

Minutes of the Regular City Council Proceedings of the City of Chicago Heights, Cook County, Illinois held Monday, August 7, 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 7:00 p.m.

ROLL CALL

Mayor:	David Gonzalez	Present
Council:	1st Ward Walter Mosby	Present
	2nd Ward Sonia Perez	Absent
	3rd Ward Wanda Rodgers	Present
	4th Ward Joshua Deabel	Present
	5th Ward Richard Amadio	Absent
	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 Thursday, September 7 at 6:00 p.m. at Barack Obama School.

Alderman Perez was absent from the meeting.

Alderman Rodgers thanked all who had helped with her Back to School Extravaganza event.

Alderman Deabel announced that his next ward meeting would be held on Monday, August 28 at 7:00 p.m. at Roosevelt School. His next neighborhood watch meeting would be held on Wednesday, September 13 at 7:00 p.m. at St Paul Lutheran Church.

Alderman Amadio was absent from the meeting.

Alderman Zaranti announced that his next ward meeting would be held in coordination with Park District Commissioner Straczek on Thursday, August 31 at 7:00 p.m. at Commissioners Park.

Alderman Torres announced that her next ward meeting would be held on August 10 at 4:00 p.m. in the board room at the Chicago Heights Library.

PUBLIC PARTICIPATION

None

REPORT OF THE CHIEF OF STAFF – Karen Zerante

COS Karen Zerante reported that the City had been chosen to participate in Cook County's application to FEMA for funding of construction and engineering costs to alleviate City flooding issues. COS Zerante also reported that the City had been selected to participate in the Metropolitan Mayors Caucus and ComEd partnership on a street light modernization.

REPORT OF THE CORPORATION COUNSEL—T.J. SOMER

None

1. MINUTES: MEETING OF July 17, 2017

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

Ayes: Mosby, Rodgers, Deabel, Zaranti, Torres

Nays: none

Abstain: none

Absent: Perez, Amadio

Motion to approve carried.

2. BILLS: APPROVAL OF SECOND RUN OF JULY 2017

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

Ayes: Mosby, Rodgers, Deabel, Zaranti, Torres

Nays: none

Abstain: none

Absent: Perez, Amadio

Motion to approve carried.

3. ORDINANCE #2017 - 12 : AMENDING CHAPTER 26 OF THE CITY CODE OF ORDINANCES REGULATING BUSINESS LICENSES.

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

Ayes: Mosby, Rodgers, Deabel, Zaranti, Torres

Nays: none

Abstain: none

Absent: Perez, Amadio

Motion to approve carried.

Corporation Counsel T. J. Somer explained that the amendment stipulated that a business license may not be issued for a property that was over two years delinquent on its property taxes. The new criteria would either get persons to pay their taxes or assist the City in the no cash bid process, where properties were returned to the tax rolls. There were a couple of questions on the matter before the vote.

4. ORDINANCE #2017 - 13 : AMENDING CHAPTER 22 OF THE CITY CODE OF ORDINANCES AND ESTABLISHING THE CITY PROPERTY ACQUISITION PROGRAM.

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

Ayes: Mosby, Rodgers, Deabel, Zaranti, Torre

Nays: none

Abstain: none

Absent: Perez, Amadio

Motion to approve carried.

Mayor Gonzalez explained that the program would assist parties interested in purchasing vacant, tax delinquent property that was not owned by the City. Parties would post escrow of \$5000 so that City did not incur any out of pocket expenses as it assisted in the acquisition.

5. RESOLUTION # 2017 - 54 : APPROVING A PROPOSAL FOR THE RE-SEALING OF CERTAIN ROADWAY SURFACES SUBMITTED BY AMERICAN ROAD MAINTENANCE.

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

Ayes: Mosby, Rodgers, Deabel, Zaranti, Torres

Nays: none

Abstain: none

Absent: Perez, Amadio

Motion to approve carried.

Courtney Anderson, City Engineer, stated that the re-sealing product would be sprayed on roads that had been resurfaced in 2015 in the Beacon Hill area. The product would prolong the life of the roads by delaying the need to re-surface for several years. Karen Zerante gave supplemental information on the process. The council asked questions before proceeding to the vote.

