trustee Kearns voted nay; Trustees Johnson, Ewan, Smith, Ortiz and Forte voted aye. Mtn. carried.

- 5) **Salt Cover.** Supervisor Maltrotto asked for approval to purchase a ‘tent’ with side flaps at a cost of \$471.20. In previous years he has covered the salt with tarps. After a brief discussion, Trustees Ortiz and Smith made the motions to approve the request. Roll Call: all trustees voted aye. Mtn. carried.
- 4) **Pick UP truck prices.** Supervisor Maltrotto has received proposals for a new 2009 pick up truck from two dealers – the 3rd did not submit:
Phillips Chev.: \$35,802.00
Gibson Chev. : \$32,354.00
Trustees Ortiz and Kearns made the motions to approve the Gibson proposal. Roll Call: All trustees voted aye. Mtn. carried.
- 6) **Copier prices. Discussion followed on the leased copiers in Administration and Police Departments.** The copiers in both departments do not have color copy ability. The \$668.00 a month fee would include all supplies, toner, drum & cartridges. Administrator Lazuka noted with the new features, for one, there would be a significant saving in not having to outsource our Newsletters which now cost \$1.00 a page whereas with the new copier it would cost \$.07 a page. Trustees Smith and Ortiz made the motions to execute the contract for the new copiers. Roll Call: all trustees voted aye. Mtn. carried.
- 7) **Cleaning of culverts.** The heavy rain storm earlier this month caused flooding in many areas of the village. The culverts in twelve (12) intersections & driveways were identified as being blocked. In some areas it was culverts under the driveways. Discussion followed on use of firemen working overnight shifts to jet out the intersections. Also the need to determine the cost for individual home owners to replace rusted out culverts.
- 8) **Chicago Southland Chamber of Commerce.u.** The CSCC has paid up the \$44,000 buildout but are behind in six (6) months rent and payment for utilities. CSCC is asking the Village to consider a compromise for the outstanding rent, etc. After a brief discussion, it was the consensus of members to inform CSCC that the Village cannot offer relief.

ENGINEER: 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: 8:59 pm

Fred Kolodziej inquired whose responsibility it is to clean the viaducts. Mayor Brown informed him that it is the responsibility of Cook County Highway Department. [an ongoing concern for the village].

Willis Wood of 1218 W. 173rd St. spoke of the water in his yard from the heavy rain fall on 9/12. Mr. Wood thought it was because of the Village's water reservoir. He said he used a sump pump to drain the area. Mayor Brown said the low areas in the rear of the 300' lots were the reason the Village approached the EHC Bible Church to purchase the rear of their parking lot for the reservoir. The Church was not receptive to the request, therefore the Village built the water facility at the present location. Perhaps the home owners affected would agree to creating an easement to divert storm water to the north south streets. After discussion, it was decided to have the Village Engineer look into costs to alleviate the problems.

Paul Coe of 1823 W. 172nd St. addressed the board with request for assistance in getting recreation activity for his special needs children. Discussion followed on the out-of-resident charges made by park districts and schools. The administrator will seek information on an inter-governmental agreement.

Alonzo Brown of 1409 W. 174th inquired about the RLR program. Mayor Brown said this is *Red Light Running*. The program was discussed earlier in this meeting. Alonzo said several young people have approached him about a problem with the Police taking their bikes. He asked one of the boys to step forward and relay what happened. 'for no reason, the police stopped me and took my bike'. Another one said basically the same thing. Police Chief Robertson asked him if he was 20 yrs. old? He replied yes. "What's a 20 yr.old doing hanging around with 14 yr old boys?" Much discussion.

Alonzo said he needed a place for orientation of kids to prepare them for job. It was suggested he could do this at his home. He then said residents should buy village stickers but when they have been issued citations for failure to do so, could the resident pay a reduced fee on the citations? Chief Robertson said there is an Adjudication Hearing every month. Offenders are sent notification via USPS monthly. The Adjudication Officer has the authority to 'adjudicate'-meaning authority to assess the fees.

CLOSE: There being no other input, Trustees Ortiz and Smith made the motions to close this segment of the meeting. All trustees were in favor. Mtn. carried. Time: 9:35 pm

COMMITTEE REPORTS:

Finance/License: Trustees Kearns and Ortiz made the motions to pay all bills on the Claims Sheets dated 9/10/08 and 9/24/08 in the amount of \$182,224.62. All trustees were in favor. Mtn. carried.

Faye's Light business license application on 9/10/08 agenda was presented. Trustees Kearns and Forte made the motions to approve the application subject to obtaining the Building Permit. All trustees were in favor. Mtn. carried.

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Streets: Trustee Forte commended PW's, FD and PD for the great clean up in the aftermath of the 9/12 rain storm. Garbage cans are still being left curbside long after the scavenger pick up. They are still there on Friday and Saturday. Bremerton Woods residents should stack the branches after a storm. There are small children playing in the streets. CATS are a constant problem. She noted the tall weeds at Scott's Prime Rib. The village clerk has notified the attorney to take action in this matter.

Signs/Buildings: Trustee Johnson reported annual sign inspections are being made.

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

Water/Sewers: Trustee Smith had nothing to report.

Police/Fire: Trustee Ortiz read the August Police Report.

OLD BUSINESS: Police Chief Robertson read the report of his investigation into Alonzo Brown's complaint about a 9-1-1 call where the resident was told 'no police were available to respond to a report of a burglary'. The call came in on the non emergency police phone not the 9-1-1 phone which is answered 24/7 at the dispatch center. An officer was in the station. He responded and was on site within 2 minutes.

The Investigative Report contained information from a tape recorded interview with Greg Washington, who made the initial call of a burglary. (copies of this report are on file in the Clerk's office).

Officer Drake said he spoke to Greg Washington who stated he never made the comments attributed to him by Alonzo Brown.

NEW BUSINESS: PW Supervisor Maltrotto said the area has not been declared a 'disaster'. Cook County and the State have asked to be appraised if any of our residents have experienced storm damage.

Trustee Ewan asked that we look into a new microphone system. Trustee Kearns said we don't have the money for this equipment at this time. Trustee Forte noted we should check with ComCast for their service.

ANNOUNCEMENTS: none

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. Mtn. carried. Time: 9:52 pm

Respectfully submitted,

Helen M. Minnis
Village Clerk