

**MINUTES OF REGULAR BOARD MEETING  
OF PRESIDENT AND BOARD OF TRUSTEES**

Held at  
14450 S. Manistee Avenue  
Burnham, IL 60633  
November 12, 2024

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

PRESENT: Trustees John Cap Jr, Jefferey Hodges, Graciela Garcia, Brenda Greer, Carmella Richardson, Travis Claybrooks, Mayor Robert E. Polk and Clerk Lus E. Chavez  
ABSENT: None

**PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE**

Motion made by Trustee Jefferey Hodges and seconded by Trustee John Cap Jr. to approve the Regular Board meeting minutes of October 22, 2024

**ROLL CALL:**

AYES: Trustees John Cap Jr., Jefferey Hodges, 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.

**ROLL CALL:**

AYES: Trustees John Cap Jr., Jefferey Hodges, Graciela Garcia, Brenda Greer Carmella Richardson and Travis Claybrooks  
NAYS: None  
ABSTAIN: None  
ABSENT: None

John Hajduch had the following to state:

- Asked why relocation of a fire hydrant instead of replacing it for a lower cost
- To consider a senior rate and reduce the sewer surcharge
- When will the 2022 Audit be ready

Motion made by Trustee Travis Claybrooks and seconded by Trustee Jefferey Hodges to close the meeting to the public.

**ROLL CALL:**

AYES: Trustees John Cap Jr., Jefferey Hodges, Graciela Garcia, Brenda Greer Carmella Richardson and Travis Claybrooks  
NAYS: None  
ABSTAIN: None  
ABSENT: None

## **MAYOR'S REPORT:**

Mayor Polk replied to the comments:

- The fire hydrant was decided as an administrative decision to have it relocated because the hydrant had been hit many times at the old location. It was also recommended by the Fire Department and Police Department per Mayor Polk and Trustee John Cap Jr.
- We are unable to offer a lower rate for our senior residents, due to the cost that Village gets billed from the City of Chicago, Hammond, and the transfer fee from Calumet City

Mayor Polk stated the following:

- Received a communication where an individual has made accusations and thinks he speaks for the Village. This same individual brings up property taxes and has paid less property taxes than other residents in the Village of Burnham

## **CLERK'S REPORT: None**

## **PUBLIC EDUCATION, HEALTH, SAFETY, AND WELFARE:**

1. Motion made by Trustee Brenda Greer and seconded by Trustee Carmella Richardson to approve the hiring of Shavonne Bailes, Angelo Barajas, Matthew Pizana, Aiden Radtke, Peter Scalone, Orlando Smith and Jeekwon Watkins as the following applicants for the Village of Burnham Fire Department, all members have met all the pre-employment requirements. These applicants will be part of the Assistance to Firefighters Grant and Orlando Smith is a lateral hire who has met all requirements through the State Fire Marshal and IDPH to which he does not need to be on the Assistance to Firefighter Grant.

## **ROLL CALL:**

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

NAYS: None

ABSTAIN: None

ABSENT: None

Trustee Greer, please mention the following:

## **October Fire Department Calls:**

6 Fire Calls    4 day calls    2 night calls

57 Ambulance calls    34 day calls    23 night calls

- Thank you to our Veterans for your service and sacrifice
- Veterans who served in World War II, the Korean War and the Vietnam War can apply for the Honor Flight of Chicago, visit the website: [honorflightchicago.org](http://honorflightchicago.org) or call 773-227-8387
- AMVETS Post #43 and the Village of Burnham's Veterans Groundbreaking Ceremony will be held on Saturday, November 16, 2024, at 1 p.m. at the North corner of the Community Center. Please join us.
- As a resident if you still have not purchased your vehicle sticker, they are still available for purchase
- Medicare Health Plans Coverage, open enrollment October 15<sup>th</sup> to December 7<sup>th</sup>
- Wind Creek Casino is now open, 16<sup>th</sup> story hotel should open next year-Wind Creek has an estimate that 3 million dollars in tax revenue would flow annually to Homewood and East Hazel Crest and another 4 million per year to other Southland Communities

- We are holding a Toy Drive, we are accepting donations from November 1<sup>st</sup> to December 14. New unwrapped toys for our local children in our community
- Christmas Pop Up to be held on December 7, 2024, from 11 am to 5 pm at the Community Center, vendors needed. It is an indoor event

**PUBLIC WORKS AND BUILDINGS:**

Trustee Travis Claybrooks mentioned the following:

- Happy Veterans Day-thank you for your service
- Streetsweeper was out
- Leaf Collector will be out tomorrow-call office if your house was missed
- National First Responders Appreciation Day was October 28<sup>th</sup>, we held a luncheon

**PUBLIC UTILITIES:**

Trustee Richardson mentioned the following:

- AMVETS Post #43 and the Village of Burnham’s Veterans Groundbreaking Ceremony will be held on Saturday, November 16, 2024, at 1 p.m. at the North corner of the Community Center. There will be light refreshments. Hoping to complete the Memorial by Memorial Day 2025.

**ORDINANCE, RESOLUTION, AND PLANNING:**

1. Motion made by Trustee Graciela Garcia and seconded by Trustee Carmella Richardson to approve RESOLUTION NO. 2024-R-010 A RESOLUTION APPROVING AND AUTHORIZING THE TERMINATION OF A REDEVELOPMENT AGREEMENT BETWEEN EARRICK THURMAN, “E.T.,” TO ENTER INTO A CERTAIN REDEVELOPMENT AGREEMENT DATED MAY 2024 AND THE VILLAGE OF BURNHAM, COOK COUNTY, ILLINOIS

**ROLL CALL:**

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

NAYS: None

ABSTAIN: None

ABSENT: None

**FINANCE: None**

**PARKS AND RECREATION:**

Trustee Hodges mentioned the following:

- Thanked our Fire Chief John Puchalski-We had a successful Burnham Fire Department Open House and a wonderful and supportive Fire Department
- Families in need can sign up at the Village Hall for a Turkey, they will be given out on November 23<sup>rd</sup>
- Burnham has a Toy Drive, we are accepting new unwrapped toys until December 14<sup>th</sup>.
- Happy that we all can work together
- CMPD has new program books-Open gym on Saturdays

**PRESENTATION OF PETITIONS:** None

**COMMUNICATIONS, MEMORIALS,**

**AND REMONSTRANCES:** Longtime residents-Kim Petrisha passed away, she was a Village Trustee years ago and Raquel Venegas passed away, she was a resident and also the Mother of Officer Avila

**UNFINISHED BUSINESS:** Coyote mating season now

**NEW BUSINESS:** Village is considering 142<sup>nd</sup> & Greenbay Avenue to become an honorary street for Kim Petrisha. We will be having residents sign a petition for this request. She is worthy of this honor.

**ADJOURNMENT:**

Motion made by Trustee Travis Claybrooks and seconded by Trustee Carmella Richardson to adjourn.

**ROLL CALL:**

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

**NAYS:** None

**ABSTAIN:** None

**ABSENT:** None

  
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Village Clerk

  
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Mayor