

Minutes of the Regular City Council Proceedings of the City of Chicago Heights, Cook County, Illinois held Monday, October 2, 2017 at 7:00 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 regular meeting of the Chicago Heights City Council to order at 7:00 p.m.

ROLL CALL

Mayor:	David Gonzalez	Absent
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

***Alderman Rodgers joined the meeting at 7:05 p.m.**

PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE

COMMUNICATIONS

Alderman Mosby announced that his ward meeting scheduled for October 5 was cancelled, and that his next ward meeting would be held on November 2 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 October 23 at 7:00 p.m. at Garfield School.

Alderman Rodgers announced that her next quarterly ward meeting would be held on Tuesday, October 10 at 6:00 p.m. at the Chicago Heights Park District.

Alderman Deabel announced that his next ward meeting would be held Monday, October 23 at 7:00 p.m. at Roosevelt Elementary.

Alderman Amadio announced that his next ward meeting would be held November 15 at 6:30 p.m. in the gym of Greenbriar School.

Alderman Zaranti announced that his next ward meeting would be held in coordination with Park District Commissioner Straczek on October 26 at 7:00 p.m. at Commissioners Park.

Alderman Torres announced that the Annual Senior Luncheon would be held on November 16 at the West Golf Course.

PUBLIC PARTICIPATION

Gloria Ambrosini, a resident of the City, asked for the repair of a broken sidewalk in front of her home.

Crystal Watkins, a resident of the City, asked for help in obtaining medication that she could not afford.

REPORT OF THE TREASURER—Jim Dee

Treasurer Dee announced that a draft of the completed financial statements for fiscal year 2017 was available for review in the Treasurer’s Office. Per the audit, the City received an unmodified opinion, which meant that there were no issues, or significant adjustments or changes to the reports as prepared. Treasurer Dee hoped to have the final report to the city council within a next forthcoming meeting.

REPORT OF THE CHIEF OF STAFF – Karen Zerante

COS Karen Zerante deferred her allotted time to Chief Rogers.

Police Chief Rogers announced the department’s “Beards for Kids” event in which police officers would grow beards in a collaborative effort to raise awareness for children in need and to support local families. Christmas presents for children would be collected and funds would be raised for donation to Shriners Hospital for Children in Chicago.

REPORT OF THE CORPORATION COUNSEL—T.J. SOMER

None

1. MINUTES: MEETING OF September 18, 2017

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

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

Nays: none

Abstain: Torres

Absent: none

Motion to approve carried.

2. BILLS: APPROVAL OF SECOND RUN OF SEPTEMBER 2017.

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

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

Nays: none

Abstain: none
Absent: none
Motion to approve carried.

3. RESOLUTION #2017 - 70 : APPROVING A PROPOSAL FOR THE CITY'S 2017/2018 LIABILITY AND PROPERTY & CASUALTY INSURANCE.

Alderman Rodgers 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.

COS Karen Zerante stated that a summary of information and associated costs had been provided to the council, and that Les Peach, of Horton Insurance, was present to answer any questions for the council. Mr. Peach reported that there would be a savings of approximately \$ 24,000, due to having obtained bids from over ten carriers. There was brief discussion on the matter.

4. RESOLUTION #2017 - 71 : APPROVING AND RATIFYING AN AGREEMENT WITH GABRIEL ENVIRONMENTAL FOR ENGINEERING AND UST REMOVAL SERVICES AT 501 ASHLAND AVENUE.

Alderman Amadio 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.

Corporation Counsel Somer reported that the City had qualified for the Underground Storage Tank Reimbursement Program, whereby it would be reimbursed approximately ninety five percent of the estimated cost of the project--\$ 70,000 less the deductible. Brief discussion took place.

5. RESOLUTION #2017 - 72 : APPROVING AN EMPLOYMENT AGREEMENT EXTENSION FOR THE DEPUTY POLICE CHIEF.

Alderman Perez moved, and Alderman Rodgers 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.

Police Chief Rogers explained that the agreement was a one-year extension of the current contract with no changes to the agreement.

6. RESOLUTION #2017 - 73 : APPROVING AN EMPLOYMENT AGREEMENT EXTENSION FOR THE POLICE OPERATIONS COMMANDER.

Alderman Mosby moved, and Alderman Rodgers, 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.

Police Chief Rogers explained that the agreement was a one-year extension of the current contract with no changes to the agreement.

7. RESOLUTION # 2017 - 74 : APPROVING A BID AWARD FOR THE CDBG DEMOLITION OF 1414 HALSTED STREET.

Alderman Rodgers 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.

Corporation Counsel Somer stated that the recommendation was to approve the second low bid by Chem Check Demolition in the amount of \$ 53,800. He explained the reasons for the recommendation. There was brief discussion on the matter.

8. RESOLUTION #2017 - 75 : APPROVING A BID AWARD FOR THE CDBG DEMOLITION OF 1621 SHIELDS AVENUE.

Alderman Rodgers 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.

Corporation Counsel Somer stated that the recommendation was to approve the second low bid by Chem Check Demolition in the amount of \$ 51,900. He explained the reasons for the recommendation. There was brief discussion on the matter.

9. RESOLUTION #2017 - 76 : APPROVING A MASTER AGREEMENT WITH COMCAST FOR ETHERNET SERVICES.

Alderman Amadio 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.

Matt Fares, Police Department Executive Administrator, reported on the matter and recommended renewing the agreement for a sixty-month term, which would provide approximate savings of \$ 62,000 and connection speeds four times faster than the present. He answered questions for the council on the matter.

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

Corporation Counsel stated that he had polled the alderman, and they unanimously felt that they had enough information so that they were able to move on to item number eleven without an executive session.

11. RESOLUTION #2017 - 77 : APPROVING THE SETTLEMENT OF CERTAIN CIVIL LITIGATION AS PRESENTED FOR EXECUTIVE SESSION CONSIDERATION ON THIS DATE.

Alderman Rodgers 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.

ADJOURNMENT

At 7:40 p.m. Alderman Mosby moved, and Alderman Perez 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.

Lori Wilcox, City Clerk