



Prospect
Heights

CITY OF PROSPECT HEIGHTS
Regular City Council Meeting
August 26 2013

CALL TO ORDER

The workshop was called to order at 6:31 p.m. by Mayor Helmer at City Hall, 8 North Elmhurst Road, Prospect Heights, Illinois 60070.

ROLL CALL

Present: Mayor Helmer, Treasurer Tibbits, City Clerk Adamson Aldermen- Styler, Williamson, Ludvigsen, Mendez.

A quorum was present. Also present: City Administrator Marrin, City Attorney Zimmerman, Director of Building and Zoning Skiber, Finance Director Hannon, Police Chief Dunne, Assistant to the Administrator Sabo, Assistant Director of Building and Public Works Cutaia, and Deputy Clerk Schultheis.

PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE – Alderman Ludvigsen asked everyone to rise and join him in the Pledge of Allegiance.

INVOCATION – Senior Pastor Kamanada of Glory House provided the invocation. He also gave a brief overview of the Grand Opening and mission of Glory House.

CLOSED SESSION – there was no Closed Session.

RESIDENTS COMMENTS (Agenda Matters)

Folta – regarding HOME Bar noise complaints. He note that Assistant to the Administrator Sabo and the Police came to his house at night regarding his noise complaint. He would like the noise ordinance enforced.

STAFF AND ELECTED OFFICIALS REPORTS

CEA - Board Member Bill Kearns – Bill Kearns discussed construction projects at the Airport.

- He said that the Hawthorne project was progressing. He said that completion was expected by First Quarter, 2014.
- He added that the Airport was looking to bring the airport up to US Customs safety standards – this included new partitions and relocating electrical boxes, and possibly a new customs facility.
- Board Member Kearns said that the Airport was working with the FAA on a tree obstruction on Runway 16.
- He said that there were RFP's out for a financial management of airport.
- The BMW Golf Championship will bring in many corporate jets.
- The Airport is working on self-service fuel, additional T-hangars and landing fees.

When asked by the Council who was being considered for IT services, Mr. Kearns answered that the bids had just gone out.

City Administrator - Anne Marrin – City Administrator Marrin said that the City had met with CMAP to regarding the Comprehensive Land Use grant.

She said that the City is putting together a Community Day plan whereby the residents will be able to get informational books, meet with the Police Department, Rotary Club, Lions Club, Fire Department and other City Clubs, service providers and Government. The planned date is Saturday, May 17, 2014 from 8 AM – Noon.

Police Chief - Jamie Dunne mentioned the Police volunteer participation in the Indian Trails Library in accompanying 22 youths and Library staff on a field trip to the Mexican Museum of Fine Arts in Chicago.

Chief Dunne showed slides and spoke of the new police substation.

Chief Dunne spoke of the speed trailer and message board .

Chief Dunne commended Officer Pufundt for receiving a congratulatory note from a resident for his professionalism when he gave her a citation for speeding.

Chief Dunne said the City has a new part-time officer – Dean Savas.

Director, Building & Zoning - Steve Skiber:

- Gave an update on Phase I of the Hangar Terminal. He said that the progress has been excellent and that it could become an architectural crown jewel for the City. He gave a
- Phase III road work is progressing quickly, and that there had been two gas service issues that NICOR was able to resolve. The contractors are working on a plan to handle any possible future issues.
- The rest of the construction season will be used to the fullest.

Assistant to the Administrator Sabo – spoke regarding video gaming. He said that there were two approved video gaming licenses in use in the City – Seoul Billiards and Comfort Inn and Suites. He also noted that there were five licenses in pending status, two of which were no longer eligible for licenses.

Assistant to the Administrator Sabo spoke about the five new “Welcome Signs” that the City has installed. The Mayor said that he ultimately hopes to have 25 signs throughout the City. Aldermen suggested that certain locations had sign pollution (too many signs in a small area), and thought that a possible solution would be to put signs underneath the Welcome Signs. It was also noted that some of the current signs are too close to trees and that it blocked the sign visual. It was suggested to trim the trees.

Finance Director Hannon – said that the City is currently \$536,661 and gave an explanation of the expenses. Finance Director Hannon noted that the City is \$670,000 ahead of last year’s budget.

City Treasurer - Rich Tibbits – said that the City Fall Newsletter would be ready by Labor Day.

He gave a video demo of PHTV spotlight and local news.

