

**CITY OF PROSPECT HEIGHTS
REGULAR CITY COUNCIL MEETING
April 22, 2013**

CALL TO ORDER

The meeting was called to order at 6:35 p.m. by Mayor Helmer at City Hall, 8 North Elmhurst Road, Prospect Heights, Illinois 60070.

ROLL CALL

Present: Mayor Helmer, Aldermen Higgins, Ludvigsen, Mendez.

Absent: Aldermen Styler, Williamson

A quorum was present. Also present: City Clerk Adamson, City Treasurer Tibbits, City Administrator Marrin, City Attorney Zimmermann, Director of Building and Zoning Skiber, City Engineer/Public Works Director Johnson, and Deputy Clerk Sabo

PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE

Mayor Helmer asked everyone to stand and join him in the Pledge of Allegiance.

INVOCATION

Mayor Helmer provided the invocation.

PRESENTATIONS – Chicago Executive Airport FY14 Budget, Airport Manager

Dennis Rouleau said that the budget revenue for FY 2014 is \$4,056,225; a 13.75% increase over the FY 2013 Budget. He said that there was a CPI (1.68%) rent increase, as all the leases were tied to the CPI index. He said that operating expenses would be increased 5.9% to \$2,921,690 over FY 2013. He said that the CEA was keeping within the constraints of holding 25% of its operating expenses in reserves. He discussed the flooding at the airport due to the recent storms.

Motion made by Alderman Mendez; seconded by Alderman Higgins to Approve the CEA Budget. Unanimously approved by roll call.

ROLL CALL AYES: Aldermen Higgins, Ludvigsen, Mendez

NAYS: None

Motion carried 3 – 0 (Alderman Styler absent; Alderman Williamson absent)

CLOSED SESSION

At 6:50 PM, Alderman Higgins motioned to go into Closed Session to discuss appointing a public official for pending and probable litigation; acquisition of real estate; and compensation of personnel; seconded by Alderman Ludvigsen.

Unanimously approved by roll call.

ROLL CALL AYES: Aldermen Higgins, Ludvigsen, Mendez

NAYS: None

Motion carried 3 – 0 (Alderman Styler absent; Alderman Williamson absent)

Alderman Williamson was in attendance at the resumption of the Regular City Council Meeting at 7:40 PM.

ROLL CALL at 7:43 as to resumption of the Regular City Council Meeting:

Present: Mayor Helmer, Aldermen Higgins, Ludvigsen, Mendez, Williamson.

Absent: Alderman Styler

A quorum was present.

RESIDENT COMMENTS (Agenda Matters)

Katherine Michaely, President of the Rob Roy Board - wanted to know why the water rates were being increased. Mayor Helmer said that there was no Q&A during the meeting, but that there would be a written response to the question.

Larry Rosenthal – asked about the water rates. He wanted to know why the City of Prospect Heights was not represented on the Illinois American Water Council. He wanted to know if it would be cheaper to buy water from other towns that are in the Northwest Water Commission? Mayor Helmer said that the City would respond in writing.

Bernadette Soens – of 288 Country Club Drive requested that the Council vote against a water rate increase. She claimed that the study done by the Illinois American Water Company showed that rates should be decreased.

REPORTS AND COMMUNICATIONS

-City Administrator Marrin reported on the rain storm, and the City's response. She thanked the first responders, Director of Building and Zoning Skiber, Public Works, the Police Department, Mount Prospect, Wheeling, Illinois Public Works Mutual Aid Network, various mutual assistance groups, officials from the City of Prospect Heights and residents. She said that the coordination was incredible.

City Administrator Marrin said that Phase III of the road work project starts on May 1. She also said that on April 1, the sidewalks program began. She said that the sidewalk work was supported by a grant from the federal government the City had won. City Administrator Marrin said that affected residents had received letters about road disruption.

-City Engineer/Public Works Director Johnson – discussed residential flooding and drainage. He said that there would be follow up to any areas that were affected by the flooding.

-Director of Building and Zoning Steve Skiber discussed flood damage assessment. He said that there had been six inches of rain in a 24-hour period. He noted that most property damage was to vehicles in parking lots. He added that debris was still being cleaned from sewers and creeks.

-City Treasurer Tibbits said that he is the Chairman of the Water Committee, and his Committee had no review or input as far as regards to the water rates study.

He said that there was a Thursday and Friday E-News, and that the Post Office delivered the Newsletter to residents on Friday.

-Alderman Ludvigsen noted that the first responders to the flood did a great job. He added that some citizens had set up their own pumps. He thanked other communities that came to the assistance of Prospect Heights.

-Alderman Williamson noted his sympathy for those who flooded. He reminded residents who might be disposing of bulk items due to the floods that Republic would only take one bulk item.

-Alderman Higgins offered her thanks to the residents and City crew that worked on the flooding.

-Alderman Mendez thanked the various towns that assisted each other during the rain storm.

-Mayor Helmer welcomed Mike Thiessen of Blackhawk Restaurant Group as a new business, as well as Bruce Davis, the Chairman of Blackhawk Restaurant Group. He presented them with their approved liquor license.

