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

CALL TO ORDER

Mayor David Gonzalez called the regular city council 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	**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	**Present**

PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE

COMMUNICATIONS

Alderman Mosby announced that his next ward meeting would be held on October 6, 2016 at 6:00 p.m. at Barrack Obama School.

Alderman Perez announced that her next ward meeting would be held on Monday, September 26, 2016 at 7:00 p.m. at Garfield School.

Alderman Rodgers announced that her next quarterly ward meeting would be held on Tuesday, November 15, 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, September 26, 2016 at 7:00 p.m. at Roosevelt School. His next neighborhood watch meeting would be held on Wednesday, November 16, 2016 at 7:00 p.m. at St. Paul Lutheran Church. He thanked everyone who participated in the recent sixth annual 4th Ward Bike Ride event.

Alderman Amadio announced that his next ward meeting would be held on September 28, 2016 at 6:30 p.m. in the Greenbrier School gym. He apologized for the cancellation of his previous meeting that was necessitated by a scheduling conflict at the school.

Alderman Zaranti announced that his next ward meeting would be held in coordination with Park District Commissioner Straczek on September 29, 2016 at 7:00 p.m. at Commissioners Park. Alderman Zaranti requested police representation at the ward meeting.

Alderman Torres announced her annual Thanksgiving luncheon for seniors to be held on November 17th at the West Golf Course. She also announced the 100 Black Men of Chicago, Inc. event, which offered scholarship opportunities for graduating seniors, on October 8th at the UIC.

PUBLIC PARTICIPATION

Charles Dieringer, a resident of the City, appreciated the improvement in the City's transparency and the on-line availability of its annual audit report. He was seeking a current analysis of the lead content in the City's water.

Brian Peterson, a member of the City's fire department, commented on his concerns about elected officials' plans to reduce staffing at the Fire Department, to outsource its dispatch center and EMS services, and to introduce part-time employment into the public safety departments.

Eveline Deabel, a resident of the City, commented that although she appreciated the City's fiscal responsibility, she believed that savings and outsourcing could not be equated to citizen safety and well-being.

Linda A. Shander, a resident of the City, questioned whether the city council had spoken to constituents on how they felt regarding the reduction of the fire department and the outsourcing of dispatchers.

Allen J. Shander, a resident of the City, commented on the importance of staffing when it came to the many tasks that firefighters had to accomplish immediately upon arrival at a fire; he also wondered if the City had gone out for bid on the dispatcher outsourcing contract.

Mayor Gonzalez explained that a recent state law forced the consolidation of 911 centers, with the goal of establishing regional dispatch under the Illinois State Police by the year 2020. The City was being proactive by building a partnership with the dispatch company, thus allowing the City to keep its 911 Center and bring other towns into the partnership. City dispatchers, who knew the community, would have first rights to dispatcher positions.

REPORT OF CORPORATION COUNSEL – T.J. SOMER
No report.

1. MINUTES: MEETING OF SEPTEMBER 6, 2016

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

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

2. **BILLS: APPROVAL OF FIRST RUN OF SEPTEMBER 2016.**

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

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

3. **RESOLUTION #2016 - 60 : APPROVING A BID AWARD FOR THE CITY'S 2016 50/50 SIDEWALK REPAIR PROGRAM.**

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

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

   Courtney Anderson, City Engineer, recommended the bid award to low bidder Davis Concrete, whose bid in the amount of $ 192,480.00 was complete and responsive. The council had several questions and comments before the vote.

4. **RESOLUTION #2016 - 61 : AUTHORIZING THE CITY CLERK TO PUBLISH A NOTICE SEEKING PROPOSALS FOR THE PURCHASE OF TWO NEW FIRE DEPARTMENT AMBULANCES.**

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

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

Mayor Gonzalez stated that two ambulances would be purchased now and two more within the next fiscal year. Fire Chief Jeffrey Springer addressed the council and answered its questions. There followed a lengthy period of discussion by the council on how the City planned to pay for the ambulances, and on the details of the St. James Hospital settlement arrived at and the economic incentives given.

5. RESOLUTION #2016 - 62 : APPROVING AN AGREEMENT FOR THE PROVISION OF EMERGENCY DISPATCH SERVICES.

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

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

Mayor Gonzalez re-iterated the reasons for and goals of the dispatch partnership. Mr. David Hill, Owner and President of Norcom, was present and confirmed that the City's dispatchers would be preferred candidates for positions. Council members asked questions and/or voiced their concerns. Alderman Deabel wanted to make a motion to table the matter for further consideration. However, Corporation Counsel made a Point of Order stating that a motion and a second were already on the floor, and that there could not be two motions pending at the same time. There being no further discussion, the council proceeded to the vote.

6. MOTION TO ENTER EXECUTIVE SESSION TO DISCUSS PENDING LITIGATION, USE OF CITY OWNED LAND, PERSONNEL ISSUES AND COLLECTIVE BARGAINING MATTERS.

At 7:59 p.m. Alderman Mosby moved, and Alderman Rodgers seconded, a motion to approve the motion.

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

At 8:21 p.m. City Clerk Lori Wilcox took roll before the council reconvened into regular session.

Present: Mosby, Perez, Rodgers, Deabel, Amadio, Zaranti, Torres
Absent: none

7. **RESOLUTION #2016 - 63 : APPROVING A SETTLEMENT AGREEMENT IN THE MATTER ENTITLED CITY OF CHICAGO HEIGHTS vs. VILLAGE FORD HEIGHTS – CASE #14 CH 19149.**

   Alderman Mosby moved, and Alderman Rodgers seconded, a motion to approve the resolution as discussed in executive session.

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

8. **RESOLUTION #2016 - 64 : APPROVING A SETTLEMENT AGREEMENT IN THE MATTER ENTITLED RODELL SANDERS vs. CITY OF CHICAGO HEIGHTS – CASE # 13 CV 221**

   Alderman Mosby moved, and Alderman Rodgers seconded, a motion to approve the resolution as discussed in executive session.

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

ADJOURNMENT

At 8:22 p.m. Alderman Mosby moved, and Alderman Zaranti seconded, a motion to adjourn the meeting.

Ayes: Mosby, Perez, Rodgers, Deabel, Amadio, Zaranti, Torres
Nays: none
Abstain: none
Absent: none
Motion to adjourn carried by acclamation.

Attest: _____
Lori Wilcox, City Clerk