Treasurer Tibbits noted that there had been a cable issue regarding lack of audio. AT&T WOW had the issue, not Comcast.

City Clerk - Stacey Adamson – Spoke about the school year beginning, and that aside from late buses; the beginning of the school year had gone well. She added that the middle school now has air conditioning.

Aldermen John Styler – spoke about HOME Bar sound reduction enhancements that were installed including insulation. Alderman Styler said that the interior of the facility was well-insulated but the issue continued to remain with the patio.

Alderman Styler requested that the Council reconsider remuneration for Patrick. He stated that Patrick Covin’s video efforts had been beneficial to the City’s public image.

Pat Ludvigsen - gave a brief update on Ultra Foods. It was noted that a food court was being added and that progress had been made in completion.

He said that the Schoenbeck sidewalk was very important to the Community.

He asked that residents who had experienced flooding to make sure that the City was aware

Scott Williamson – spoke about the Phase III road project.

He mentioned the comprehensive land use. Alderman Williamson asked residents to offer their vision of what Prospect Heights should look like in the future. City Administrator Marrin said that there will be four public hearings regarding the planning session of the comprehensive land use program, and she encouraged residents to voice their opinion.

Bree Higgins – Not present.

Luis Mendez –said that Save-A-Lot opened its doors in June, 2013 and that business had been picking up. He said that they were looking to expand their customer base.

Mayor Helmer –

- There was a video of the Grand Opening of “Dance and All that Jazz”
- He said that he and City Administrator Marrin had met with the County Commissioner and the City was granted \$17,000 to help with security camera installations. City Administrator Marrin said that METRA was going to help the City upgrade train station surveillance.
- The Mayor mentioned the Briarwood Terrace ribbon cutting.

****At the request of the Mayor, Item J was moved**

J. Presentation and Update by John Nazha of the House of Music and Entertainment (HOME). – John Nazha spoke regarding the soundproofing efforts made by HOME. He mentioned that Plexiglas would be added to the patio. He said that the addition of a vestibule was being considered to keep the bass sound within the facility. He mentioned additional sound-deafening materials including a material that is six times denser than lead.

Alderman noted that despite the enhancements, the problem still existed. They also noted that further enhancements would take at least another month.

John Nazha added that there would be additional security hired to patrol outside to dissuade noisy patrons as they were exiting the bar.

Some Aldermen wanted to give HOME Bar another month to comply, other Aldermen suggested a drop-dead date be instituted.

Chief Dunne said that an improved environment did exist at HOME regarding the noise level.

Aldermen wanted John Nazha to speak with a sound reduction expert. It was noted that since the facility opened in November, 2012 there have been 135 calls to the Police and 30 arrests.

ADOPTION OF CONSENT AGENDA

A. Approval of Minutes, Regular City Council Meeting, July 22, 2013.

Alderman Mendez moved for an omnibus motion to Approve the Regular Council City Minutes of July 22, 2013; seconded by Alderman Ludvigsen. Motion carried unanimously.

ROLL CALL: AYES - Ludvigsen, Williamson, Mendez, Styler
NAYS – NONE.

Motion carried 4 – 0.

APPROVAL OF CONTRACTS

B. Approval of a Contract for Plumbing Inspection Services with Safebuilt Illinois Inc, - Building and Zoning Director Skiber recommended approval of agreement with Safebuilt Illinois Inc. to maintain the plumbing inspector services with Mark Opels.

Alderman Mendez moved for a motion to Approve Item B subject to legal review; seconded by Alderman Williamson. Motion carried unanimously.

ROLL CALL: AYES - Ludvigsen, Williamson, Mendez, Styler
NAYS – NONE.

Motion carried 4 – 0.

LEGISLATION

C. Resolution Authorizing Certain Camera Placement Agreements.

D. A Council Resolution of Support for the Application to the Illinois Department of Transportation (IDOT) for the Illinois Transportation Enhancement Program (ITEP) for the Willow Road Sidewalk Project.

E. A Resolution Approving a Letter Agreement with the United States Army Corps of Engineers for the Temporary Use of a Parcel of Land Owned for Chicago Executive Airport Purposes.

F. A Resolution Authorizing an Intergovernmental Agreement between the City of Prospect Heights and the Illinois Secretary of State.

Alderman Mendez moved for omnibus Approval of Items C, D, E and F; seconded by Alderman Williamson. Motion carried unanimously.

