

Regular Meeting of the President and Board of Trustee of Trustees of the Village of East Hazel Crest.....Wednesday, 03/08/23 at 7pm

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

Roll Call: Trustees Forte, Kearns, Johnson, Ewan Wideman and Ortiz were present. Also present were: PD Chief Janich, FD Dpt. Chief Mills, Paula Newton, Joan Hale, L. Dutka & Linda, S. Sokolowski, M. Fernandez, Liz Varnecky and J. Albrecht from *So. Suburbs for Greenspace*, and Tomeka & partner from the DAY CARE.

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

Minutes: Trustees Ortiz and Wideman made the motions to approve the minutes of the 02/22/23 regular meeting. All trustees voted to approve. Mtn. carried.

Reports of Village Officials:

MAYOR:

- 1) Mayor Brown appointed Tim Gladdis to fill the vacancy on the Zoning Board of Appeals. Trustees Wideman and Ortiz made the motions to approve the appointment. All trustees were in favor. Mtn. carried.
- 2) Mayor Brown presented **RESOLUTION 22-11, Invest in Cook Project.** Adm. Lazuka explained the **Cook Project** as being a Grant for funding for a 'walking path connecting 175th & Lathrop to 172nd & Ashland.

Trustees Kearns and Ewan made the motions to approve Resolution 22-11; all trustees voted aye on the Roll Call. Mtn. carried.

Mayor Brown spoke of the proposed Referendum in the April 4th election in which Thornton Township proposes a Referendum for a Health Care Facility which will add to your tax bill.

Mayor Brown reported the Wind Creek Casino is moving along with construction.

CLERK: no report.

ADMINISTRATOR:

- 1) Administrator Lazuka spoke of the 3% increase for each year in our AUDIT for the next three years. Trustees Kearns and Johnson made the motions to approve the next contract for our annual AUDIT. Roll Call: all trustees voted aye. Motions carried..

Mayor Brown referred to a letter from Hazel Crest in which they acknowledged acquiring the Calumet Country Club property and that they have not committed to any plans for development at this time. Mayor Brown thanked Mayor Alsberry for reaching out to neighboring communities including East Hazel Crest prior to any plan approval.

OPEN TO VISITORS: Trustees Ortiz and Wideman made the motions to open this segment of the meeting to the public. All trustees were in favor. Mtn. carried. Time: 7:16 pm.

-Stan Sokolowski of 17216 Loomis questioned the appointment to the ZBA.

-Louis Dutka, Jr. reported the death of Wayne Para.

-M. Fernandez had concerns about safety of hazardous materials being transported thru our village – whether on our streets via trucks or by rail by the CN RR. He also had questions about vacant properties. He was informed of the properties for sale and those that were being held for possible Village use.

-Liz Varnecky spoke of problems that cause flooding in our villages. . She spoke of the negatives of the proposed development of the country club property.

-P. Newton inquired about asbestos removal in the 1204 W. 174th St. house. She was told that problem will be removed tomorrow.

CLOSE TO VISITORS:

Trustees Ortiz and Wideman made the motions to close this segment of the meeting to the public. Mts. Carried. Time; 7:48 pm.

COMMITTEE REPORTS:

Streets: Tr. Forte had nothing to report.

Finance/License: Trustees Johnson and Wideman the motions to approve all bills on the 03/08/23 Claims Sheets in the amount of \$79,774.93.. Roll Call: all trustees voted aye. Mtn. carried.

Signs/Maintenance/Construction: Tr. Kearns had nothing to report.

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

Water/Sewer: Trustee Wideman had nothing to report.

Police/Fire: Trustee Ortiz read the reports of the Feb., 2023 reports of the EHCPD and EHCVFD activities. These reports will be on file in the Clerk's office.

Tr. Ortiz reported on the **EHCVFD Recognition Dinner** to be held at the Tuscan Gardens in Glenwood on Saturday, March 11th, 2023 at 6 pm.

Unfinished Business: none

New Business: Tr. Forte had concerns regarding property zoning on 172nd St.

Tr Kearns suggested the Village should set up a meeting with the CNN RR regarding the transport of hazardous materials on the rails. There are 'safety' issues to be addressed. Tr. Forte urged Homewood and East Hazel Crest to be involved in the discussion.

Tr. Kearns said the American Legion Post 11139 will be making a trip to the Veterans Home in Manteno. Contributions can be dropped off at the Clerk's office.

Executive Session: Trustees Wideman and Ortiz made the motions to go into Executive Session to discuss on-going negotiations. All trustees were in favor. Mtn. carried. 7:59 pm

Reconvene to Regular Session: Trustees Forte and Kearns made the motions to re-convene to regular session. All trustees were in favor. Mtn. carried. 8:10 pm

Adjournment: Trustees Forte and Johnson made the motions to adjourn. All trustees were in favor; Mtn. carried. Time: 8:11 pm

Respectfully submitted,

Helen M. Minnis
Village Clerk