

Minutes of the Special City Council Proceedings of the City of Chicago Heights, Cook County, Illinois held Thursday, January 2, 2020 at 6:00 p.m. at 1601 Chicago Road, Chicago Heights, IL.

CALL TO ORDER

Mayor Pro-Tem Vincent Zaranti, as most senior alderman and in the absence of Mayor Gonzalez, called the special meeting of the Chicago Heights City Council to order at 6:00 p.m.

ROLL CALL by City Clerk Lori Wilcox

Mayor:	David Gonzalez	Absent
Council:	1st Ward Renee Smith	Present
	2nd Ward Sonia Perez	Absent
	3rd Ward Wanda Rodgers	Present
	4th Ward Christopher Baikauskas	Present
	5th Ward George Brassea	Present
	6th Ward Vincent Zaranti	Present
	7th Ward Kelli Merrick	Present

PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE

COMMUNICATIONS

Alderman Smith announced that her next ward meeting would be held Monday, January 6 at 6:00 p.m. at Barack Obama School. The Alderman reported that turkeys and hams were delivered to residents of Ward 1 in her give-a-way event, and that the event had gone very well.

Alderman Perez was absent.

Alderman Rodgers announced that her next ward meeting would be on Thursday, January 16 at 6:00 p.m. at the Chicago Heights Park District.

Alderman Baikauskas announced that his next ward meeting would be held January 27 at 7:00 p.m. at Roosevelt School.

Alderman Brassea announced that his next meeting would be held January 29 at 7:00 p.m. at Greenbriar School.

Alderman Zaranti announced that his next ward meeting would be held on Thursday, January 30 along with Park District Commissioner Straczek at 7:00 p.m. at Commissioners Park.

Alderman Merrick announced that her next ward meeting would be held on January 9 at 7:00 p.m. at the Chicago Heights Recreation Center.

PUBLIC PARTICIPATION

none

REPORT OF CHIEF OF STAFF – KAREN ZERANTE

COS Zerante reminded the aldermen that a new password policy was being implemented, and that written instructions were provided for the aldermen in their mailboxes.

REPORT OF THE CORPORATION COUNSEL—T.J. SOMER

none

1. MINUTES: MEETING OF DECEMBER 18, 2019.

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

Ayes: Smith, Rodgers, Baikauskas, Brassea, Zaranti, Merrick

Nays: none

Abstain: none

Absent: Perez

Motion to approve carried.

2. BILLS: APPROVAL OF SECOND RUN OF DECEMBER, 2019.

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

Ayes: Smith, Rodgers, Baikauskas, Brassea, Zaranti, Merrick

Nays: none

Abstain: none

Absent: Perez

Motion to approve carried.

3. ORDINANCE #2020 - 1 : AMENDING THE CITY CODE OF ORDINANCES AND ADOPTING A PROCUREMENT POLICY REGULATING THE DIRECT RECEIPT OF FEDERAL GRANT FUNDS

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

Ayes: Smith, Rodgers, Baikauskas, Brassea, Zaranti, Merrick

Nays: none

Abstain: none

Absent: Perez

Motion to approve carried.

Corporation Counsel Somer explained that the ordinance was necessary due to the federal grant requirement that the City have a procurement policy in place that regulates when funds are received by the City directly from the federal government.

4. RESOLUTION #2020 - 1 : APPROVING A DEED IN LIEU OF FORECLOSURE OR CONVEYANCE AGREEMENT FOR ACQUISITION OF THE REAL ESTATE AT 1656 CHICAGO ROAD (the abandoned former car wash).

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

Ayes: Smith, Rodgers, Baikauskas, Brassea, Zaranti, Merrick

Nays: none

Abstain: none

Absent: Perez

Motion to approve carried.

Corporation Counsel Somer reported that, upon acquisition, the City planned to demolish the building, eliminate any back taxes, and market the property for sale.

5. RESOLUTION #2020 - 2 : APPROVING A PROPOSAL FOR ARCHITECTURAL SERVICES RELATED TO THE CITY OWNED COMMERCIAL PROPERTIES AT 711 W. 15TH STREET AND 1340 OTTO BOULEVARD (Former Brunswick Bowl and Hirsch Funeral Home).

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

Ayes: Smith, Rodgers, Baikauskas, Brassea, Zaranti, Merrick

Nays: none

Abstain: none

Absent: Perez

Motion to approve carried

Corporation Counsel Somer explained that the City acquired the properties through delinquent tax or deed in lieu of foreclosure proceedings. The City would secure the buildings from further deterioration, and then consider its options. The Brunswick Bowl building might be marketed, and the Hirsch building might be converted into a conference center. The city council discussed the matter before the vote.

ADJOURNMENT

At 6:30 p.m. Alderman Baikauskas moved, and Alderman Brassea seconded, a motion to adjourn the meeting.

Ayes: Smith, Rodgers, Baikauskas, Brassea, Zaranti, Merrick

Nays: none

Abstain: none

Absent: Perez

Motion to adjourn carried.

Lori Wilcox, City Clerk