

## **Regular Meeting of the President and Board of Trustees - Wed., 12/14/11 at 7 pm**

Officials: Mayor Thomas A. Brown, Administrator Lazuka and Clerk Minnis

Roll Call: Trustees Forte, Kearns, Ewan, & Smith were present; Trustees Johnson and Ortiz were absent. (Tr. Johnson arrived at 7:25 pm)

Also present were: PW Supt. Maltrotto, Fire Chief & Mrs. Vallow, Mr. Orel, J. Hale, Jason Orel, J. Thompson, Mary Erwin, John Hambus, & Sgt. Wasek,

Invocation & Pledge. After a moment of silent prayer, Mayor Brown lead the assembly in the Pledge to the Flag.

Minutes: Trustees Smith and Forte made the motions to approve the minutes of the regular meeting held on 11/9/11 as presented. All trustees present voted aye. Mtn. carried.

Reports of Village Officials:

Mayor's Report:

- 1) **Ordinance 11-03**, Reducing immobilization requirements from 5 unpaid citations to 3. Trustees Ewan and Kearns made the motions to approve Ordinance 11-03. Roll Call: All trustees present voted aye – Trustees Johnson and Ortiz were absent. Mtn. carried.
- 2) **Ordinance 11-04**; Adopt State Law concerning Municipal bond fees. Trustees Forte and Smith made the motions to adopt Ordinance 11-04. Roll Call: Trustees Kearns, Ewan, Smith and Forte voted aye; Trustees Johnson & Ortiz were absent. Mtn. carried.
- 3) **Ordinance 11-05 – TREES**. This Ordinance prohibits planting of specified trees within the village. Trustees Kearns and Ewan made the motions to adopt Ordinance 11-05. Roll Call: all trustees present voted aye. Trustees Johnson & Ortiz were absent. Mtn. carried.
- 4) **Ordinance 11-06 – LEVY**. Trustees Ewan and Forte made motions to adopt a 4.5% increase in the Levy Ordinance. Roll Call: Trustees Smith & Kearns voted nay; Trustees Forte & Ewan voted aye; Trustees Johnson & Ortiz were absent. **Mtn. failed.**
- 5) **Ordinance 11-07 – ABATEMENT**. Trustees Smith and Kearns made the motions to adopt Ordinance 11-06 – abating the taxes on Series 2006 Municipal Bonds. Roll Call: All trustees present voted aye. Trustees Johnson & Ortiz were absent. Mtn. carried.
- 6) Item #6 was deleted from Agenda

- 7) **Ordinance 11-08;** Changing Sec. 10-248 of the CODE raising the maximum fine for violation of duration of room rental. Trustees Kearns and Ewan made the motions to adopt Ordinance 11-07. Roll Call: All trustees present voted aye. Trustees Johnson & Ortiz were absent. Mtn. carried.
- 8) **Ordinance 11-09 - WATER RATE INCREASE.** Members discussed the 25% water rate increase by the City of Chicago effective 1-1-12. East Hazel Crest has NOT passed on the 15% water rate increases the last two years. The Water Fund *cannot* afford to absorb these increases. Trustees Forte and Kearns made the motions to approve a **27% increase in water rates.** Roll Call: Trustees Ewan, Forte, Kearns and Mayor Brown voted aye; Trustee Smith voted nay; Trustees Ortiz and Johnson were absent. **Mtn. carried.**
- 9) **ISTHA- tollroad Agreement.** Trustees Smith and Ewan made the motions to approve the tollroad agreement. Roll Call: all trustees present voted aye. Trustees Johnson & Ortiz were absent. Mtn. carried.

***BACK TO AGENDA ITEM #4 – LEVY ORDINANCE.***

Trustee Kearns made the motion to adopt the Levy Ordinance with a 2% increase. **Mtn. failed for lack of a second.**

Trustees Kearns and Forte made the motions to adopt the Levy Ordinance with a 3% increase. (*Tr. Johnson arrived at 7:25 pm*)  
Roll Call: Trustees Johnson, Forte and Kearns voted aye; Trustees Ewan and Smith voted nay; Trustee Ortiz was absent. **Mtn. failed.**

Trustee Ewan made motion to adopt a 4.7% increase to the Levy.  
**Mtn. failed for lack of a second.**

Trustees Kearns and Ewan made the motions to **adopt the Levy Ordinance with a 4% increase.** Trustees Johnson, Ewan, Forte and Kearns voted aye; Trustee Smith voted nay; Trustee Ortiz was absent. **Mtn. carried.**

Clerk: No report.

