

**MINUTES OF REGULAR BOARD MEETING
OF PRESIDENT AND BOARD OF TRUSTEES
December 28, 2017**

Mayor Robert E. Polk called the meeting to order at 7:00 p.m.

PRESENT: Trustees John Cap Jr., Denise Bonner (7:01 p.m.), Graciela Garcia, Brenda Greer, Carmella Richardson, Travis Claybrooks, Mayor Robert E. Polk, Village and Clerk Lus Chavez
ABSENT: None

Motion made by Trustee John Cap Jr and seconded by Trustee Travis Claybrooks to approve the minutes of December 12, 2017.

ROLL CALL:

AYES: Trustees John Cap Jr., Denise Bonner, Graciela Garcia, Brenda Greer, Carmella Richardson and Travis Claybrooks

NAYS: None

ABSTAIN: None

ABSENT: None

Motion made by Trustee Travis Claybrooks and seconded by Trustee Carmella Richardson to open the meeting to the public at 7:03 p.m.

ROLL CALL:

AYES: Trustees John Cap Jr., Denise Bonner, Graciela Garcia, Brenda Greer, Carmella Richardson and Travis Claybrooks

NAYS: None

ABSENT: None

PJ Krupa asked the following:

- Why meter was never read
- Who is reading the meters
- The problem of lack of funding because of no reading, who is accountable for this

Pat Olsen asked the following:

- How the amount of the increase was decided upon
- Why all the meters are being replaced at one time
- What about the infrastructure of the water lines
- Fire hydrant leaking- cause of water loss
- How many other spots that have deteriorating water lines, causing water loss
- Are the increases of salaries stated in the last minutes going to be used for a slush fund
- Calumet City and Lansing have senior exemptions

Rick Adams asked the following:

- Are water increases true

Stacey Haynes stated the following:

- She never received the notice of the water increases

Dollie Francis stated the following:

- Seniors are on a fixed income

John Hajduch stated the following:

- Requested a copy of the water and sewer rate increases from the office

John Hajduch asked the following:

- If we can background checks individuals that handle the funds for the village
- In 2015, what came about with the lawsuit regarding the money that was stolen
- How much did we receive

Joyce Bishoff stated the following:

- Has a letter from the IEPA and stated that at the meeting two weeks ago were lied to and told we had to replace the water meters
- Letter dated January 23rd addressed to Honorable Mayor Polk about the water meter replacement and water main replacement
- This was approved by the Board as of July of 2016 and why are we hearing about this now
- Why weren't we all informed
- On the letter it states that the net operating income is in the negative \$533,622.00 and they ask why is the water system operating in the negative and why is this
- What does Bria pay for water
- She stated that the Mayor stated in this letter that a rate increase is not necessary for EPA loan
- She stated that Mr. Cap had stated that we would payback about \$50,000.00 yearly but it's really \$87,064.00
- The project amount we were told was 1.2 million dollars but according to ILEPA a loan was requested for 1,483,670.00
- A project chart was included for a water main
- July 2016, loan application revised because first application was denied
- Loan than approved in August 2016, in October 2016 permits were submitted
- Final project approved in January 2017 before the election and we were never notified
- January 2017 the loan application was finalized by EPA
- Bid opening for contractors awarded in March 2017
- April loan agreement to proceed
- May supposed to start construction
- October 2017 according to legal documents project should have been completed, where has the money gone

David Shea stated the following

- For the Board to respectfully park it or drive it

Joan O'Banner stated the following:

- If we continue with the Water Ordinance we will lose residents
- Calumet City rates are not as high
- Not enough salt on the street

James Menard stated the following:

- The Board does nothing

Carol Dills stated the following:

- Stated that the Village has received 1.2 million dollars this year
- Mayor stated that the loan was not approved at the last meeting
- We were also told that there would be no interest on loan when there actually is

Carol Dills asked the following:

- Where is the money

Mary Shea asked the following:

- If we are in the red in the water department, why aren't the meters being read

Nancy Hlinsky asked the following:

- We shouldn't have defective fire hydrants
- Fire department has not been practicing
- Village Clerk should have been bonded for millions of dollars not one third
- Why is the Mayor's office in the youth building, it takes up space

Deb Zalkowski stated the following:

- Construction not paying for the damages to the homes on 138th Place
- On the new water meters, are we going to pay the actual or a minimum

Ed Brach stated the following:

- Why weren't we notified of the increases
- Why is an increase needed
- Why is senior rate being eliminated

Frank Caputo asked the following:

- Give us a reason why there will be no more senior rate

Clinton O'Banner stated the following:

- Water increase will go up 200% and in two years it will go up again

Motion made by Trustee Travis Claybrooks and seconded by Trustee Carmella Richardson to close the meeting to the public at 7:30 p.m.

