

VILLAGE OF
FAIRMONT CITY, ILLINOIS

2601 NORTH 41ST STREET FAIRMONT CITY, IL, 62201-2205

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ALEX J. BREGEN
VILLAGE PRESIDENT

RICHARD D. RAMIREZ
VILLAGE CLERK

Meeting Agenda- March 19, 2014

Opening Prayer and pledge of allegiance to the flag

Roll Call

Minutes of previous meeting

Report of Treasurer

Clerk's Reports

Police Chief Report

Request Executive Session regarding ongoing criminal investigation efforts.

Report of Zoning Administrator

Report of Fire Chief

Report of Street Superintendent

Committee Reports

Mayor's Report

Public Comment

Bills

Adjournment

Richard D. Ramirez, Clerk

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**MINUTES OF REGULAR MEETING OF THE PRESIDENT AND BOARD
OF TRUSTEES OF THE VILLAGE OF FAIRMONT CITY HELD ON
WEDNESDAY, MARCH 19, 2014
4001 COOKSON ROAD
FAIRMONT CITY, ILLINOIS
AT 7:00 P.M.**

President Alex Bregen called the Meeting to order followed by the opening prayer and pledge of allegiance.

Clerk Ramirez recorded the attendance. The following were in attendance:

Trustees: Suarez, Hernandez, Romo, Maliszewski, Fiudo, Arriola,. Also in attendance were Treasurer Abe Aleman, Police Chief and Administrator, Scott Penny, Fire Chief, Robert Allen and Street Superintendent, Joe "Pepe" Manso.

A motion to approve the Minutes of the previous Meeting of March 5, 2014 was made by Romo and seconded by Maliszewski. Roll Call Vote: Suarez, yes; Hernandez, yes; Romo, yes; Maliszewski, yes, Fiudo, yes; and Arriola, yes.
(Motion Passed)

Treasurer's Report

Treasurer Aleman presented the financial report for the month of February, 2014 to the board. He reported the village finances are healthy, mainly because of the large checks recently received from the landfill.

Mr. Aleman plans on implementing some changes regarding transfers of funds from TIF and the Drug Fine. He will be transferring on a monthly basis beginning the new fiscal year (May). He is anticipating the end of the landfill contributions and the possible need of a finance committee meeting.

Clerk's Report - No Report

Report of Police Chief

Chief Penny introduced Jessie Juarez, the department's newest hire. The chief informed the board he has assigned Ms. Juarez to the task of inventory. Ms. Juarez is experienced in logistics with her job in the National Guard. She oversees the (military)

medical supply and equipment distributions for the National Guard Reserves of Illinois. She has started the police department inventory. Ms. Juarez will be assisting the fire department and the street department inventory, also.

Ms. Juarez addressed the board on a personal level. She shared how she made her way to the area from Chicago. She is working on a master's degree at SIU-E, has put herself through the police academy at SWIC, where she met a couple of our current officers. She let those present know how happy she is to be in Fairmont City and thanked the board for the opportunity.

Chief Penny described how Ms. Juarez had applied and tested for a job with the Belleville Police department and was their number one choice. She selected to come on board with the Village of Fairmont City. He and President Bregen both reported being honored to have Ms. Juarez on our team.

Report of Zoning Administrator

Administrator Penny reported the zoning board held a meeting with Reverend Diaz with the Iglesia Bautista Agape Church located at 3050 N 61st Street. The church wants to expand their building and requires a variance.

Twenty years ago the village installed playground equipment on the church property. The playground equipment is located where the reverend wants to expand the building. Reverend Diaz would like to keep the playground equipment, but move it into a fenced in area.

Mr. Penny is recommending donating the equipment to the church. Mr. Penny will contact the city lawyer to write up an agreement that would secure ownership to the church. Mr. Penny asked the board to approve donating the play ground equipment to the church.

The motion to have the village lawyer write an agreement between The Village of Fairmont City and the Iglesia Bautista Agape Church, located at 3050 N 61st Street, donating village playground equipment located on the property to the church was made by Suarez and seconded by Maliszewski. Roll Call Vote: Suarez, yes; Hernandez, yes; Romo, yes; Maliszewski, yes, Fiudo, yes; and Arriola, yes.

(Motion Passed)

A zoning recommendation for the project will be presented at the next board meeting.

Report of Fire Chief

Fire Chief Allen reported last Friday (March 14, 2014) the city ladder truck spent the day at Foodland undergoing testing. This annual testing is a requirement of the ISO (Insurance Service Organization). The ladder truck passed all the tests. Chief Allen has the new truck lined up for the testing program next March.

