

VILLAGE OF
FAIRMONT CITY, ILLINOIS

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

MICHAEL SUAREZ
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RICHARD D. RAMIREZ
VILLAGE CLERK

**MINUTES OF REGULAR MEETING OF THE PRESIDENT AND BOARD OF TRUSTEES OF
THE VILLAGE OF FAIRMONT CITY HELD ON
WEDNESDAY, SEPTMEBER 2, 2020
4001 COOKSON ROAD
FAIRMONT CITY, ILLINOIS
AT 7:00 P.M.**

The meeting began with an opening prayer and pledge of allegiance.

Mayor Michael Suarez called the meeting to order.

Clerk Richard Ramirez took attendance. The following were in attendance: Trustees: David Suarez, Guadalupe Hernandez, Raul Munoz, Robert Belba, Michael Fiudo and Charles Arriola. Also, in attendance were Treasurer Juan Mena, Chief of Police Gerald Brown, Fire Chief Robert Allen, Public Works Director Roger Juenger, and Deputy Treasurer Sally Rodriguez.

A motion to approve the minutes of the meeting held on Wednesday, August 19, 2020, was made by Raul Munoz and seconded by David Suarez. Roll Call Vote: David Suarez, yes; Guadalupe Hernandez, yes; Raul Munoz, yes; Robert Belba, yes; Michael Fiudo, yes, and Charles Arriola, yes.

Motion Passed

Treasurer's Report - No Report

Clerk's Report

Clerk Ramirez presented a Building Permit Application, 2832 N 44th Street, Demolition and Addition to Residence, Carlos Perez, Owner. Mayor Suarez reported inspector Sehr has been working with the resident and everything is in order.

The motion was made by David Suarez and seconded by Guadalupe Hernandez to approve the Building Permit Application, 2832 N 44th Street, Demolition and Addition to Residence, Carlos Perez, Owner. Roll Call Vote: David Suarez, yes; Guadalupe Hernandez, yes; Raul Munoz, yes; Robert Belba, yes; Michael Fiudo, yes, and Charles Arriola, yes.

Motion Passed

The clerk presented a second Building Permit Application, 921 N. First Street, Install a Driveway off Fairmont City Boulevard / Exchange Avenue into a 9.5 Acre Parcel, Newman Carriers Inc./ Newman Holdings LLC, Owner. Mr. Newman, owner of the company, was in attendance. Mayor Suarez invited him to share more information with the board.

Mr. Newman explained he recently purchased the acreage from the National Stockyard knowing the property was within the Village of Fairmont City limits. He has been happy with the cooperation he has experienced with the village and will be expanding his business there. Fire Chief Allen addressed the mayor and board to express how easy it has been working with Mr. Newman in the past. Mr. Newman takes great care in maintaining the property.

With no objection the motion was made by Michael Fiudo and seconded by David Suarez to approve the Building Permit Application, 921 N. First Street, Install a Driveway off Fairmont City Boulevard / Exchange Avenue into a 9.5 Acre Parcel, Newman Carriers Inc./ Newman Holdings LLC, Owner. Roll Call Vote: David Suarez, yes; Guadalupe Hernandez, yes; Raul Munoz, yes; Robert Belba, yes; Michael Fiudo, yes, and Charles Arriola, yes.

Motion Passed

Lastly Mr. Ramirez presented Resolution 2020-10, A Resolution Authorizing Gerald Brown to Sign a Memorandum of Understanding with the Fraternal Order of Police Lodge 106. Mayor Suarez explained the resolution gives the police chief permission to sign an agreement with the police officers to go to twelve hour shifts a four-month trial. The agreement has not been executed but rather than bring it back to the board, Police Chief Brown will have permission to sign it on the village's behalf.

The motion was made by Charles Arriola and seconded by Michael Fiudo to approve Resolution 2020-10, A Resolution Authorizing Gerald Brown to Sign a Memorandum of Understanding with the Fraternal Order of Police Lodge 106. Roll Call Vote: David Suarez, yes; Guadalupe Hernandez, yes; Raul Munoz, yes; Robert Belba, yes; Michael Fiudo, yes, and Charles Arriola, yes.

Motion Passed

Report of Police Chief

Chief Brown requested an Executive Session regarding personnel.

Report of Fire Chief

Chief Allen reported the fire college he referenced at the last meeting will be held on October 1 through the 4th, 2020 in Swansea.

The chief reported he has only one firm commitment to attend at this time but has two other firefighters who would like to attend that he is aware of. The college cost is \$50 per person and Chief Allen asked the board to approve four persons for attendance and lunch.

The motion was made by Charles Arriola and seconded by Robert Belba to approve the expense of sending up to four firefighters to fire college October 1st through 4th of 2020 in Swansea, Illinois, not to exceed \$400.00. Roll Call Vote: David Suarez, yes; Guadalupe Hernandez, yes; Raul Munoz, yes; Robert Belba, yes; Michael Fiudo, yes, and Charles Arriola, yes.

