

Minutes of the Regular City Council Proceedings of the City of Chicago Heights, Cook County, Illinois held Monday, January 19, 2016 at 7:00 p.m. at 1601 Chicago Road, Chicago Heights, IL.

CALL TO ORDER

Mayor Gonzalez called the regular meeting of the Chicago Heights City Council to order at 7:00 p.m.

ROLL CALL

Mayor:	David Gonzalez	Present
Council:	1st Ward Walter Mosby	Present
	2nd Ward Sonia Perez	Absent
	3rd Ward Wanda Rodgers	Present
	4th Ward Joshua Deabel	Present
	5th Ward Richard Amadio	Present
	6th Ward Vincent Zaranti	Absent
	7th Ward Sylvia Torres	Present

PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE

COMMUNICATIONS

Mayor Gonzalez expressed his condolences to Alderman Zaranti and his family on the recent passing of the alderman's mother.

Alderman Mosby announced that his next ward meeting would be held on February 4, 2016 at 6:00 p.m. at Barack Obama School of Leadership and STEM.

Alderman Perez was absent. (Later in the meeting, COS Lisa Aprati announced that the alderman's next ward meeting would be held on Monday, January 25, 2016 at 7:00 p.m. at Garfield School. Representatives from Code Enforcement and the Police Department were asked to attend.)

Alderman Rodgers announced that her next quarterly ward meeting would be held on Tuesday, March 8, 2016 at 6:00 p.m. at the Chicago Heights Park District.

Alderman Deabel announced that his next ward meeting would be held on Monday, January 25, 2016 at 7:00 p.m. at Roosevelt School.

Alderman Amadio had no meeting date to announce.

Alderman Zaranti was absent.

Alderman Torres announced that her next ward meeting would be held on January 26, 2016 at 3:30 p.m. at the Golden Towers Senior Center. She asked that representatives from the City attend.

Mayor Gonzalez gave a brief update on the St. James Hospital issue. He reported that the hospital had recently submitted to the State for the Certificate of Acceptance. The Illinois Health Facilities Review Board would hold a public hearing on the matter on February 9, 2016 from 3:30 – 9:00 p.m. at the Bloom High School Auditorium. The City would pass along additional information to the aldermen and residents as it was received.

PUBLIC PARTICIPATION

Chuck Dieringer, a resident of the City, addressed the council on water testing, street salt, the repair of the dam, and parking on city streets.

REPORT OF CHIEF OF STAFF—Lisa Aprati

Chief of Staff Aprati announced on behalf of Alderman Perez, who was absent, that the alderman’s next ward meeting would be held on Monday, January 25th at 7:00 p.m. at Garfield School.

REPORT OF CORPORATION COUNSEL—T. J. Somer

Corporation Counsel Somer announced that the demolition of the first abandoned property would commence the following day and other properties later that week. This was made possible by the Blight Reduction Program in which the City had been awarded \$ 435,000 to address the problem of abandoned homes.

1. MINUTES: MEETING OF DECEMBER 21, 2015

Alderman Mosby moved, and Alderman Rogers seconded, a motion to approve the minutes.

Ayes: Mosby, Rodgers, Amadio, Torres

Nays: Deabel

Abstain: none

Absent: Perez, Zaranti

Motion to approve carried.

2. BILLS: APPROVAL OF SECOND RUN OF DECEMBER, 2015 AND FIRST RUN OF JANUARY, 2016.

Alderman Torres moved, and Alderman Rodgers seconded, a motion to approve the bills.

Ayes: Mosby, Rodgers, Amadio, Torres

Nays: Deabel

Abstain: none

Absent: Perez, Zaranti

Motion to approve carried.

3. ORDINANCE #2016 - 1 : AMENDING AND UPDATING THE CITY OF CHICAGO HEIGHTS "INVESTMENT POLICY".

Alderman Mosby moved, and Alderman Rodgers seconded, a motion to approve the ordinance.

Ayes: Mosby, Rodgers, Amadio, Torres

Nays: Deabel

Abstain: none

Absent: Perez, Zaranti

Motion to approve carried.

Treasurer Dee explained that the language in the previous policy indicated that the City was allowed to invest with public agencies that had co-terminus boundaries with the City. The new wording specifically defined park districts and forest preserves etc. giving a more precise definition of what those entities are.

4. RESOLUTION #2016 - 1 : AUTHORIZING THE CITY TREASURER TO TRANSFER MONEY BETWEEN CITY FUNDS.

Alderman Amadio moved, and Alderman Rodgers seconded, a motion to approve the resolution.

Ayes: Mosby, Rodgers, Amadio, Torres

Nays: Deabel

Abstain: none

Absent: Perez, Zaranti

Motion to approve carried.

Treasurer Dee explained that the annual resolution allowed the City to transfer money between funds as needed for check runs during the course of the fiscal year.

5. RESOLUTION #2016 - 2 : APPROVING A CITY EMPLOYEE REQUEST FOR A LEAVE OF ABSENCE.

Alderman Rodgers moved, and Alderman Torres seconded, a motion to approve the resolution.

Ayes: Mosby, Rodgers, Deabel, Amadio, Torres

Nays: none

Abstain: none

Absent: Perez, Zaranti

Motion to approve carried.

Corporation Counsel Somer said that a memo on the matter had been provided to the council, and that actual discussion could be held when the council went into Executive Session.

ADMINISTRATION OF OATH OF OFFICE TO NEW POLICE OFFICER JAMES HIBBS.

Police Chief Thomas Rogers spoke of Officer James Hibbs and his long desire to be a police officer, following in his father's footsteps. He outlined the officer's six-year active duty military career, and his outstanding performance at the police academy.

Chief Rogers introduced Officer Hibbs and City Clerk Lori Wilcox proceeded to administer the oath of office to him.

Mayor Gonzalez welcomed Officer Hibbs to the City's police force, and thanked him for his service to our country.

EXECUTIVE SESSION TO DISCUSS PENDING LITIGATION AND/OR PERSONNEL ISSUES AND/OR PROPOSED USE OF CITY OWNED LAND.

6. ADJOURNMENT

At 7:28 p.m. Alderman Rodgers moved, and Alderman Mosby seconded, a motion to enter into executive session and to adjourn the meeting after executive session.

Ayes: Mosby, Rodgers, Deabel, Amadio, Torres

Nays: none

Abstain: none

Absent: Perez, Zaranti

Motion to approve carried.

Attest:

Lori Wilcox, City Clerk