6. RESOLUTION #2017 - 55 : APPROVING AN "OPTION AGREEMENT" WITH "STORAGE PARTNERS – CHICAGO HEIGHTS, LLC" FOR THE PURCHASE OF THE CITY OWNED SURPLUS LOT AT 1322 D'AMICO STREET.

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

Ayes: Mosby, Rodgers, Deabel, Zaranti, Torres

Nays: none

Abstain: none

Absent: Perez, Amadio

Motion to approve carried.

Jack Hynes, Economic Development Director, explained that acquisition by Storage Partners would enable it to expand its facility that was adjacent to the surplus lot. There was brief discussion on the matter.

- 7. RESOLUTION # 2017 - 56 : APPROVING A LEASE OF SURLPLUS CITY OWNED REAL ESTATE AT 150 W. JOE ORR ROAD, TO "TEAM CHICAGO BOXING CLUB" AN ILLINOIS NFP CORPORATION.**

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

Ayes: Mosby, Rodgers, Deabel, Zaranti, Torres

Nays: none

Abstain: none

Absent: Perez, Amadio

Motion to approve carried.

Corporation Counsel Somer explained that the lease with the non-profit called for the usual one dollar a year rent and a thirty day cancellation clause. There were some questions on the matter before the vote.

- 8. RESOLUTION #2017 - 57 : APPROVING AN EXTENSION AGREEMENT WITH "DIRECT ENERGY" FOR THE ELECTRIC SUPPLY FOR CITY FACILITIES.**

Alderman Torres moved, and Alderman Mosby seconded, a motion to approve the resolution for the agreement not to exceed twenty-four months.

Ayes: Mosby, Rodgers, Deabel, Zaranti, Torres

Nays: none

Abstain: none

Absent: Perez, Amadio

Motion to approve carried.

Corporation Somer clarified that the motion would be for the agreement not to exceed twenty-four months. The current rate was 5.9 cents per kilowatts, and that rate would remain the same whether the agreement was extended for twelve or twenty-four months. Brief discussion on the matter occurred.

9. RESOLUTION #2017 - 58 : APPROVING THE CLOSURE OF CERTAIN STATE ROADWAYS FOR A CIVIC EVENT.

Alderman Torres moved, and Alderman Mosby seconded, a motion to approve the resolution for the agreement not to exceed twenty-four months.

Ayes: Mosby, Rodgers, Deabel, Zaranti, Torres

Nays: none

Abstain: none

Absent: Perez, Amadio

Motion to approve carried.

COS Zerante informed the council that the resolution would be part of St. Paul Catholic Church's application to the Illinois Dept. of Transportation for state road closure necessary for the church's Independence Day parade.

10. MOTION TO ENTER INTO EXECUTIVE SESSION TO DISCUSS PENDING LITIGATION, PERSONNEL ISSUES, COLLECTIVE BARGAINING MATTERS AND USE OR SALE OF CITY OWNED LAND. (IF NECESSARY).

Corporation Counsel Somer reported that a poll of the city council indicated that the council had received satisfactory information, so that it would not be necessary to go into executive session.

11. RESOLUTION #2017 - 59 : APPROVING THE SETTLEMENT OF CERTAIN CIVIL LITIGATION AS PRESENTED FOR EXECUTIVE SESSION OF THIS DATE.

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

Ayes: Mosby, Rodgers, Deabel, Zaranti, Torres

Nays: none

Abstain: none

Absent: Perez, Amadio

Motion carried.

12. ADMINISTRATION OF OATH TO NEWLY PROMOTED POLICE SGT. STEPHEN BAKOWSKI.

Police Chief Thomas Rogers gave the city council a background on Sgt. Bakowski's illustrious career as a police officer and detective with the City and with the South Suburban Major Crimes Task Force.

City Clerk Lori Wilcox administered the oath of office. Mayor Gonzalez and all in attendance applauded newly promoted Sgt. Bakowski.

ADJOURNMENT

At 7:48 p.m. Alderman Rodgers moved, and Alderman Mosby seconded, a motion to adjourn the meeting.

Ayes: Mosby, Rodgers, Deabel, Zaranti, Torres

Nays: none

Abstain: none

Absent: Perez, Amadio

Motion to adjourn carried.

Lori Wilcox, City Clerk