



Town of Hawthorn Junction

Special Minutes - Crime Reduction

Town Council

Meeting #107-30-S

6:00 PM

8 Main St.

Call to Order	Mayor Cole Roscoe
Prayer	Rev. Al Davis, with special prayer on behalf of Catherine and Jonathan Jenkins, whose son Carson is missing.
Pledge of Allegiance	Mayor Cole Roscoe
Roll Call	Charli Jenkin Present: 9 - Rev. Al Davis, Chuck Hawthorn, Sarah Hawthorn, Charli Jenkin, Marshall Jenkin, Sheila McGlenn, Dodd Plum, Harold Plum, Mayor Cole Roscoe (non-voting, ex officio) Absent Council Members: 1 - Jonathan Jenkin Also Present: Judy Cohen, Erveta Krup, Gertrude McKibben, Paula Molineaux (Temporary Secretary), Leroy Trotter
Approval of Agenda	Charli <u>MOVED</u> to approve the agenda. <u>SECONDED</u> by Sarah. <u>MOTION CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY</u> on voice vote.
Approval of Minutes	Charli <u>MOVED</u> to approve the minutes from the previous Board meeting. <u>SECONDED</u> by Sheila. <u>MOTION CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY</u> on voice vote.

A. PETITIONS, REPORTS, AND COMMUNICATIONS

Statement from the Mayor

Mayor Roscoe opened this special meeting of the Hawthorn Town Council by explaining that this session was called by Charli Jenkin in response to her son's disappearance and what she feels is an increase in crime in Hawthorn Junction. Mayor Roscoe expressed sympathy for Charli and her family's plight, though he urged caution in assessing this so-called spike in crime. The statistics show that Hawthorn Junction's residents are just as safe

as they have ever been, he said, and the town shouldn't let a few bad apples whip everyone into a panic.

Comments by the Public

Judy Cohen, 4 Skylark Ln, said she was sorry for what had happened to Charli's son but felt it was an isolated incident, and that no significant change in crime or public safety was occurring. Gertrude McKibben, 3 Farm St., disagreed, and said it was only that Jenkin boy getting what he deserved. She claimed he'd been a bad one since he was knee high to a pig's eye and that town was better off without him.

Paula Molineaux, 1 Main St., agreed that Carson might not have been the best kid, but pointed out that his family still deserved to know what had happened to him. She said that frankly she didn't much care for Carson personally, but that the town should be concerned whenever anything like this happens to one of its residents, no matter whether they were well-liked or not, and that doing nothing made the whole town look bad.

Sheila McGlenn, 6 Farm St., agreed that a poor public response to an incident like Carson's disappearance would create bad PR for the town, and would be problematic for Hawthorn Junction's public image, long-term.

Charli Jenkin, 3 Jenkins Way, said to hell with the town's public image, what about her son? She asked Sarah and Chuck whether they knew anything about what had happened to Carson, since her son had a summer job at their farm.

Sarah Hawthorn, 13 Farm St., stated that she and her brother only gave Carson that job as a favor to Charli, and that she had not spoken to the boy since that summer, as she did not keep company with such uncouth persons. She added something that sounded like, Go, on a hot day blah cry blah blah it blah was two net blah helical tall amplifies hit blah tin coverlet blah slow multiple baptizing hill blah not blah cottages vet why blah blah enchantment cut sole blah red angering blah ten assailants let blah birdcages with afterglow blah to the new blah battlefields up apertures fur blah tick acreage blah show commitments for her blah hop, stop.

Chuck Hawthorn, 13 Farm St., responded with something that sounded like, Go, corrupter blah how blaspheming did blah tip for blah activate wed addictive pin blah armoring fit dissemble blah abnegate old activates celebrate blah blah abduction skip shot blah and blah tap or top arisen blah sin for blah no achingly not yet, stop.

Leroy Trotter, 3 Skylark Way, wanted to know if they were sure the Jenkin boy hadn't just run away. He stated that it couldn't be that serious, if her husband wasn't even present at this meeting.