ROLL CALL:

AYES: Trustees John Cap Jr., Graciela Garcia, Brenda Greer, Carmella Richardson and Travis Claybrooks

NAYS: Trustee Denise Bonner

ABSENT: None

MAYOR'S REPORT:

Mayor Polk had the following to report:

- Agrees that the meters have not been read, system is not up to par
- We have limited resources
- The fire department will be assisting us with the readings
- We will make sure we have an actual reading in the village from everyone
- If you are not home a card will be left, and you have his word on it
- We have not received a loan nor approved for one at this time from IEPA
- We have not received a grant
- We have not received any type of money
- After a year we will revisit the water rates
- Water rates are going from \$4.25 to \$11.00 per 1,000 gallons of consumption
- Water is provided by the City of Chicago and Hammond

- Village of Burnham should have increased the water gradually years ago
- Village is responsible for not having actual readings
- Senior exemptions that will continue are the garbage fees and vehicle stickers
- Most towns only give one type of senior discount
- We are considering other types of incentives for seniors
- With the new meters residents will be able to see how much of aa consumption they use
- This system will be able to alert if there is a high usage, which can indicate a leak
- We need to submit these rates to the IEPA

Mr. Giglio from Calumet City Plumbing spoke about the Sensus meter system

- Drive by system which is cost effective
- Read less than an hour
- Keeps a history on each meter
- Will have accuracy
- Be able to see your usage
- Water rates have tripled in City of Chicago and Hammond
- IDNR mandating to account for the usage of water
- IDNR governs our water
- The older the meters the more inaccurate the meters are
- New meters will be replace where your current meter is
- Meter has an alert if someone tampers with meter

Mr. Lewis is currently our Water Engineer, he stated the following:

- Quality of water and testing are up to date
- CCR report (consumer report) will be out soon, needs to be out by July
- Water in Burnham is safe
- If you have any concerns regarding the quality of our water, contact the Village
- LM02 report is being worked on
- Water loss report after March
- We test our water every month
- Water pressure depends on different factors
- Leak Survey was done on the East Side of town
- Leak survey is not required to do on an annual basis, when there isn't an increase on the usage

CLERK'S REPORT:

Comment for the record- To Trustee Bonner, Clerk Lus did not appreciate that she insinuated that Stephanie was rude to Mr. Hajduch. And this would be addressed.

Trustee Bonner response was that she was the only one that responded to his question and that she did not insinuate she was rude and that we wouldn't have rudeness in the office.

Clerk Chavez had the following to report:

- Old rate \$4.25 per 1,000
- New Rate \$11.00 per 1,000
- Increase of \$6.75 which is \$159%

- Bills will be monthly
- Billed at estimate of 3,000 if we have no read
- Turn off Fee will be \$125.00
- Turn on fee will be \$125.00
- Unfortunately, no senior rate on water and sewer
- Senior rate for garbage will continue, keep in mind we do not get a discount with Homewood Disposal
- The new water rates was passed on November 14, 2017 meeting
- The new sewer rates was passed on November 14, 2017 meeting
- Both were posted on the agenda for November 14, 2017, giving knowledge
- Increase for water rates are for the following reason:
 - Approval for EPA water replacement loan
 - Improve infrastructure of water lines and sewer
 - Assist on the shortage in the water fund
 - Cover costs in the water fund (maintenance fees, outside contractors, utilities and salaries, etc.)
- The new rates are being addressed now, so when it is needed to implement them they are in place
 - New rates will not take effect until new meters begin to be in place

PUBLIC EDUCATION, HEALTH, SAFETY AND WELFARE:

Trustee Brenda Greer reported the following:

