

Minutes of the Regular City Council Proceedings of the City of Chicago Heights, Cook County, Illinois held Monday, May 2 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 7:09 p.m.

ROLL CALL

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

COMMUNICATIONS

Alderman Mosby announced that his next ward meeting would be held on Thursday, May 5th at 6:00 p.m. at Barack Obama School of Leadership and Stem.

Alderman Perez announced that her next ward meeting would be held on May 23rd at 7:00 p.m. at Garfield School. The alderman also announced two events for May 7th: Union Street Gallery's Derby Day and the annual Fiesta in the Park at Jirtle Park.

Alderman Rodgers was absent from the meeting.

Alderman Deabel announced that his next ward meeting would be held on Monday, May 23rd at 7:00 p.m. at Roosevelt Elementary School. His next neighborhood watch meeting would be held on Wednesday, June 22nd at 7:00 p.m. at St. Paul Lutheran. He also announced the annual 4th Ward Neighborhood Garage Sale event to be on June 18th & 19th. Interested persons could contact him.

Alderman Amadio announced that his next ward meeting would be held on May 18th at 6:30 p.m. at Greenbrier School.

Alderman Zaranti announced that his next ward meeting would be held in coordination with Park District Commissioner Straczek on May 26th at 7:00 p.m. at Commissioners Park. He reported that he and Commissioner Straczek had sponsored an event for Serena Hills School at the Park District.

Alderman Torres announced the upcoming Youth Service Day on May 14th at Golden Towers and Wilson Woods.

Mayor Gonzalez announced the retirement of Andrew “Andy” Suppes and presented him with a Certificate of Appreciation in recognition of his 38 years of dedicated service to the City of Chicago Heights, and for spearheading the ongoing maintenance and care of the Veterans Mound. Mr. Suppes thanked the Mayor and city council and expressed his gratitude for his long and fulfilling affiliation with the City.

PUBLIC PARTICIPATION

Charles Dieringer, a resident of the City, commented on the Municode website, the Kiwanis Breakfast event, rubberized asphalt for street repairs, and high-speed rail transportation.

REPORT OF CHIEF OF STAFF

COS Lisa Aprati was absent from the meeting.

REPORT OF CORPORATION COUNSEL

Corporation Counsel T. J. Somer stated there was no report.

1. MINUTES: MEETING OF APRIL 18 , 2016

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

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

Nays: None

Abstain: none

Absent: Rodgers

Motion to approve carried.

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

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

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

Nays: None

Abstain: None

Absent: Rodgers

Motion to approve carried.

3. RESOLUTION #2016 - 23 : APPROVING A RENEWAL APPLICATION FOR A COOK COUNTY CLASS 8 PROPERTY TAX CLASSIFICATION FOR THE PROPERTY AT 430 DIXIE HIGHWAY. (Sunnoma Professional Building – Applicant Helen Okorafor).

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

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

Nays: None

Abstain: None

Absent: Rodgers
Motion to approve carried.

Jack Hynes, the City’s Economic Development Consultant, stated that the property consisted of six units, and the renewal of the classification would be very helpful to the property owner in keeping rents low. The council had a brief question on the matter and then proceeded to the vote.

- 4. RESOLUTION #2016 - 24 : APPROVING AN APPLICATION FOR A COOK COUNTY CLASS 8 PROPERTY TAX CLASSIFICATION FOR THE PROPERTY AT 300 EAST JOE ORR ROAD. (former Century Steel factory – Applicant: AAL Organic, Inc.)**

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

Ayes: Mosby, Perez, Deabel, Amadio, Zaranti, Torres
Nays: None
Abstain: None
Absent: Rodgers
Motion to approve carried.

Jack Hynes, the City’s Economic Development Consultant, stated that the company recycled candy and other food products. Thirty new jobs were anticipated by the end of the year. The owner, Joe Borges, addressed the council, who asked questions of him and then proceeded to the vote.

- 5. RESOLUTION #2016 - 25 : APPROVING DEED IN LIEU OF FORECLOSURE AGREEMENTS FOR THE PROPERTIES AT:**
- i. 300 STATE STREET**
 - ii. 88 E. 12TH STREET**
 - iii. 33 FOREST AVENUE**
 - iv. 1660 CAMPBELL AVENUE**
 - v. 2414 HALSTED STREET**

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

Ayes: Mosby, Perez, Deabel, Amadio, Zaranti, Torres
Nays: None
Abstain: None
Absent: Rodgers
Motion to approve carried.

Jack Hynes, the City’s Economic Development Consultant, explained that some of the properties had been acquired through the Blight Reduction Program and would be scheduled for demolition. The State Street property had been bank-owned, and would be marketed for redevelopment. There was a brief discussion about the Campbell property and the possibility of rehabbing it because of its uniqueness.

6. RESOLUTION # 2016 - 26 : APPROVING AN AGREEMENT TO JOIN AND PARTICIPATE IN THE SSMMA'S SOUTH SUBURBAN G.I.S. CONSORTIUM.

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

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

Nays: None

Abstain: None

Absent: Rodgers

Motion to approve carried.

Courtney Anderson, City Engineer, explained that the Geographic Informational System was a database that served as a foundation for mapping and geographical information. She highly recommended membership in the consortium; cost was \$ 8,400 annually. Members of the city council asked several questions before proceeding to the vote.

7. RESOLUTION #2016 - 27 : APPROVING CERTAIN STATE ROAD CLOSURES FOR THE CITY'S ANNUAL "OPEN STREETS" EVENT.

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

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

Nays: None

Abstain: None

Absent: Rodgers

Motion to approve carried.

JoAnn Doggett, Residential Services, informed the city council that the Active Transportation Committee would host the event on July 31, 2016 from 1:00 p.m. to 3:00 p.m. on Joe Orr Road between Chicago Road and Dixie Highway.

8. RESOLUTION # 2016 - 28 : APPROVING A MAYORAL APPOINTMENT TO THE POSITION OF CITY FIRE CHIEF AND RELATED EMPLOYMENT CONTRACT.

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

Ayes: Mosby, Perez, Amadio, Zaranti, Torres

Nays: Deabel

Abstain: None

Absent: Rodgers

Motion to approve carried.

Mayor Gonzalez provided the city council with the resume of his new appointee to City Fire Chief, Jeffrey Springer, whose impeccable 30 year career ranged from fire fighter to

Assistant Deputy Fire Commissioner for the south quadrant. Mr. Springer stated that his most important goals were the safety and welfare of the firefighters, paramedics and citizens of Chicago Heights. Mr. Springer committed to continuing the high standards and traditions of the City's Fire Department, and committed to providing fire protection and EMS services to residents of the City and the surrounding areas. Members of the city council asked Mr. Springer questions, and made their comments on the matter.

9. EXECUTIVE SESSION TO DISCUSS PENDING LITIGATION, PERSONNEL MATTERS OR USE OF CITY OWNED LAND

Executive session was cancelled.

10. ADJOURNMENT

At 8:04 p.m. Alderman Amadio moved, and Alderman Mosby seconded, a motion to adjourn the meeting.

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

Nays: None

Abstain: None

Absent: Rodgers

Motion to approve carried.

Motion carried by acclamation.

Attest:

Lori Wilcox, City Clerk