

Minutes of the Regular City Council Proceedings of the City of Chicago Heights, Cook County, Illinois held Wednesday, October 3, 2018 at 6:00 p.m. at 1601 Chicago Road, Chicago Heights, IL.

CALL TO ORDER

Mayor David Gonzalez called the regular meeting of the Chicago Heights City Council to order at 6:00 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

*Alderman Mosby entered the council chambers at 6:21 p.m.

PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE

COMMUNICATIONS

Alderman Mosby-no announcements

Alderman Perez-absent

Alderman Rodgers announced her next quarterly ward meeting to be on Wednesday, October 10, 2018 at 6:00 p.m. at Chicago Heights Park District.

Alderman Deabel announced his next ward meeting to be on Monday, October 22 at 7:00 p.m. at Roosevelt School. His next neighborhood watch meeting would be held on Wednesday, October 17, 2018 at 7:00 p.m. at St. Paul Lutheran Church. He noted that the Chicago Heights Park District Haunted Trails event would be held on October 12th and 13th.

Alderman Amadio-absent

Alderman Zaranti announced his next ward meeting in coordination with Park District Commissioner Straczek would be held on October 25 at Commissioners Park at 7:00 p.m. He noted that ward meetings would not be held in November and December.

Alderman Torres announced the annual Senior Luncheon would be held on Thursday, November 15 at the Park District West Golf Course. Sign-up sheets and invites would be going out soon.

PUBLIC PARTICIPATION

Sam Wortel, a resident of the City, asked the council if the City Code could be amended so that a miniature pig could be allowed to be kept as a pet in the City. COS Zerante stated that Corporation Counsel was researching information on the matter and would report back to the council.

REPORT OF THE CHIEF OF STAFF-KAREN ZERANTE

COS Zerante introduced Lisa Miranda of Rebuilding Together Metro Chicago, an organization offering free home repairs to qualifying, low income homeowners. Ms. Miranda addressed the council regarding the organization itself, and the coordination of the program on behalf of the City. COS Zerante also gave the council a short update on the projects currently ongoing in the City.

REPORT OF THE CORPORATION COUNSEL—T.J. SOMER
Absent

1. MINUTES: MEETING OF SEPTEMBER 19, 2018

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

Ayes: Mosby, Rodgers, Deabel, Zaranti,

Nays: none

Abstain: Torres

Absent: Perez, Amadio

Motion to approve carried.

2. BILLS: APPROVAL OF SECOND RUN OF SEPTEMBER 2018.

Alderman Rodgers 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 #2018 - 26 : AMENDING CHAPTER 31 OF THE CODE OF ORDINANCES REGULATING PAWN SHOPS.

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

Ayes: Mosby, Rodgers, Deabel, Zaranti, Torres

Nays: none

Abstain: none

Absent: Perez, Amadio

Motion to approve carried.

Mayor Gonzalez explained that the ordinance clarified the difference between pawnshop/cash for gold stores and jewelry stores. The ordinance placed the two types of stores into separate categories, and set the number of pawnshop/cash for gold stores permitted at five, and the number of precious metal and gem broker stores (jewelry stores) at two.

- 4. RESOLUTION #2018 - 84 : APPROVING A RENEWAL OF THE CITY'S 2018-2019 GENERAL LIABILITY AND PROPERTY & CASUALTY INSURANCE POLICIES.**

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

Ayes: Mosby, Rodgers, Deabel, Zaranti, Torres

Nays: none

Abstain: none

Absent: Perez, Amadio

Motion to approve carried.

John Marks, of Marks and Company, and Les Peach of the Horton Group, addressed the council on the matter giving reasons why the renewal was highly recommended, and stating that coverage and deductibles remained the same as before. Brief comments from the council took place before the vote.

- 5. RESOLUTION #2018 - 85 : APPROVING A BID AWARD FOR THE TREE REMOVAL AND CLEARING OF THE CITY OWNED 20 ACRE VACANT LAND AT 2116 STATE STREET.**

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

Ayes: Mosby, Rodgers, Deabel, Zaranti, Perez

Nays: none

Present: Deabel

Absent: Perez, Amadio

Motion to approve carried.

Jack Hynes, Economic Development Director, reported that the tree removal was necessary in order to better market the property as a pad ready site. The City had acquired the property from the school district a few years ago, and had been speaking with potential developers. Brief discussion took place.

6. RESOLUTION #2018 - 86 : AUTHORIZING THE EXECUTION OF DEED IN LIEU OF FORECLOSURE AGREEMENT FOR THE ACQUISITION OF CERTAIN ABANDONED PROPERTIES.

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

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

Ayes: Mosby, Rodgers, Deabel, Zaranti, Torres

Nays: none

Abstain: none

Absent: Perez, Amadio

Motion to TABLE carried.

Gary Miller, Director of Code Enforcement, gave the city council some details on the properties that would be demolished or sold. During discussion, Mayor Gonzalez expressed concern about environmental issues with two of the properties, and the council decided to table the resolution until it was verified that there were no environmental issues with the EPA.

7. RESOLUTION #2018 - 87 : APPROVING A SUBREICPIENT AGREEMENT WITH COOK COUNTY FOR THE CITY'S 2018 CDBG ROAD RESURFACING PROJECT #1806-005.

Alderman Zaranti moved, and Alderman Rodgers 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, reported that the project, which encompassed Hickory Street to Western Avenue and Euclid Avenue to 26th Street, would be completed in 2019. There was discussion on the matter before the vote.

8. RESOLUTION #2018 - 88 : APPROVING A COOK COUNTY CLASS 8 APPLICATION FOR THE INDUSTRIAL FACILITY AT 1232 MCKINLEY STREET.

Alderman Rodgers moved, and Alderman Mosby 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, reported that the applicant, a plastic recycling company, planned to invest \$ 1.25 million dollars into the property, which had been vacant for many years. The applicant was present and answered questions for the council.

MOTION TO ENTER INTO EXECUTIVE (CLOSED SESSION) TO DISCUSS PENDING LITIGATION, USE OF CITY LAND OR PERSONNEL/COLLECTIVE BARGAINING ISSUES. (IF NECESSARY)

Mayor Gonzalez stated that a poll of the aldermen indicated that it was not necessary to enter into executive session to discuss Agenda Item #9.

9. **RESOLUTION #2018 - 89 : APPROVING THE SETTLEMENT OF CERTAIN CIVIL LITIGATION AS PRESENTED FOR EXECUTIVE SESSION OF THIS DATE.**

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

Ayes: Mosby, Rodgers, Deabel, Zaranti, Torres

Nays: none

Abstain: none

Absent: Pérez, Amadio

Motion to approve carried.

10. **ADMINISTRATION OF OATH TO NEW POLICE OFFICERS.**

Mayor Gonzalez announced that the oaths of office would not take place, but would be administered at a future meeting instead.

ADJOURNMENT

At 7:04 p.m. Alderman Mosby moved, and Alderman Rodgers 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