The Fire Chief is communicating with representatives of the Illinois Fire Service Institute of the University of Illinois. He would like to host more training classes. The classes will be scheduled after July 1st, 2014 when funding becomes available.

Report of Street Superintendent

Superintendent Manso reported he is still working on the Maryland Avenue repair. A piece of equipment was borrowed from St. Clair County that broke down. He is hopeful to get it replaced by the end of the week to complete the repair.

Committee Reports

Police/Public Safety-Chair-Arriola

Chair Arriola reported meeting with Scott Penny regarding the police department. everything is running smoothly.

Economic/Finance, Development, Planning, and Tourism – Chair – Fiudo - No Report

Fire Protection – Chair – Maliszewski

Mr. Maliszewski wanted to thank the board for their support through the past twenty years and nine months. Mr. Maliszewski stated his pride of the group present for the peaceful manner in which they have conducted the city's business through these years. He believes that the common ground they all share is the priority each member has made to the welfare of the city. He has hoped it continues with the new generation.

Public Health & Housing – Chair – Romo

Mr. Romo wanted to express his deep appreciation of Mr. Maliszewski. Mr. Maliszewski was instrumental in acclimating himself and Mrs. Hernandez to a side of the village they had never known. Mr. Maliszewski set a high standard, one that is hard to live up to. Mr. Romo said Mr. Maliszewski was always there, for questions, direction and support. Mr. Romo thanked Mr. Maliszewski again and wished him well in his retirement.

Community Relations & Communications – Chair – Hernandez

Mrs. Hernandez could add nothing more to Mr. Romo's statements, in her behalf also, except for letting Mr. Maliszewski know he will be missed. She also wanted Mr. Maliszewski to know she will be calling for his advice, always.

Streets, Sewers, Grounds, Building & Parks – Chair – Suarez - No Report

President's Report

President Bregen reported to the board he received a letter from IDOT acknowledging receipt of the village complaint regarding the road signs off the new bridge exits. They will be doing a study and possibly meet with the city in the future. Mr. Bregen explained the subject will not be forgotten by the village.

President Bregen expressed to Mr. Maliszewski his sadness to see him go. President Bregen said he saw something at the previous day he had not seen in a long time. Mr. Bregen reported an insurgence of youth reminiscent of his early days with the city. He noted Mr. Maliszewski pride in the team, and his hope that such pride lives in the exuberance the younger generation is about to contribute. Mr. Bregen hopes Mr. Maliszewski stays active with the new team. The president wanted to personally thank Mr. Maliszewski for everything he has done. It has been a pleasure working with him and the president believes they could not have stayed so united without Bernard Maliszewski.

Public Comment

A resident who had met with Chief Penny asked the Chief to share their discussion with the board regarding the gym. The chief explained he would like to see a restructuring of the gym, possibly turning the entire responsibility over to the Police Athletic League (PAL). He and Mrs. Aleman have discussed forming a committee to oversee the process to include police, fire, and street department personnel, and civilian to volunteers. The committee would help establish new rules and possible rates. The board agreed to the idea and gave their support to proceed.

Mrs. Aleman reported to the board that she has been approached a number of times by residents asking her about the city van since Mrs. Manso retired. She volunteered to drive it for some of these people who have been asking her about it.

President Bregen explained, after discussions with Mrs. Manso, rider capacity was very limited. He also explained that given the economics the village is facing he would have to have more of a need to justify the additional costs and maintenance of the equipment. President Bregen informed Mrs. Aleman to feel free to have the people in question call his house.

President Bregen also mentioned being approached the previous election day by an individual inquiring about a business license for a medical marijuana distribution center. He informed the man the village is not interested.

Municipal Bills

A motion that the bills be accepted as presented and authorized for payment was made by Fiudo and seconded by Maliszewski. Roll Call Vote: Suarez, yes; Hernandez, yes; Romo, yes; Maliszewski, yes; Fiudo, yes; and Arriola, yes.

(Motion Passed)

Adjournment

A motion to adjourn the meeting was made by Hernandez and seconded by Maliszewski. Roll Call Vote: Suarez, yes; Hernandez, yes; Romo, yes; Maliszewski, yes, Fiudo, yes; and Arriola, yes.

(Motion Passed)

The meeting was adjourned.

Respectfully submitted
Richard D. Ramirez
Village Clerk
March 19, 2014