

Minutes of the Regular City Council Proceedings of the City of Chicago Heights, Cook County, Illinois held Monday, April 17, 2017 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 7:05 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	Absent
	7th Ward Sylvia Torres	Present

PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE

COMMUNICATIONS

Alderman Mosby announced that he would not have a ward meeting in the month of May.

Alderman Perez announced that her next ward meeting would be held on April 24, 2017 at 7:00 p.m. at Garfield School.

Alderman Rodgers did not have any announcements.

Alderman Deabel announced that his next ward meeting would be held on Monday, April 24th at 7:00 p.m. at Roosevelt School. He announced an Earth Day Clean-up event on April 22nd at 10:30 a.m. on Crescent and Ashland Avenues. He also announced the annual 4th Ward Neighborhood Garage Sale for June 16th and 17th. The 6th Annual Bloom 5K would be held on Saturday, April 22nd at 8:00 a.m. in front of Bloom High School.

Alderman Amadio announced that his next ward meeting would be held on May 24th at 6:30 p.m. at Greenbriar School.

Alderman Zaranti was absent.

Alderman Torres did not have any announcements.

Mayor Gonzalez announced that he had held four Mayor's Night Out meetings with residents, and that a fifth meeting was still to be held. He informed the council about current issues with the City's computer network server that caused an interruption in email service. The City's IT Department was working on the problem, and would soon know when full service would be restored.

PUBLIC PARTICIPATION

Chuck Dieringer, a resident of the City, commented on the engineering study listed on the agenda, and on the Prairie State College Earth Day Clean-up event planned for the coming Saturday.

REPORT OF THE CORPORATION COUNSEL—T.J. SOMER

None

1. MINUTES: MEETING OF MARCH 20, 2017

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

Ayes: Mosby, Perez, Rodgers, Amadio, Torres

Nays: Deabel

Abstain: none

Absent: Zaranti

Motion to approve carried.

2. BILLS: APPROVAL OF SECOND RUN OF MARCH AND FIRST RUN OF APRIL, 2017

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

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

Nays: none

Abstain: none

Absent: Zaranti

Motion to approve carried.

3. ORDINANCE #2017 - 6: AMENDING CHAPTER 26 OF THE CITY CODE OF ORDINANCES AND REPEALING THE CITY VEHICLE LICENSE FEE.

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

Ayes: Mosby, Perez, Rodgers, Amadio, Torres

Nays: Deabel

Abstain: none

Absent: Zaranti

Motion to approve carried.

Mayor Gonzalez discussed the budget deficit of the last two years and its causes. The next ordinance on the agenda proposed that the City start to bill residents for garbage service, as a means to get the budget back in line. The Mayor proposed the repeal of the vehicle sticker ordinance to help offset the cost to residents for the new charge. Police Chief Thomas Rodgers gave further input; council members made their comments and asked questions.

4. ORDINANCE #2017 - 7 : AMENDING CHAPTER 20 OF THE CITY CODE OF ORDINANCES REGULATING GARBAGE COLLECTION FEES.

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

Ayes: Mosby, Perez, Rodgers, Amadio, Torres

Nays: Deabel

Abstain: none

Absent: Zaranti

Motion to approve carried.

Mayor Gonzalez explained that budget discussions included a new garbage collection fee to residents as a source of revenue to the City to close the deficit in the budget. Currently the City paid for residents' garbage pickup under its contract with Republic; residents were not billed for the service. The new fee would be equal to the amount that Republic charged the City. The council discussed the matter and recycling issues at length before the vote.

5. RESOLUTION #2017 - 22 : APPROVING AN APPLICATION FOR A COOK COUNTY CLASS 6B PROPERTY TAX INCENTIVE FOR THE NUFARM INDUSTRIAL FACILITY LOCATED AT 220 EAST 17TH STREET.

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

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

Nays: none

Abstain: none

Absent: Zaranti

Motion to approve carried.

Jack Hynes, Director of Economic Development, gave the council some background on the company, saying that NuFarm had recently invested eight million dollars in the expansion of its facility in the City.