Mayor Helmer told the audience that starting at the May 13, 2013 Meeting, the first meeting of the month would be in a workshop format. He said that this would not preclude the Council from taking action on bills or going into closed session. He added that these would be Open Meetings and would be televised.

Mayor Helmer handed out assignments for workshop discussions to each of the Aldermen.

Mayor Helmer noted that this May, he would be at the halfway point in his term, and said that there had been many accomplishments on important issues.

Mayor Helmer said that he wanted to look into reimbursement for elected City Officials that was more in line with other municipalities. He reminded the Council that they could not vote for increases in their reimbursement, but that it could be established for an incoming Council in two years.

The Mayor reminded the audience that the Mayor's Community Breakfast would be on May 18th.

ADOPTION OF CONSENT AGENDA

Approval of the Minutes, Regular City Council Meeting, April 8, 2013.

Motion made by Alderman Higgins; seconded by Alderman Williamson to Approve Item A of the consent agenda as presented. Unanimously approved by roll call.

ROLL CALL AYES: Aldermen Higgins, Ludvigsen, Mendez, Williamson

NAYS: None

Motion carried 4 – 0 (Alderman Styler absent)

LEGISLATION

B. A Resolution Honoring the Prospect Heights Garden Club on their 15th Anniversary.

D. A Resolution Honoring Village of Mount Prospect Mayor Irvana Wilks for 22 years of Service to the Community and the Northwest Municipal Conference.

E. A Resolution in support of the Northwest Municipal Conference's Position on Immigration Reform.

F. A Resolution Appointing a Director and Alternates to the Solid Waste Agency of Northern Cook County (SWANCC).

H. An Ordinance Amending Section 1-5-2 of the City Code to Modify the Meetings of the City Council (second reading).

J. An Ordinance providing for the issuance of \$400,000 Special Service Area Number 8 Loan Note (2013 Interfund Loan Series) of the City of Prospect Heights, Cook County, Illinois, to Evidence an Interfund Loan from Prospect Heights General Fund to the Prospect Heights Special Service Area 8 project Fund, to pay the costs of improvements within said Special Services Area, and Providing for the Security for and Payment of said Note. (Second Reading).

Alderman Higgins moved for an omnibus approval of Items B, D, E, F, H, J as presented; seconded by Alderman Mendez. Unanimously approved by roll call.

ROLL CALL AYES: Aldermen Higgins, Ludvigsen, Mendez, Williamson

NAYS: None

Motion carried 4 – 0 (Alderman Styler absent)

C. A Resolution Approving Fiscal year Budget for Chicago Executive Airport.

Voted upon in the Regular City Council Meeting under Presentations.

Mayor Helmer asked City Clerk Adamson to read the Resolution honoring the Garden Club. He made special mention of the Resolution Honoring Mount Prospect Mayor Wilks.

G. An Ordinance Adopting the Annual Budget for Fiscal Year 2013/2014 (2nd reading)

Alderman Mendez moved to Approve Item G, as presented; seconded by Alderman Mendez.

Discussion followed.

There were questions regarding the \$30,000 budget for AV equipment and compensation for AV volunteer, Patrick Colvin. There was concern with a position that was not previously published as open slot, with no specs given, and no organized manner in which to clock the payable time. Alderman Styler was added by phone, though not as a voting Alderman nor part of the quorum, but only for comment. Clerk Adamson noted that there was no formal job description and that the hourly pay rate would be \$19.50.

City Treasurer Tibbits offered a rebuttal to the proposal to make the AV budget \$15,000. He said that to have a part-time worker with the experience and time that Patrick Colvin was already volunteering would be \$40,000. He suggested that the City only pay him for the hours that he would have spent in his full-time position. Mayor Helmer added that Treasurer Tibbits would be his Direct Supervisor.

Alderman Higgins moved to amend the motion for the Budget to read that \$7500 if needed would be in the budget for equipment and \$7500 for reimbursement to a contractor to be amend the line items pertaining to the AV Department in the section on "City Council and Boards;" seconded by Alderman Ludvigsen.

ROLL CALL AYES: Aldermen Higgins, Ludvigsen, Mayor Helmer

NAYS: Aldermen Williamson, Mendez

Motion carried 3-2 (Alderman Styler absent)

Alderman Higgins moved to Approve the FY13-14 Budget, as amended; seconded by Alderman Mendez. Unanimously approved by roll call.

ROLL CALL AYES: Aldermen Higgins, Ludvigsen, Mendez, Williamson

NAYS: None

Motion carried 4 - 0 (Alderman Styler absent)

I. An Ordinance Amending Section O-11-14 Regarding Water rates (2nd Reading).

Alderman Higgins moved to Approve Item I as presented; seconded by Alderman Ludvigsen.

Discussion followed. Alderman Mendez asked that the motion be tabled until the next meeting, after more information was acquired. City Administrator Marrin reviewed the reason for the increase. She said that in 2011, the water rate was \$7.78; and that the City Council had reduced the rate to \$6.08 in 2012. She noted that the rate had stayed at this level for two years. The increase proposed for FY 2013/14 was still far less than the 2011 rate. The proposed rate is \$6.49. She added that the Council had not passed the two other Illinois American Water Company increases on to residents.