ROLL CALL: AYES - Ludvigsen, Williamson, Mendez, Styler
NAYS – NONE.

Motion carried 4 – 0.

G. An Ordinance Authorizing the Mayor and the City Clerk to Execute Amendment Number One to an Agreement between the State of Illinois/Department of Natural Resources and the State of Illinois/Department of Transportation and the City of Prospect Heights and the Village of Mount Prospect for the Upper Des Plaines River Flood Damage Reduction Project Element, Levee 37 (Waiver of First Reading). –

Alderman Styler moved to waive the first reading; seconded by Alderman Ludvigsen. Motion carried unanimously.

ROLL CALL: AYES - Ludvigsen, Williamson, Mendez, Styler
NAYS – NONE.

Motion carried 4 – 0.

City Administrator Marrin said that this was an intergovernmental She said that the Amendment it did not have an impact on Prospect Heights, but needed the City's approval.

Alderman Williamson moved to approve Item G; seconded by Alderman Mendez. Motion carried unanimously.

ROLL CALL: AYES - Ludvigsen, Williamson, Mendez, Styler
NAYS – NONE.

Motion carried 4 – 0.

I. APPROVAL OF EXPENDITURES

H. Approval of Warrants

General Fund	\$35,170.29
MFT Fund	\$0.00

Palatine/Milwaukee TIF	\$136.50
Tourism District	\$0
Development Fund	\$0
Non-Home Rule Sales Tax Fund	\$0.00
DEA Fund	\$2,247.50
Solid Waste Fund	\$881.50
SS Area #1	\$180.00
SS Area #2	\$0
SS Area #3	\$0
SS Area #4	\$0
SS Area #5	\$0
SS Area #8 – Levee Wall #37	\$0
SS Area-Constr #6 (Water Main)	\$0
SS Area- Debt #6	\$0
Road Construction	\$2,803.85
Water Fund	\$2,906.37
Parking Fund	\$0
Road/Building Bond Escrow	\$4,000.00
TOTAL Expenditures	\$48,146.01
Wire Payments, Service Charges, & Payroll	\$297,678.02
TOTAL	\$345,824.03

City Clerk Adamson read out the expenditure totals.

Alderman Williamson moved to approve as presented; seconded by Alderman Styler for a TOTAL in the amount of \$345,824.03 and wire transfers, service charges, and payroll in the amount of \$297,678.02. The motion was unanimously approved by roll call.

ROLL CALL AYES: Aldermen Styler, Ludvigsen, Mendez, Williamson
NAYS: None

Motion carried 4 - 0

I. Ratification of Warrants from 7/24/2013 through 8/12/2013

General Fund	\$131,084.95
MFT Fund	\$15,792.10
Palatine/Milwaukee TIF	\$2,818.15
Tourism District	\$660.00
Development Fund	\$8,692.70
DEA Fund	\$340.00
Solid Waste Fund	\$34,099.34
SS Area #1	\$280.00
SS Area #2	\$270.00
SS Area #3	\$360.00
SS Area #4	\$280.00
SS Area #5	\$493.66
SS Area #8 – Levee Wall #37	\$577.28
SS Area-Constr #6 (Water Main)	\$525.00
SS Area- Debt #6	\$0
Road Construction	\$1,681.24
Water Fund	\$39,388.36
Parking Fund	\$3,363.52

Road/Building Bond Escrow	\$1,000.00
TOTAL Expenditures	\$241,706.30
Wire Payments, Service Charges, & Payroll	\$0.00
TOTAL	\$241,706.30

Alderman Styler moved to approve as presented; seconded by Alderman Ludvigsen for a TOTAL amount of \$241,706.30 and wire transfers, service charges, and payroll in the amount of \$0.00. The motion was unanimously approved by roll call.

ROLL CALL AYES: Aldermen Styler, Ludvigsen, Mendez, Williamson
 NAYS: None

Motion carried 4 - 0

RESIDENTS COMMENTS (Non Agenda Matters)

Bernadette Soens – Spoke regarding compensation for elected officials. She stated that in cities of similar size to Prospect Heights, namely Northfield and Hawthorne Woods, there was no compensation.

She said that when she had requested information the wrong OMB was cited. She introduced Dr. Lawrence Rosenthal as an Association Board member with OMB experience. He said that he had worked with numerous federal agencies to secure grants, and he had never had to change accounting methods. He only had to report projects the way that they required the reporting.