6. RESOLUTION #2017- 23 : APPROVING A GRANT AWARD FROM IHDA FOR THE ABANDONED RESIDENTIAL PROPERTY MUNICIPAL RELIEF PROGRAM.

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

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

Nays: none

Abstain: none

Absent: Zaranti

Motion to approve carried.

Jack Hynes, Director of Economic Development, reported that the City had been selected as a recipient of a grant in the amount of \$ 249,000. The grant would reimburse the City for house board ups, tree trimming and grass cutting expenditures retroactive to two years.

- 7. RESOLUTION #2017 - 24 : APPROVING A GRANT OF EASEMENT TO NICOR FOR PUBLIC UTILITIES ON OAK STREET FROM ILLINOIS STREET TO INDEPENDENCE AVENUE.**

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

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

Nays: none

Abstain: none

Absent: Zaranti

Motion to approve carried.

Corporation Counsel T. J. Somer explained that under the resolution the City would permit Nicor to run a gas line for the new dialysis center that would be located at the site.

- 8. RESOLUTION #2017 - 25 : APPROVING AN ENGINEERING STUDY OF THE CHICAGO HEIGHTS ROUTE 30 WATERSHED SUBMITTED BY 2-IM GROUP.**

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

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

Nays: none

Abstain: none

Absent: Zaranti

Motion to approve carried.

Mayor Gonzalez believed that the City's most problematic flooding area would qualify for a grant from the Cook County Water Reclamation District, and that the study would identify beforehand what needed to be done to resolve flooding issues in that area. Further information on the matter was provided by Karen Zerante, Chief of Staff. The council discussed the matter before the vote.

9. RESOLUTION #2017 - 26 : APPROVING AN AGREEMENT WITH ADDY PYROTECHNICS FOR PRESENTATION OF THE INDEPENDENCE DAY FIREWORKS ON JULY 3, 2017.

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

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

Nays: none

Abstain: none

Absent: Zaranti

Motion to approve carried.

Jessica Mancina, Director, Mayor's Office of Special Events, outlined the contract fees associated with the Chicago Heights Fireworks display to be held on July 3, 2017 with a rain date of the Sister Cities Festival weekend.

10. RESOLUTION #2017 - 27 : APPROVING THE TEMPORARY CLOSURE OF CERTAIN STATE ROADWAYS FOR CITY AND PARK DISTRICT EVENTS.

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

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

Nays: none

Abstain: none

Absent: Zaranti

Motion to approve carried.

Jessica Mancina, Director, Mayor's Office of Special Events, outlined the closing of certain city and county roads for the Chicago Heights Park District's 5K Charity Run for Veterans.

11. RESOLUTION #2017 - 28 : AUTHORIZING THE PUBLICATION OF A NOTICE TO RECEIVE BIDS FOR THE CITY'S 2017 CUB FOODS TIF AND WEST SIDE ROAD RESURFACING PROJECTS.

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

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

Nays: none

Abstain: none

Absent: Zaranti

Motion to approve carried.

Courtney Anderson, City Engineer, addressed the council on the bid publishing requirements for projects related to TIF Districts and CDBG Funds.

12. RESOLUTION #2017 - 29 : APPROPRIATING MFT FUNDS FOR ENGINEERING COSTS FOR THE CITY'S 2017 CUB FOODS TIF AND WEST SIDE ROAD RESURFACING PROJECTS.

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

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

Nays: none

Abstain: none

Absent: Zaranti

Motion to approve carried.

Courtney Anderson, City Engineer, addressed the council on the appropriation of MFT Funds for the City's 2017 Cub Food and West Side Road Resurfacing projects.

ADJOURNMENT

At 8:17 p.m. Alderman Rodgers moved, and Alderman Mosby seconded, a motion to adjourn the meeting.

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

Nays: none

Abstain: none

Absent: Zaranti

Motion carried by acclamation.

Attest:

Lori Wilcox, City Clerk