



CITY OF PROSPECT HEIGHTS
City Council Workshop
September 9, 2013

CALL TO ORDER

The workshop was called to order at 6:30 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, Higgins, Williamson, Ludvigsen, Mendez.

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

PRESENTATIONS

A. Presentation of Affordable Health Care Act-Catherine Loney, GCG Financial. – Ms. Loney said that the City of Prospect Heights is part of North Suburban Employee Benefit Cooperative. She said that she and the City Administrator go through all of the components and costs. She discussed the guidelines and highlights of the program. She discussed the formulas that were being used to determine the costs. There was a question regarding the tiers – she said that the plan has four tiers. There was a question as to whether or not a HMO was more cost effective than a PPO. Catherine Loney said it depended on how you do your copay because an entity using a 100% care HMO might now be paying more than a PPO with \$500 copay, especially since the copay would go towards the maximum out of pocket. Catherine Loney discussed how plans have changed regarding co-payment provisions that change out of pocket limits and contributions to limit. There was also a question regarding coverage when outside of the network– Ms. Loney said that you have in network rates and out-of-network rates at higher rates plus other possible surplus charges. She said that the Cooperative would not be responsible for enforcement of penalties on entities that were violating policy. She discussed open enrollment and penalties to the employer.

She pointed out that the City was in complete compliance. It was noted by Alderman Styler that the elected officials were not on the plan. When asked what would happen if the Affordable Care was declared unconstitutional; she replied that the challenge would

be in implementation, and if the healthcare was overturned, the penalties for non-compliance would go away. Catherine Loney was asked what GCG stood for and she said originally, Greater Chicago Group out of Bannockburn, but was now out of Colorado.

SCHEDULED BUSINESS

- B. Discussion and Review of a Municipal Bail Fee Ordinance (Chief Dunne). – Chief Dunne wanted to introduce the concept of an Ordinance that would allow the Police department to charge anyone arrested a \$20 administrative fee to release them. The state of Illinois allows this and it defrays the cost from the Police Department. This would only be for arrests and any type of bond, but not for a ticket.
- C. Review and Approval of Replacement and Acquisition of Two Police Vehicles (Chief Dunne). – The Chief noted the vehicles that needed to be replaced. Two cars are due to be rotated out. He said that he wants to replace them with the Ford Interceptor vehicles. The Crown Victoria – the Chief is requesting that the Council consider giving the car as a take-home vehicle to one of the officers in the City. More use could be derived from it for the next three to five years. One of the new officers would be interested. The car would remain in the community in a multi-family area. There would be a motion to go through the process at the next meeting. It was noted that the cost of the vehicle is already in the budget.
- D. Discussion of Recommendations to address Flooding Issues as Reported by CB Burke Engineering (Alderman Ludvigsen). – Engineer Johnson said that engineering costs for this project would be millions of dollars. He believed it would take a 5-10 year capital program. It was noted by the City Administrator that additional drainage work is being done in Phases I, II, and III. Building and Zoning Director Skiber said that the City has been whittling away at the issue with road programs that have improved the situation. He said that Levee 37 issues were being addressed. He noted that 22 areas were identified as flood areas. Engineer Johnson said that the City can work on putting together potential projects. He said that there have been improvements made in areas like Dorset and Viola, and River Trails. City Administrator Marrin said that the City needs to make decisions as to what would benefit the City and residents best, and be cost effective.
- E. Discussion of Road and Drainage Issues on Willow Road and Hillcrest (Slough Area) and Update on Contacts and Process (Alderman Williamson). – Engineer Johnson said that he has sent a letter to Cook County and has not heard back. He went to a Des Plaines River Hazard Mitigation Plan Program with Building and Zoning Director Skiber and City Administrator Marrin. A map was generated to show the 22 areas in town with flooding, as required by FEMA. Identifying these areas is the first step to get funding. Permits would have to be gotten by FEMA, IDNR, Army Corp of Engineers, Cook County Highway, and MWRD. Building and Zoning Skiber said that the City can control the outflow to the north. Alderman Williamson asked that a trash bin be put on the site to help clean up the Slough area.
- F. Discussion of Utilizing Tourism Zone Beautification Budget to Hire a Landscape Architect for Conceptual Drawings for the River Road Plan (Alderman

Ludvigsen). – Alderman Ludvigsen said that there needs to be in-depth drawings. The Mayor said that an architect will be getting involved. The Mayor noted that there was response from residents regarding feedback on beautification - both negative and positive.

