

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

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

President Pro Tem David Suarez called the meeting to order in Mayor Michael Suarez's absence.

Clerk Richard Ramirez took attendance. The following were in attendance: Trustees: David Suarez, Guadalupe Hernandez, Raul Munoz, Robert Belba, and Charles Arriola. Trustee Michael Fiudo was absent. Interim Treasurer, Sally Rodriguez was also in attendance.

A motion to approve the minutes of the meeting held on Wednesday, September 16, 2020, was made by Charles Arriola and seconded Robert Belba. Roll Call Vote: David Suarez, yes; Guadalupe Hernandez, yes; Raul Munoz, yes; Robert Belba, yes; and Charles Arriola, yes. Trustee Michael Fiudo was absent.

Motion Passed

Treasurer's Report

Interim Treasurer Sally Rodriguez reported the treasurer's office has been working on a FEMA (Federal Emergency Management) grant for flooding that occurred in the Kinder area of town in 2019. Ms. Rodriguez reported the application resulted in \$32,892.00 for needed repair there. Additional funding from this grant will be forthcoming.

Ms. Rodriguez also reported her office has been tracking COVID expense for federal reimbursement. The village will be reimbursed \$108,702 as a result. Ms. Rodriguez was congratulated for the good work.

The Interim Treasurer reported she and the mayor are still interviewing for a treasurer.

Clerk's Report

Clerk Ramirez requested an Executive Session to review Executive Session Minutes currently on file.

Clerk Ramirez presented a list of Holidays observed by St. Clair County. In the past the village approved the same list for civilian employees.

The motion was made by Robert Belba and seconded by Charles Arriola to approve the list of Civilian Holidays for 2021 as presented. Roll Call Vote: David Suarez, yes; Guadalupe Hernandez, yes; Raul Munoz, yes; Robert Belba, yes; and Charles Arriola, yes. Trustee Michael Fiudo was absent.

Motion Passed

Clerk Ramirez presented a Building Permit Application, 2508 N 38th Street, New Deck, Ramiro Munoz, Owner.

With everything in order, the motion was made by Raul Munoz and seconded by Charles Arriola to approve the Building Permit Application, 2508 N 38th Street, New Deck, Ramiro Munoz, Owner. Roll Call Vote: David Suarez, yes; Guadalupe Hernandez, yes; Raul Munoz, yes; Robert Belba, yes; and Charles Arriola, yes. Trustee Michael Fiudo was absent.

Motion Passed

The clerk presented a Building Permit Application, 2759 N 44th Street, Carport, Richard Ramirez Jr., Owner.

With no objection the motion was made by Charles Arriola and seconded by Guadalupe Hernandez to approve the Building Permit Application, 2759 N 44th Street, Carport, Richard Ramirez Jr., Owner. Roll Call Vote: David Suarez, yes; Guadalupe Hernandez, yes; Raul Munoz, yes; Robert Belba, yes; and Charles Arriola, yes. Trustee Michael Fiudo was absent.

Motion Passed

Lastly, Mr. Ramirez presented another Building Permit Application, 3311 N 62nd Street, Front Porch, Jose Escoto, Owner.

The motion was made by Guadalupe Hernandez and seconded by Raul Munoz to approve the Building Permit Application, 3311 N 62nd Street, Front Porch, Jose Escoto, Owner. Roll Call Vote: David Suarez, yes; Guadalupe Hernandez, yes; Raul Munoz, yes; Robert Belba, yes; and Charles Arriola, yes. Trustee Michael Fiudo was absent.

Motion Passed

Report of Police Chief

In the absence of Chief Brown, Police Commissioner Charles Arriola reported the necessary repairs to Car #10 discussed at a previous meeting are being processed.

The commissioner also reported the department continues working on ordinance violations.

Report of Fire Chief

Trustee and retired Fire Chief Robert Belba reported in Fire Chief Allen's absence. The outdoor fire siren was tested yesterday and Chief Allen was very pleased, it passed.

The Fireman's Association approved reimbursement of the purchase of a new Kussmoll Battery Charger and Compressor in the amount of \$2,800.00.

The fire department was awarded the \$1,000.00 grant from Illinois American Water Company. The chief will be purchasing two personal thermal imaging cameras as discussed at a previous meeting.

Trustee Robert Belba reported the fire department is in receipt of a check from the State of Illinois Foreign Fire Tax Fund in the amount of \$6,028.52. This amount exceeds his experience as fire chief. Ms. Rodriguez reported last year's amount was more like \$3,000.00.

Report of the Public Works Director

In Director Juenger absence, David Suarez reported the public works department has been catching up on grass cutting. The Public Works Department was a little disabled by the 45th project and will be working on catching up with other projects.

Sally Rodriguez reported she and the director have been working on getting bids to reseal the walking trail at Granby Park.

Committee Reports

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

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

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 – No Report
President's Report

President Pro Tem David Suarez reported for Mayor Suarez.

Confirmed COVID cases in the area have improved and if the numbers stay the same for two more days, restaurants and bars will be able to go back inside. The mayor continues to support social distancing.

The village has teamed up with Collinsville Unit #10 to host a media/internet device class for area parents lacking these skills. The district is struggling with students who do not have internet access and/or parents who can oversee the remote classrooms. The event will take place on October 13 and 15, of 2020 at the Community Center from 5pm-7pm. The mayor and Trustee Raul Munoz have volunteered to shuttle persons from the trailer courts. Flyers are being made to distribute there.

The Census deadline has been extended to October 31, 2020.

Public Comment

A local resident who has been volunteering with the Census drive will have a table at the classes to be held on the 13th and 15th. There was a discussion concerning the importance of focusing on the trailer courts. There is a certain amount of fear with many of the people there who are not citizens, and have no transportation to many events. The resident reported that after talking to some of them and assuring them there is nothing to fear, they become more open. An event was held at the center a couple of weeks ago resulting in 150 people, mostly from the courts, being counted.

The resident was thanked by Mr. Suarez and the rest of the board.

Municipal Bills

The motion to approve payment of the bills as presented on this day October 7, 2020, in the amount of \$20,406.67 was made by Charles Arriola and seconded Guadalupe Hernandez. Roll Call Vote: David Suarez, yes; Guadalupe Hernandez, yes; Raul Munoz, yes; Robert Belba, yes; and Charles Arriola, yes. Trustee Michael Fiudo was absent.

Motion Passed

Executive Session

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

Motion Passed 7:17pm

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 7:20pm

The motion was made by Robert Belba and seconded by Raul Munoz to retain the content of the all Executive Session Minutes as presented. Roll Call Vote: David Suarez, yes; Guadalupe Hernandez, yes; Raul Munoz, yes; Robert Belba, yes; and Charles Arriola, yes. Trustee Michael Fiudo was absent.

Motion Passed

Adjournment

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

Motion Passed

The meeting was adjourned.

Respectfully Submitted
Richard D. Ramirez
Village Clerk
October 7, 2020