Motion Passed

Chief Allen reported he has made another application with Illinois American Water's grant program for \$1,000.00. The chief asked the board for consideration of supplemental funding when he decides what equipment to purchased. Rarely does the \$1,000.00 cover the cost of anything the fire department needs.

The chief reported the monthly siren testing was delayed due to severe storms in the area on the regularly scheduled day. The chief, along with St. Clair County, did not wish to create a scare for residents in the warning areas with a test. Chief Allen has not set a date to reschedule the test and may just wait for the regular scheduled October testing, Tuesday October 6, 2020.

Report of the Public Works Director

Public Works Director Roger Juenger reported if you haven't driven down 45th Street, you can. The project has landscaping to be done and road signs to be replaced but it is in service.

Committee Reports

Police/Public Safety-Chair- Charles Arriola – No Report

Economic/Finance, Development, Planning, and Tourism – Chair – Michael Fiudo

Trustee Michael Fiudo reported he has reviewed the building permit process and believes the village needs to provide an expiration date for each project. He suggested asking the lawyer for a review.

Fire Protection – Chair – Robert Belba, Sr. – No Report

Community Relations & Communications – Chair – Raul Munoz – No Report

Public Health & Housing – Chair- Guadalupe Hernandez - No Report

Streets, Sewers, Grounds, Building & Parks – Chair - David Suarez

Trustee David Suarez wanted to acknowledge what a good job that was done on 45th Street. He is excited that local residents can walk on a sidewalk there now.

President's Report

Mayor Suarez reported the COVID-19 guidelines have reversed due to an increase in positive testing. Restaurants are back to dining outside only. The mayor suggested getting on line to review the changes.

Mayor Suarez reported the village will be hosting COVID testing here at the Community Center, on Wednesday September 9th, 2020, 10am – Noon, and return at 1pm – 3pm. The same schedule is set up for the following Wednesday, September 16, 2020.

The mayor will be integrating a table for the 2020 Census with the COVID testing. The Census deadline is September 30, 2020. The mayor will be conducting drives throughout the month. Personal assistance is available at the annex. Filling out the census on line takes about three minutes and the mayor encourages people to use the on line service.

The mayor has an agreement with La Tiendita, 5100 Collinsville Road, to set up a Census table on the parking lot on Fridays through the rest of the month, 2pm-6pm. The mayor also had a meeting with library personnel regarding the annual school supply give away September 12, 2020. He will be integrating a Census table with that event. The mayor and the library have been discussing a possible “Taco Tuesday” weekly event 2pm – 4pm. Tony’s Tacos will provide the tacos. A Census table will be set up at the event as well. The village has set their goal at 80% response. Chief Allen reported the village is already at 50%.

Mayor Suarez encouraged staying safe and social distancing. With that he opened public comments.

Public Comment

There was a question regarding donations to the library school supply drive.

A local resident wanted to commend the 45th Street project and wanted to know if the trucks would be allowed to use it. It was explained the road was built to accommodate the trucks whose business’ line the street, including the street department trucks.

This resident was also excited to hear a new home is being built in town.

Mr. Newman who was present due to his building permit application offered the use of his property, visible to the roadside, to erect a Census sign.

Mr. Newman also questioned Chief Brown regarding police patrols around his properties. Chief Brown reported there are no scheduled patrols at this time but he is working on changing that.

Executive Session

At this time Mayor Suarez asked the public to leave for an Executive Session regarding personnel. The motion was made by Robert Belba and seconded by Raul Munoz to enter into Executive Session regarding personnel. Roll Call Vote: David Suarez, yes; Guadalupe Hernandez, yes; Raul Munoz, yes; Robert Belba, yes; Michael Fiudo, yes, and Charles Arriola, yes.

Motion Passed 7:19pm

The motion was made by Charles Arriola and seconded by Raul Munoz to return to the regular order of business from Executive Session. Roll Call Vote: David Suarez, yes; Guadalupe Hernandez, yes; Raul Munoz, yes; Robert Belba, yes; Michael Fiudo, yes, and Charles Arriola, yes.

Motion Passed 7:56pm

Municipal Bills

The motion to approve payment of the bills as presented on this day September 2, 2020, in the amount of \$15,914.82 was made by Michael Fiudo and seconded Robert Belba. Roll Call Vote: David Suarez, yes; Guadalupe Hernandez, yes; Raul Munoz, yes; Robert Belba, yes; Michael Fiudo, yes, and Charles Arriola, yes.

Motion Passed

Adjournment

With that, a motion to adjourn the meeting was made by Charles Arriola and seconded by Guadalupe Hernandez. Roll Call Vote: David Suarez, yes; Guadalupe Hernandez, yes; Raul Munoz, yes; Robert Belba, yes; Michael Fiudo, yes, and Charles Arriola, yes.

Motion Passed

The meeting was adjourned.

Respectfully Submitted
Richard D. Ramirez
Village Clerk
September 2, 2020