Administrator:

- 1) Construction updates. Cook County Dept. of Highways has the railings under the 171<sup>st</sup> Street viaduct 90% complete.

The Village has asked IDOT to put in a sidewalk along Wood St. near the ISTHA entrance at 171<sup>st</sup> St. IDOT will *not* put in the sidewalk – but said the Village could. Motor Fuel Tax Funds could be used for this purpose.

It was suggested that we contact our State Representative for funds

- 2) **DODGE CHARGER UPGRADE.** Members discussed the costs To repair the Dodge. A new engine would cost \$10,000 – with the warrantee it would be \$4,000; \$2,500 if sold AS IS. ‘get rid of the car’ is an option or give it to the Fire Department. Trustees Forte and Kearns made the motions to sell the car pending Chief Vallow’s research on feasibility for the Department use. All trustees present voted aye. Mtn. carried.
  
- 3) **PD HVAC.** Chief Robertson has obtained three (3) bids for HVAC replacement for the Public Safety Building:

-Climate Control	\$6,689.00
-WestSide	\$7,560.00
-Higgins	\$7,890.00

It would **cost \$2,775.00 to repair the existing unit.** Discussion followed on whether Asset Forfeiture Funds could cover the replacement. Sgt. Wasek said it could not. Trustees Kearns and Johnson made the motions to repair the unit. Roll Call: all trustees present voted aye. Trustee Ortiz was absent. **Mtn. carried.**
  
- 4) **Sanitary Sewer repairs.** There are some ‘issues’ with blockage in The Sanitary Sewers on Park Avenue between 167 & 168<sup>th</sup> Street. It is necessary to have a contractor dig up and televise approximately 120’ to locate a missing manhole. Costs to completely study and repair would be \$5,000-\$10,000. Potential fines from MWRDGC could be higher. Trustees Smith and Kearns made the motions to authorize Supt. Maltrotto to proceed with the study & repairs. All trustees present were in favor. Mtn. carried.

**OPEN TO THE PUBLIC:** Trustees Smith & Forte made the motions to open this segment of the meeting to the public. All trustees present were in favor. Mtn. carried.  
Time: 7:38 pm

Mr. Orel of 17217 Forestway spoke of the water rate increases. He volunteered to assist Fire Chief Vallow in researching the Dodge Charger use.

Jason Orel said he has been employed in the EHCPW Department for 6 years. He's a volunteer firemen, too, and proud of the Village. He said the Public Works Dept. has needs and he understands the Village needs more revenue.

John Hambus works at Transport Finishes, Inc. at 1217 W. 171<sup>st</sup> St. He spoke of recent vandalism at the business when their new A/C was stolen. He inquired about business expansion and possibly buying the 80' east of the business. Rory said the property belongs to the ISTHA, the village only maintains the grounds for aesthetics.

**CLOSE:** There being no other input from those present, Trustees Kearns and Smith made the motions to Close this segment of the meeting to the public. All trustees present were in favor. Mtn. carried. Time: 8:05 pm

**COMMITTEE REPORTS:**

**Streets:** Trustee Forte commended EHCPW for the great job in cleaning up the debris from a truck demolishing a series of mailboxes at 175 & Loomis. She said her neighbors are complaining that the resident at 17412 Loomis is still parking vehicles in the grassy area in front of the house. Discussion following on placing NO Parking signs. Members concurred this is not feasible. BRUNO TUCK POINTING doesn't have a problem with area residents parking in his lot- but they would have to be removed before his business opens in the morning.

**Finance/License:** Trustees Kearns and Smith made the motions to pay all bills on the Claims sheets dated 11/23/11 and 12/14/11 in the amount of \$101,833.56. Roll Call: all trustees present voted aye. Mtn. carried.

**Signs/Maintenance/Construction:** Trustee Johnson had nothing to report.

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

**Water/Sewer:** No report by Trustee Smith .

**Police/Fire:** Trustee Ortiz was absent.

**Old Business:** none

**New Business:** none

**Announcement:** Santa's Coming to Town on Saturday, December 17<sup>th</sup> – starting at 4 PM

**Executive Session** - none

**Adjournment:** Trustees Smith & Johnson made the motions to adjourn. All trustees present were in favor. Mtn. carried. Time 8:15 pm.

Respectfully submitted,