Charli Jenkin, 3 Jenkins Way, wanted to know what Leroy expected, when her husband was driving the long haul. She went on to say that the whole town could go to hell and began to cry. Paula Molineaux, 1 Main St., urged Charli to remain calm, and reminded her that there was a real good chance that Carson was just fine and she'd hear from him any day now.

B. COMMITTEES, COMISSIONS, AND TASK FORCES

B-11-03

Budget request to establish a Crime and Public Safety Task Force. This task force would conduct a comprehensive study of crime statistics for Hawthorn Junction and would make recommendations for improving law enforcement in Hawthorn Junction. Funds would support resources for the task force, including but not limited to office supplies and consultant fees for external experts. Initial funding request is \$3,000, with possibility of extension at a later date, pending approval.

Sponsor: Charli

Spoke on:

Charli Jenkin, 3 Jenkins Way, said it is important for the town to invest in the safety and security of its residents in the same way we would invest in safe roads or good schools. She went on to say that Hawthorn Junction is a nice place to live, and she thinks it's shameful that the neighborly attitude of the town doesn't actually count for much when you get right down to it.

Spoke in favor:

Sheila McGlenn, 6 Farm. St., said she did feel that any action the council could take to make Hawthorn Junction a safer place is in the town's best interest. She added that while she has always felt safe here, she has noticed some disturbances in the empty building sites in her development, such as discarded items of clothing and trash, though she suspects it's most likely kids messing around. She agrees that a task force focused on crime reduction and public safety would be a worthwhile investment for Hawthorn Junction.

Rev. Al Davis, 2 Plum Dr., agreed that focusing on rooting out bad influences in town is important. He affirmed that Hawthorn Junction is, essentially, a good town, full of good people, but added that sin and temptation are everywhere, and the council has a responsibility to deter wicked individuals bent on flouting god's laws and dragging the town into depravity.

Harold Plum, 4 Plum Dr., agreed that keeping the town safe from wicked influences was paramount, and added that he is more concerned about strangers doing harm to residents than he is about someone from town.

Ervetta Krup, 8 Farm St., voiced concerns about an article she'd read about a tourist who went missing in Hawthorn Junction last summer. What if that started happening to locals, too? What if it was Blue Lizzy? What if all the missing tourists were living in sin with Blue Lizzy at the bottom of the lake?

Spoke against:

Mayor Roscoe, 3 Brown St., reminded the council that there was no evidence of any spike in crime at all, and that reports about missing tourists were grossly exaggerated. He added that all these so-called disappearances happened in the middle of the day, and nothing bad could possibly happen in broad daylight. He stated that everybody knows you get kidnapped at night, or in the early morning at least, not in the early afternoon in a crowd of people. If these people were really going missing, he said, there would be witnesses, or signs of a struggle, or any evidence at all that folks didn't just up and leave on their own. He stated that rumors about tourists disappearing have been going around for years, and nobody has ever proven that there's anything to these claims. He concluded by assuring everyone that nobody had anything to worry about.

Dodd Plum, 3 Plum Dr., said that while he was not opposed to a crime task force, and generally felt that it would be good for the town as a whole, he did want to urge caution in how such a task force was represented to the public. He stated that it wouldn't be a good idea to give the impression that there was anything to be worried about, as that might give out-of-towners the wrong idea.
Mayor Roscoe declared the public hearing on B-11-03 closed.

MOTION: Sarah MOVED and it was SECONDED by Charli that the Public Safety Sub-Committee should be formed forthwith.
ACTION: MOTION CARRIED on voice vote. Ayes: 10 (Rev. Al, Chuck, Sarah, Charli, Sheila, Dodd, Harold). Nays: 0. Abstain: 0.

C. APPOINTMENTS

MOTION: Sarah MOVED and it was SECONDED by Charli that Marshall be appointed as the Chair the newly-formed Public Safety Sub-Committee.
ACTION: MOTION CARRIED on voice vote. Ayes: (Rev. Al, Chuck, Sarah, Charli, Sheila, Harold). Nays: 1 (Dodd). Abstain: 0.

ADJOURNMENT *There being no further business, the meeting is adjourned at 8:30 PM.*

APPROVED:

Cole Roscoe, Mayor

ATTEST:

Paula Molineaux, Temporary Secretary