

Minutes of the Regular City Council Proceedings of the City of Chicago Heights, Cook County, Illinois held Monday, February 1, 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 7:15 p.m.

ROLL CALL

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

PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE

COMMUNICATIONS

Mayor Gonzalez made note that many of the persons present were there in regard to the incidents that recently occurred at Greenbriar School. He asked the parents to proceed to the Mayor's office where their questions and concerns could be more productively addressed by the chief of police and school officials, who were present for that purpose. The Mayor said that he would join the meeting upstairs as soon as the fifteen minute or so council meeting was over.

Alderman Mosby announced that his next ward meeting would be held on Thursday, February 4, 2016 at 6:00 p.m. at Barack Obama School of Leadership. He asked that a representative from Police, Code and Street attend.

Alderman Perez announced that her next ward meeting would be held on February 22, 2016 at 7:00 p.m. at Garfield School. She asked that a representative from Police, Code and Street 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, February 22, 2016 at 7:00 p.m. at Roosevelt School. His next neighborhood watch meeting would be held on Thursday, February 18, 2016 at 7:00 p.m. at St. Paul Lutheran Church. Alderman Deabel stated his concern that the meeting for the parents would take place upstairs.

Alderman Amadio announced that his next ward meeting would be held February 24, 2016 at 6:30 p.m. at Greenbriar School. He asked that a representative from Police attend.

Alderman Zaranti announced that his next ward meeting would be held with Park District Commissioner Straczek on February 25, 2016 at 7:00 p.m. at Commissioners Park.

Alderman Torres was absent.

PUBLIC PARTICIPATION

Bill Palcek, a resident of the City, addressed the council regarding the waste and damage caused by the improper spreading of salt on his street.

Ann Gasik, a resident of the City, asked for the City's support in the American Cancer Society's fund-raising event "Relay for Life" in the City on Friday, May 13, 2016 at Bloom Trail High School.

Chuck Dieringer, a resident of the City, spoke about the need for storm water storage north on Dixie Highway; the need to monitor the acidity of the City's water; and City residents' right to vote representation in the (Metropolitan) Water Reclamation District.

Alderman Deabel stated his concern that the city council might be in violation of the Open Meetings Act because a portion of the audience had left for a meeting upstairs. Corporation Counsel stated that there was no violation of the Act.

Mayor Gonzalez explained that investigators and police had instructed him to limit his comments on the Greenbriar incidents so as not to interfere with or jeopardize the on-going investigation. Therefore, it was not productive to publicly discuss the plan to handle the situation in an open meeting, but rather in a meeting where the Mayor could give answers and information as parent to parent.

1. MINUTES: MEETING OF JANUARY 19, 2016

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

Ayes: Mosby, Perez, Rodgers, Amadio, Zaranti

Nays: Deabel

Abstain: none

Absent: Torres

Motion to approve carried.

Alderman Deabel stated that questions he had asked were missing from page three of the minutes.

2. BILLS: APPROVAL OF SECOND RUN OF JANUARY 2016.

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

Ayes: Mosby, Perez, Rodgers, Deabel, Amadio, Zaranti

Nays: none

Abstain: none

Absent: Torres

Motion to approve carried.

3. RESOLUTION #2016 - 3 : APPROVING THE CITY'S 2016 EMPLOYEE HEALTH INSURANCE RENEWAL PREMIUM.

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

Ayes: Mosby, Perez, Rodgers, Deabel, Amadio, Zaranti

Nays: none

Abstain: none

Absent: Torres

Motion to approve carried.

Paul Mizera, representative from Mesirow, reported that the Blue Cross Blue Shield self-insured renewal came in at a premium of \$ 574,839, reflecting an overall 5.3% increase which the insurer attributed to anticipated rising medical and prescription drug costs.

4. RESOLUTION #2016 - 4 : APPROVING AND RATIFYING THE SALE OF THE CITY OWNED PROPERTY AT 120 NORTH HALSTED STREET.

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

Ayes: Mosby, Perez, Rodgers, Deabel, Amadio, Zaranti

Nays: none

Abstain: none

Absent: Torres

Motion to approve carried.

Corporation Counsel Somer explained that the city council had approved the sale of the property in September, 2014, pending development of the property. Since the due diligence period in the contract had expired, Mike Husain, the purchaser, was present to address the council regarding the re-approval of the project, which would be completed in July.

5. RESOLUTION #2016 - 5 : APPROVING A DEED IN LIEU OF FORECLOSURE AGREEMENT FOR THE ACQUISITION OF PROPERTIES IN RELATION TO THE CITY'S BLIGHT REDUCTION PROGRAM.

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

Ayes: Mosby, Perez, Rodgers, Deabel, Amadio, Zaranti

Nays: none

Abstain: none

Absent: Torres

Motion to approve carried.

Corporation Counsel Somer explained that the properties to be acquired as part of the demolition program were 174 E. 23rd Street and 253 W. 202nd Street.

6. ADJOURNMENT

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

Ayes: Mosby, Perez, Rodgers, Deabel, Amadio, Zaranti

Nays: none

Abstain: none

Absent: Torres

Motion to approve carried.

Attest:

Lori Wilcox, City Clerk