UNFINISHED BUSINESS

K. Review and Discussion of Refuse Services Contract with Republic Services –

The mayor said that the Staff was looking for direction as to whether or not to go out for an RFP on the question on the Republic contract extension. Alderman Williamson was in favor of an RFP. Alderman Mendez does not want an RFP after speaking with the residents and hearing that they were pleased with the level of service. Alderman Styler said that City should extend the contract with Republic. Alderman Ludvigsen said that we should extend the contract, and noted that this was an extension not a new contract. There are no changes in terms and conditions except for the planned, yearly increases. Rick Balthuis from Republic spoke regarding yard waste containers being made available to the residents. He also noted that Republic would like to be part of the May 17, 2014 Community event.

Mayor Helmer said that this will be on the agenda for approval at the next Council Meeting.

Alderman Mendez noted that Republic uses American natural gas, not foreign oil.

L. Discussion of Beautification and Tourism District – Acting Public Works Direct Steve Cutaia

– Steve Cutaia said that the City wants to establish a noticeable presence in the Tourism District. It will have a business gateway feeling that is professionalism, safety and vibrancy. Directional signage, banners, planters and bus stop improvements are being added. There will also be tree plantings and sidewalks. Phase I will be this year. There is OTB signage. Banners have been placed strategically and illegal, advertising benches have been removed, and new ones will be installed on Wednesday. Phase II will be trees and possibly a gazebo, as well as signage. Planters have been placed. Arborvitae and winter greens insure that the City will have color in the planters year round.

The Park needs to be named. It is the area between Milwaukee Avenue and River Road.

Leaning toward non-fruit bearing, ornamental pear trees for the area.

So far, \$20,000 has been spent, which is way under the original \$80,000 budget proposed.

It was asked who owns the park currently. Acting Public Works Direct Steve Cutaia said that it is currently owned by IDOT. The wording on the banners was questioned. City Administrator Marrin said that the City is also trying to use the banners to highlight overnight stay as this will be a tourism district. It was noted that the planters look great.

NEW BUSINESS

M. Discussion of Economic Business Development Committee – EBDC Chairman Chuck Currie – Chairman Currie said that the individuals on the committee were strictly volunteers. He said that the Committee has been ineffective and requires a professional staff to do the networking that would be needed to attract businesses. He said that it had 100% turnover in two years. He noted that the effort of the members has been futile and exhaustive, and he recommended disbanding the EBDC, and hiring a professional Economic and Business Development Coordinator. He said that the EBDC members would still be involved. When asked what the Coordinator would seek in remuneration, Chairman Currie said that it could run from high five figure to low six figures. Aldermen needed to know more about the position and if there would be a big enough return on the investment. Aldermen were wary of hiring a Coordinator at this time, and requested more information. Mayor Helmer said that he had looked at the remuneration for this type of position and it was in the \$68,000 range. He added that with the substantial amount of business vacancies, there was a need for professional help and that the Chamber of Commerce was not sufficient.

Agenda for the September 9th Workshop - Alderman Ludvigsen requested to know what would be on the September 9th Workshop Agenda. City Administrator Marrin said that it would include the signed extension letter for Republic, and introduction of the CMAP consultants. The Aldermen said that they wanted the agenda as early as possible. City Administrator Marrin said that it would be made available the Tuesday before that following Monday meeting.

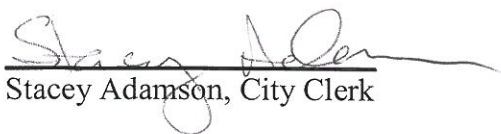
ADJOURNMENT

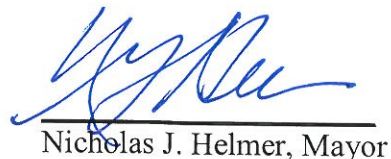
At 8:55 PM, Alderman Williamson moved to Adjourn; seconded by Alderman Mendez. The motion was approved unanimously by roll call.

ROLL CALL AYES: Aldermen Styler, Ludvigsen, Mendez, Williamson
 NAYS: None

Motion carried 4 - 0

Approved by Prospect Heights City Council on this the 23rd of September, 2013.


Stacey Adamson, City Clerk


Nicholas J. Helmer, Mayor

