

Speed Bump Fiasco of 2022

According to the HALRI Board Mtg Minutes:

Back in August of 2021, the board began discussing the installation of additional speed bumps.

Between then and December of that year, bids were received, a vendor selected and somewhere between three and five speed bumps were installed on Riverlake Drive. (No further details were provided).

By January 2022, many issues had arisen from the speed bumps, including injuries to people, and damage to vehicles. At this late point, the board back tracked, and to do a speed study, invite residents to make recommendations, and consult with emergency services. Residents, David and Lisa Kerr, also intervened to help gather statistics, safety norms and industry standards pertaining to speed bumps. (As a fellow resident, I express my gratitude for their work, and to the board for listening, and hearing, what they had to say.)

Over the next several months options to remove or alter the speed bumps was discussed, resident surveys were taken, and costs considered.

The April 2022 Board meeting minutes, under "Old Business," summed up what was decided, the speed bumps on Riverlake were removed. This consensus must have been reached prior to the meeting, because the minutes conclude by saying, "Richard reported the speed bumps/humps have been removed." The minutes conclude with a simple statement, "It is time to move forward."

I found this statement a bit offensive, especially since the total actual costs of this fiasco is never forthcoming from the board. After repeated attempts, I was able to obtain the pertinent speed bump bids and invoices from DJ, with GNO. A review of those invoices determined the total cost for speed bumps (that we no longer have), to be \$19,950. This is not a small matter. This is more than 10% of our neighborhood's total annual budget!

Therefore, I ask the board for transparency in this matter, and all matters, between the board and property owners, every victory and every screw up.

And secondly, for the board to consider, that just as they expected \$20,000 in grace from this neighborhood; that neighbors, who may owe just a tiny percentage of this amount, should be able to expect the same grace from them; or at the least leniency in due dates, accuracy in the calculation of late fees, and less legal berating.

Viciousness, on the part of the board, to get money, has gone on for years, it has caused some residents to move away, and caused others severe emotional distress. In focusing on "collecting dues," have we forgotten this is a neighborhood?

Personally, the board has authorized an unlawful lien to be placed on our home, not for past due assessments, but for a late fee balance only, of \$290. Not only had the time expired to file a lien (our assessments are paid in full), but late fees were charged in excess of what is permitted by our Covenants, Phase 1, Article IV, Section 8, which is 10% annum. To file this unlawful lien, the board has incurred an additional \$555.00 in attorney fees, paid for with community funds. (Please note, we stand ready to pay the legally required late fee, of 10% per annum, when we receive a corrected bill.)

Another example, one of our neighbors, a widow and on a fixed income, owns three lots. She had been diligently paying both her annual assessment and the special assessment, often calling Maria monthly about her account being messed up with GNO. Yet she received a threatening letter from Mr. Sutton over late fees!

In closing, I encourage the board to read an interesting story in the bible, Matthew 18: 21-35, it is entitled, "The Unforgiving Servant."

Thank you.

Elizabeth