ROLL CALL AYES: Aldermen Higgins, Ludvigsen, Williamson

NAYS: Alderman Mendez

Motion carried 3 - 1 (Alderman Styler absent)

APPROVAL OF EXPENDITURES

Approval of Warrants

General Fund	\$	51,173.31
MFT Fund	\$	0.00
Palatine/Milwaukee TIF	\$	0.00
Convention and Visitors Bureau	\$	258.96
Development Fund	\$	365.89
Non-Home Rule Sales Tax Fund	\$	0.00
DEA Fund	\$	0.00
Solid Waste Fund	\$	33,779.34
SS Area #1	\$	0.00
SS Area #2	\$	0.00
SS Area #3	\$	0.00
SS Area #4	\$	0.00
SS Area #5	\$	0.00
SS Area #8 - Levee Wall #37	\$	0.00
SS Area Construction #6(Water Main)	\$	0.00

SS Area-Debt #6	\$	0.00
Road Construction	\$	0.00
Water Fund	\$	22,824.68
Parking Fund	\$	0.00
Road/Building Bond Escrow	\$	0.00
TOTAL Expenditures	\$	109,302.18
Wire Payments, Service Charges & Payroll	\$	167,575.05
TOTAL	\$	276,877.23

City Clerk Adamson read out the expenditure totals.

Alderman Williamson moved to approve as presented; seconded by Alderman Higgins for warrants in the amount of \$ 276,877.23 and wire transfers, service charges, and payroll in the amount of \$167,575.05. The motion was unanimously approved by roll call.

ROLL CALL AYES: Aldermen Higgins, Ludvigsen, Mendez, Williamson

NAYS: None

Motion carried 4 – 0 (Alderman Styler absent)

COMMITTEE APPOINTMENTS

L. Appointment of Rodney Pace to the Chicago Executive Airport Board of Directors.

M. Reappointment of mark Roscoe to the Planning & Zoning Board of Appeals.

Alderman Higgins moved for omnibus approval of Items L and M; seconded by Alderman Mendez. The motion was unanimously approved by roll call.

ROLL CALL AYES: Aldermen Higgins, Ludvigsen, Mendez, Williamson

NAYS: None

Motion carried 4 – 0 (Alderman Styler absent)

RESIDENTS COMMENTS (Non Agenda Matters)

In the interest of time, Resident Rosenthal withdrew his request to speak.

Residents Elizabeth and Nick Scheri asked that the City consider a retention pond as their property has flooded nine times. They said that due to the flooding, they were forced to remove pets and vehicles, and had to call the City for use of a pump. They thanked the Mayor and Alderman Ludvigsen for their assistance. They noted that, unbeknownst to them when they bought their home, it had previously been a fishing pond. They were looking to options to alleviate their plight.

NEW BUSINESS

N. Approval of a Contract for IT services with Xtivity Solutions, LLC.

O. Approval of a proposal for Market Analysis on Piper Lane Properties with Gruen, Gruen and Associates.

P. Approval of a waiver of competitive bidding and awarding of a contract to SDE Enterprises for Foundation Repair at City Hall.

Alderman Higgins moved to make an omnibus motion for Items O and P to approve as presented; seconded by Alderman Williamson. The motion was unanimously approved by roll call.

ROLL CALL AYES: Aldermen Higgins, Ludvigsen, Mendez, Williamson

NAYS: None

Motion carried 4 – 0 (Alderman Styler absent)

Alderman Higgins moved to Approve Item N as presented; seconded by Alderman Ludvigsen.

Discussion followed.

City Administrator Marrin noted how well the City and Xtivity had been working together. She mentioned the cooperation and improvement of services over the previous vendor. She said that Xtivity was requesting a three-year contract. City Attorney Zimmermann said that the contract would require a 30-day cancellation notice to be added. Aldermen discussed options of one-year contract versus a multiple-year contract.

Alderman Higgins Approve a motion amended to a one-year contract with a 30-day cancellation clause subject to City Attorney approval; seconded by Alderman Williamson.

ROLL CALL AYES Aldermen Higgins, Williamson, Ludvigsen

NAYS Alderman Mendez

Motion carried 3 – 1 (Alderman Styler absent)

ADJOURNMENT

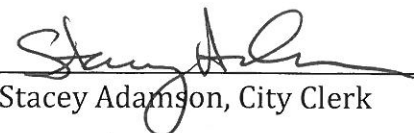
At 9:14 p.m., Motion made by Alderman Higgins; seconded by Alderman Mendez to adjourn Regular City Council Meeting. The motion was unanimously approved by voice vote.

ROLL CALL AYES: Aldermen Higgins, Ludvigsen, Mendez, Williamson

NAYS: None

Motion carried 4 – 0 (Alderman Styler absent)

Approved by the Prospect Heights City Council this 28th day of May, 2013.


Stacey Adamson, City Clerk


Nicholas J. Helmer, Mayor

