

Windsor Village Civic Club
Executive Board Teleconference
Tuesday, May 26, 2020

Meeting called to order at 6:35 p.m.

Attendees:

Elizabeth Bell, President:
Edward Johnson, Vice-President
Richard Cruz, Treasurer
Judy Mire, Recording Secretary
Bettie Woodard, Board Director
Anthony Canaan, Resident
Gerry VanderLynn, Consultant

President Bell led us in prayer.

Ms. Bell asked if Mr. Canaan had his copy of the court decision signed by Judge Williams on January 22, the final judgement found in favor for the defendant. He did not; however, he said he knew what the decision said. He informed us the decision was approximately \$20,000.00 for attorney fees and \$3000.00 in damages. Ms. Bell stated we had a limited amount of funds and asked him what if he had a payment plan in mind. Some of us went to court, some did not. What about the 5% compound interest, until we pay you in full will that continue to accumulate?

Mr. Canaan: "Whatever y'all think is fair, I understand the situation. The judge says the interest will have to be paid first. For instance if payment is over a 5-year period the interest is paid up front. I have not spoke (sic) to my attorney about it. He understands your situation also. Just pay what the bible would say and what the book says is fair."

Mr. Cruz stated "We all want to do what's right. My main concern is we are the board this year then you will have to deal with a new board. Everyone is concerned about the interest. By paying interest first we may not be able to cut the grass. Can we pay you a flat fee and not compound interest? Can you think about that?"

Mr. Canaan: "Just like, if you want to purchase a car or a house, for a 10-year period, you have to pay the interest up front. If you know how long your term will be....that set amount of time for the \$23,000 to be paid back, then the interest would be calculated based on that. I will talk to my attorney."

Mr. Johnson: "Once you confer with your attorney, we have to pay the interest first and the remaining payments will be principal. We have to do it but we have to figure out how we can pay; I'm willing."

Mr. Cruz: " I just did a quick calculation and the amount is \$383."

Mr. Canaan: "What period of time, five years?"

Ms. Bell: "We have to figure out what we can afford to pay him. We know how much we owe him but we don't want to go broke. It depends on how fast we can make the money, we will have to have fundraisers. We don't know how fast we can get the money. "

Mr. Canaan: "It can be paid off sooner. Just like you can pay off your car whenever you want to.

Mr. Cruz: It may take a longer period of time. Sixty months/five years at \$434 per month."

Ms. Bell: "Thinking about my car payment for 60 months, that's really similar to what I pay."

Mr. Cruz: "Our expenses for Village Voice, Lawn care etc. are \$900 per month. So it may be longer.

Mr. Johnson: "How much can the civic club actually afford."

Ms. Mire: "Mr. Canaan, would you be interested in relieving us of some of the interest and the compounded interest, otherwise, we will be bankrupt. Will you consider this."

Mr. Canaan: "I understand the question, what you're asking. I understand what you have to pay the attorney. The female attorney overcharged you. Go after the attorney fees that were overcharged, I think that's the problem. You can pay me in two tiers. Start with a lower payment, once you pay off Attorney Rice, increase my payment with her payment. The attorneys, both of them, robbed y'all, go after them first. How much was Chatmon overpaid?"

He gave his opinion about how much Ms. Rice should have charged for the amount of work she did.

Ms. Bell: " I don't know, but she should be paid in eight months. We don't owe Chatmon anything.. Actually, he was prepaid for a lot of stuff. I think the other administration should be involved in the repayment."

Mr. Canaan: "I think you can pay me back in two tiers. First tier starting out lower, after you pay her, the second tier will be higher.

Mr. Canaan: "I'm quite sure Susan didn't share this with you, Chatmon has been sanctioned by the court for something illegal he did, I don't know what it is but it was pretty bad. Chatmon does not have a reputation of honesty. It was recent."

Ms. Bell: "We will get back with you after we have our next meeting the second Tuesday in June. We are the executive board and must get back with the remaining board members and get a vote. We will let you know our next plan."

Mr. Cruz: "\$19,125 plus \$3,000 in sanctions, the interest rate at 5% and 5% compounded each year until the total is paid. This is based on what they signed. Even if we do fundraisers we will only be paying interest each year. We have to deal with this judgement because you were done wrong and we want to do what is right."

Mr. Canaan: "After that is paid off, that will give you a substantial amount of money. I think Rice overcharged you by \$10,000. My attorney said she did nothing but show up. I think the \$5000 was a gift so that should help."

Ms. Bell: "That was a loan. Does anyone have comments or suggestions?"

Mr. Canaan: "Have you paid her?" "My attorney and her talked and she knew she didn't have a case."

Ms. Bell: "Yes, she was paid this month. Her (Rice) fee, \$10,000 was her retainer fee."

Mr. Cruz: "How can we fight Susan with no money?"

Mr. Canaan: "What is done, is done. After she is paid off that will free up a substantial amount of money."

Ms. Bell: "We can't talk about that, that is spilled milk and we can't wipe it up. We will have to pay back what is owed. We will have to figure out a way to pay everyone we owe. We'll see what we'll have to do next. We may have to go door-to-door. Knocking for dues. whatever it takes."

Ms. Mire: "Thank you for your time, Mr. Canaan, we appreciate it."

Ms. Bell: "We wanted you to know you weren't left out of the loop, we haven't forgotten about you. Glad we are on the same page. You will be hearing from us."

Mr. Canaan: "I know with the coronavirus you had a lot going on. I thought we should at least discuss it."

Mr. Johnson: "We will find a way to get it done."

Ms. Bell: "Yes, you will hear from us."

At 7:09 p.m., Ms. Bell said, "Committee, I appreciate you being on the conference call." At that time a call ended presumably by Mr. Canaan.

Conversation continued between committee members about the attorneys

Mr. Cruz: "Go to Mortgage calculator.org and input \$23,000 for 6 years, payment \$370, compounded interest included."

Ms. Woodard: "Has the flash drive been turned over by Chatmon? He was supposed to turn it over to the new board. Go after Chatmon."

Ms. Mire: "Get the flash drive before you go to him to get back our money!"

Mr. Johnson: "Chatman had the flash drive, he suggested that everything be placed on it so that information would not be lost. He said all those papers should not be in the file cabinet. I can not confirm that we got the flash drive. Those are the files about closing out the civic club."

Ms. Woodard: "I asked before if you had received it. The flash drive should be from 2012 to now. That flash drive is with none other than Michelle or Carolyn Hughes. There is a lot of information on that flash drive. It will open up a can of worms. They should be cycled into the situation, they can not just walk away! He refused to take down the cyclone fence. It became a problem between two neighbors, that's why they should be involved in the repayment. All of the boards from 2012 should be involved in this. It was between two neighbors, when she couldn't control the situation that's when all this HOA thing started happening."

Mr. Johnson: "We need to get all the documents these attorneys have, we must have it all."

Ms. Mire: "We should include in the next Village Voice, we need to encourage all of the residents to come to the meeting so that we can share all of this with them."

Ms. Bell: "We should share all of this with residents at the next general meeting. I have checked some of these past records and a lot of records have been blacked out (redacted).. Jonathon Chatmon on Bissonnet. I will call Chatmon, he will probably say he doesn't have it."

Ms. Woodard suggested that she go to the office and we could accompany her; that's better than on the phone."

Mr. Cruz: "We always share information with the residents, but it's the same 20 or 30 residents out of 880 homes. I will put figures together for the board meeting."

Ms. Bell there will be a board meeting on June 2, 2020 at 6:30 p.m.

Adjournment:

Meeting ended at 7:34 p.m.

Recording Secretary: Judy Mire

Date: May 26, 2020