- G. Discussion of the creation of Position of AV Assistant (Alderman Styler). – Alderman Styler said that he would like there to remuneration for an AV Assistant. The City Attorney noted that the position would have to be created and it could not be created for a designated person, but as an open position. Once the position was created, then pay could be discussed. There was discussion regarding budget coverage and the need for such a position. Alderman Mendez called for the position called A/V Operator to be put on the next agenda. There was a call for a consensus to put the Ordinance for a new position on the next agenda. Aldermen Williamson, Higgins and Ludvigsen said to wait until Budget hearings, Aldermen Styler and Mendez was in favor the item being put on the next agenda, and Alderman Styler said not to put it on the agenda. **With no consensus, the item was removed from being made an agenda item for the September 23, 2013 City Council Meeting.**
- H. Discussion of Basic Communication between City Staff and the Mayor's Office (Mayor Helmer). – The Mayor discussed making off-the-cuff comments in the meeting, as they were getting printed in the papers. The Mayor also said that the Aldermen needed to be out and visible to the public and businesses, and Aldermen noted that they do frequent Prospect Heights venues constantly. They said that they do not report it back to the Mayor, but that they are visible in the community. The Mayor said that he would like feedback. Aldermen asked that the meetings no longer include photos shown for each elected official during the Meetings - as it made the meetings too long.

APPROVAL OF EXPENDITURES

I. Approval of Warrants

General Fund	\$65,391.47
MFT Fund	\$823.75
Palatine/Milwaukee TIF	\$242.56
Tourism District	\$10,169.85
Development Fund	\$1,172.40
Non-Home Rule Sales Tax Fund	\$0.00
DEA Fund	\$848.41
Solid Waste Fund	\$33,833.34
SS Area #1	\$47.00
SS Area #2	\$45.00
SS Area #3	\$61.00
SS Area #4	\$46.00
SS Area #5	\$114.56
SS Area #8 – Levee Wall #37	\$163.21
SS Area-Constr #6 (Water Main)	\$89.00
SS Area- Debt #6	\$0.00

Road Construction	\$483,305.96
Water Fund	\$1,606.32
Parking Fund	\$2,366.60
Road/Building Bond Escrow	\$13,048.80
TOTAL Expenditures	\$613,375.23
Wire Payments, Service Charges, & Payroll	\$266,569.29
TOTAL	\$879,944.52

City Clerk Adamson read out the expenditure totals.

Alderman Williamson moved to approve as presented; seconded by Alderman Higgins for a TOTAL in the amount of \$879,944.52 and wire transfers, service charges, and payroll in the amount of \$266,569.29. The motion was unanimously approved by roll call.

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

Motion carried 5 - 0

PUBLIC COMMENT

Bernadette Soens – said that in regards to compensation for 2015 elected officials said that the Council should look at what the pay was for cities that were comparable to Prospect Heights.

She asked how the City had accumulated surpluses and inquired about the rate of spending. She commented on the Police Department's request for the need for new police vehicles.

UNFINISHED BUSINESS

J. Discussion and Review of Existing Liquor License Hours, and License Classifications (Alderman Ludvigsen). Alderman Ludvigsen said that the City needed to consolidate the liquor licenses. He said that the City had too many. He noted that Penny's has applied to the State for a gaming license. Building and Zoning Director Skiber said that Pennys is going through their final inspections, and the City could not tell them when to open. Alderman Ludvigsen said that his concern was that Pennys got the liquor license in order to get the gaming license. Alderman Ludvigsen said that the City should mirror Arlington Heights and limit the hours; and consolidate licenses.

K. Discussion of a Land Use Analysis (Alderman Ludvigsen). – City Administrator Marrin said that the City had looked at feasibility studies and land use. She said that the City had been awarded the CMAP grant. She said that there was going to meet with the Council. She said that the City has the grant and the money is going to be expended out of the grant. She said that the Council will be able to question the studies being done and make decisions based upon their analysis. Mayor Helmer said that he believed that the City needed to hire an Economic Development Director.

L. Discussion of Alderman Compensation for Fiscal Year 2015 (Alderman Mendez). – Mayor Helmer recommended that the Mayor be afforded \$300 per month and the Aldermen and Other Elected Officials be afforded \$200 per month for two regularly scheduled meetings. He said for any special meetings, there would be \$100 stipend per special meeting. It was noted by the City Attorney Zimmerman that an Ordinance to change the compensation would have to be adopted more than four months before the next election. Alderman Williamson wanted to point out that the elected officials were

spending far more than the stipend they received, and that most costs were out of pocket. City Attorney Zimmerman noted that elected officials could ask for expenditures to be compensated. He added that compensation for expenses did not need to wait for the next election. He said that the Council would only need to adopt a policy and budget for it. Treasurer Tibbits noted that the stipend had been greater in 2003, and that the prior Council had lowered it to the current rates.

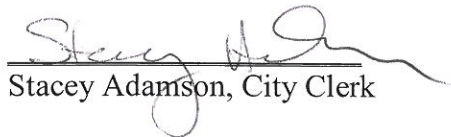
ADJOURNMENT

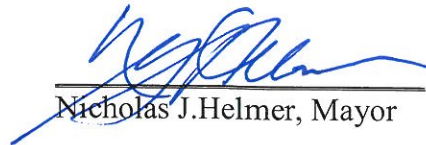
Alderman Williamson moved to Adjourn the Council Workshop and go into Closed Session for the purposes of probable litigation and Personnel – Performance Compensation; seconded by Alderman Higgins. The motion was unanimously approved by roll call.

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

Motion carried 5 – 0

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


Stacey Adamson, City Clerk


Nicholas J. Helmer, Mayor

