

# City of Hillcrest Village

## Mayor's Update

The mayor's update is a report to the residents of Hillcrest Village that provides information on Council meetings and other items that impact the Village. Working with the City Council, these updates will be open and give transparent insights into the Village operations.

Mayor Brad Dawson

Regular Session Hillcrest Village Council Meeting  
July 15, 2024

1. The operations Report was presented by Caleb Cristofaro from Municipal District Services, LLC.
  - a. This report provides information on monthly water distribution and sanitary collection systems. This includes the city water plants and wastewater plant.
  - b. Prior to Hurricane Beryl, all generators were serviced and diesel tanks that supply those generators were topped off.
  - c. Damage from Hurricane Beryl included a water line break caused by a tree falling over and puncturing a water main servicing several homes. At the sewer plant, the yard light pole was blown over. The yard light has since been repaired and the water main fixed as well.
  - d. It was reported that the city had no interruption in water or sewer operations due to the automatic switching system installed that notices voltage drop when the power went out and caused the backup power generators to come on.
2. Marshal Shohn Davison presented the June Marshal's Report.
  - a. Monthly cases included calls for service, traffic citations and warnings as well as vacation watch checks.
3. Travis Hobbs, Emergency Management Coordinator, discussed planned meetings with FEMA and Brazoria County concerning Hurricane Beryl recovery operations.
4. The monthly financials were reviewed and entered into the minutes of the meeting.
5. The minutes of the June 17, 2024 meeting were reviewed and approved as presented.

### NEW BUSINESS

- A. Discussion of the action necessary to update all financial institutions with authorized signatories and delete prior signatories not authorized on Hillcrest Village accounts. This is really a housekeeping item. Our banking institutions must be monitored, and only current authorized individuals should be signatories on the accounts. In addition, the city

has funds in various high interest accounts and we need to make sure we are getting the highest possible interest yield on that money.

- B. Discussion and recommended action authorizing Mayor Dawson to take all appropriate action regarding the safety and public well being on behalf of Hillcrest Village due to Hurricane Beryl. This addresses working with FEMA and Brazoria County on Hurricane Beryl recovery actions as necessary.

## OLD BUSINESS

- A. The City Council approved a revised service agreement between MDS and Hillcrest Village as was discussed at the June 17, 2024 meeting. The renewal date was moved from October 1 to July 1. The MDS CPI cost adjustments are typically done at contract renewal. Moving the renewal date to right before the budget planning process in August, aids the city in budgeting for the next fiscal year.
- B. Moving the renewal date of the MDS contract required the city to approve a small increase of expenditure in this years budget to cover the MDS CPI adjustment a minimal amount for the next three months. The council had to address that issue with a small budget amendment for the 2023-2024 budget.

This Mayor's Update summarizes the most recent meeting of the city council. Council meetings are held every third Monday at the City Hall located on 200 W. Timberlane Dr. next to the city park at 6:00 pm. This report does not replace the official city council minutes which are always reviewed and approved at the next council meeting. Those minutes are archived on the city website as required and readily available.

While hurricane Beryl was only a category one hurricane, the amount of damage to trees and homes tells me we must have experienced very high wind gusts with possible tornados that fortunately did not touch the ground. I saw huge trees toppled onto homes and other trees onto vehicles parked in the street. The entire village experienced power outages making a cool place to retreat from the massive cleanup work impossible. Some people got power restored within 24 hours and others had to wait much longer. The long wait time for many was a result of trees knocking down power lines. The downed trees made access in some of our easements difficult. Crews were sent to restore power only to be faced with the process of first determining the cause of the outage, then developing a repair plan that usually included tree removal companies first just so lineman could get to the source of the problem. Frustrating, I know. As of this writing, I believe the city power grid is back up and running 100 percent. Hallelujah!

Kudos to Janelle Marin, the owner of Ameriwaste, for getting our debris picked up so quickly. Five days after the hurricane passed, we had trucks and personnel here picking up bagged green waste. The next day 18 trucks descended on a Sunday to retrieve green waste piled next to the curbs. Later in the day, a grappling truck made several passes by to pick up larger limbs and tree parts. AS I write this, they are back today picking up fence pieces from the curbs. From all of Hillcrest Village, THANK YOU Ameriwaste for looking out for us!