- If you know of know if someone that is disabled or uses oxygen have them fill out a Residential Medical Form, this way the Fire department be well informed
- CEDA was here recently and was able to help 30 families
- There was a shooting today in Dolton, one dead, one injured and no further information
- This is the time to be careful and be safe
- Look around at your surroundings
- Get you gas during the day
- Your concerns are our concerns, my door is always open and my committee members are available
- If we don't have the answer, we will find the answer for you

PUBLIC WORKS AND BUILDINGS:

Trustee Claybrooks reported the following:

- Thanked everyone for coming out an showing your concerned
- These concerns affect us too
- Public Works has done general cleaning
- Snow plows came out when it snowed on the 24th
- Salt will be out tonight

Mr. Payne is a Kung Fu instructor spoke about a health wellness program

ORDINANCE, RESOLUTION AND PLANNING:

1. Motion made by Trustee John Cap Jr and seconded by Trustee Carmella Richardson to approve ORDINANCE NO. 2017-O-012 SEWER TAX – ADJUSTED AN ORDINANCE ADJUSTING THE VILLAGE’S SEWER RATES IN ORDER TO FACILITATE A LOAN WITH THE ILLINOIS ENVIRONMENTAL PROTECTION AGENCY AND AN ORDINANCE AMENDING CHAPTER 86 – TAXATION, ARTICLE XII – SEWER USE AND SERVICES TAX, SECTION, 86-423 – TAX RATE, OF THE CODE OF ORDINANCES, VILLAGE OF BURNHAM, ILLINOIS

ROLL CALL:

AYES: Trustees John Cap Jr., Graciela Garcia, Brenda Greer, Carmella Richardson and Travis Claybrooks

NAYS: Trustee Denise Bonner

ABSENT: None

2. Motion made by Trustee Graciela Garcia and seconded by Trustee John Cap Jr to approve ORDINANCE NO. 2017 - O – 009 CANNABIS AND DRUG PARAPHERNALIA AN ORDINANCE AMENDING CHAPTER 62 – OFFENSES AND MISCELLANEOUS PROVISIONS – ARTCILE V – OFFENSES AGAINST PUBLIC HEALTH, PEACE AND SAFETY, OF THE CODE OF ORDINANCES, VILLAGE OF BURNHAM, COOK COUNTY, ILLINOIS

ROLL CALL:

AYES: Trustees John Cap Jr., Denise Bonner, Graciela Garcia, Carmella Richardson and Travis Claybrooks

NAYS: Trustee Brenda Greer

ABSENT: None

Trustee Graciela Garcia announced the new business on 14532 Torrence, Autorama Sales and Services

FINANCE:

Trustee John Cap Jr just stated that if anyone had any questions, he would be available after the meeting to answer them

PUBLIC UTILITIES:

Trustee Carmella Richardson stated the following:

- These increases affect the board as well the residents
- Discussions concerning the Village are done twice a month at each Board Meeting
- We need the out pour of concerned residents at every meeting in order to work together

Thanked the following for donations toward the Christmas baskets:

- Calumet City Plumbing
- Scrap Metal Services
- Water Front Marina
- Sandwich Castle
- Nurturing Development Center
- A-1 Affordable Sign
- Mr. Built
- AMVETS
- Ranshell’s
- Hami Food & Deli

We were able to assist 27 Burnham Families

PARKS AND RECREATION: None

PRESENTATION OF PETITIONS: None

COMMUNICATIONS: None

MEMORIALS: None

AND REMONSTRANCES: None

UNFINISHED BUSINESS: None

NEW BUSINESS: None

ADJOURNMENT:

Motion made by Trustee Travis Claybrooks and seconded by Trustee Carmella Richardson to adjourn the meeting at 9:25 p.m.

ROLL CALL:

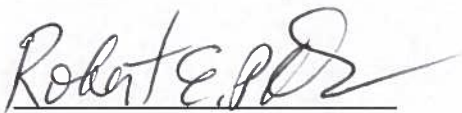
AYES: Trustees John Cap Jr., Denise Bonner, Graciela Garcia, Brenda Greer, Carmella Richardson and Travis Claybrooks

NAYS: None

ABSENT: None



Village Clerk



Mayor