

These minutes were approved at the 2/6/12 City Council Meeting with no changes.

CITY OF WEST CHICAGO – 475 Main Street
CITY COUNCIL MINUTES
Regular Meeting
January 16, 2012

1. Call to Order. Mayor Michael B. Kwasman called the meeting to order at 7:00 pm.

2. Pledge of Allegiance to the Flag. Alderman Dzierzanowski led all in the pledge of allegiance.

3. Invocation. The City Clerk gave the invocation.

4. Roll Call and Establishment of a Quorum. Roll call found Aldermen Lori J. Chassee, James E. Beifuss, Jr., H. Ronald Monroe, James Smith, Russell Radkiewicz, Ruben Pineda, Sandy Dimas, Alan Murphy, John C. Smith, Kurt Meissner, Nanette B. Connelly, Rebecca Stout, Nicholas Dzierzanowski, and Matt Fuesting present. The Mayor announced a quorum.

City Clerk Nancy M. Smith and City Treasurer Donald F. Earley were also present. .

Also in attendance were City Attorney Patrick K. Bond, Public Works Director Rob Flatter, City Administrator Michael L. Guttman, and Marketing and Communications Coordinator Rosemary Mackey. Present from the West Chicago Police Department were Chief of Police Laz Perez, Deputy Chief Mike Uplegger, Commanders Stephen Laub, William Hall, and Eric Shipman; Sergeant Christopher Woodill, and Officers Waylon Potts, Dan Herbert, Ryan Perry, and Rick Saucedo.

5. Public Participation. Police Chief Perez said eight of the nine eligible sergeants took a rigorous seven hour test last November. As a result of that test, three became commanders. Chief Perez introduced the new commanders: Commander Eric Shipman, in charge of the Administrative Bureau. Commander Shipman will be attending the FBI Academy on April 1, 2012; Commander Bill Hall, in charge of the Investigative Division; and Commander Stephen Laub, in charge of the Patrol Division. The Mayor, on behalf of the City Council, congratulated the new Commanders and the Police Chief. He said he had faith going forward with the best Police Department in DuPage County. He said they have done a tremendous job, and the community is proud of them, as is he and the Council.

6. Correspondence and Announcements.

Alderman Dzierzanowski said at the January Infrastructure Committee meeting, there was discussion on having concerts in Reed-Keppler Park. There was a lot of discussion on whether there should be a gazebo or a band shell. Having concerts in the park is a great idea, but the Infrastructure Committee would like to have public input at their February 2, 2012, meeting, The Mayor said he would take that under advisement.

Upcoming Meetings. The Mayor announced the following meetings.

January 17, 2012	Plan Commission/Zoning Board of Appeals (cancelled)
January 23, 2012	Public Affairs Committee (cancelled)
January 24, 2012	Historical Preservation Commission
January 26, 2012	Finance Committee
February 2, 2012	Infrastructure Committee

7. Corporate Disbursement Report. Alderman Connelly made a motion, seconded by Alderman Radkiewicz, to approve the January 16, 2012, Corporate Disbursement Report in the amount of \$ 804,153.46. Voting Yea: Aldermen Chassee, Beifuss, Monroe, James Smith, Radkiewicz, Dimas, John Smith, Meissner, Connelly, Stout, Dzierzanowski, and Fuesting. Voting Nay: 0. Aldermen Pineda and Murphy abstained. Motion carried.

8. Consent Agenda – Consideration of an Omnibus Vote.

* **Development Committee:** No report

* **Infrastructure Committee:** Alderman Dzierzanowski read and explained the following items:

A. Resolution 12-R-0001 – A Resolution Authorizing the Mayor to Execute a Contract Agreement with Visu-Sewer of Illinois, LLC, for Services Related to the Sanitary Sewer System Rehabilitation Project for York Avenue and Basins 1 and 4 (for an amount not to exceed \$410,028.50)

B. Resolution 12-R-0002 – A Resolution Authorizing the Mayor to Execute a Contract Agreement with RJN Group, Inc. for Phase III Construction Oversight Services Related to the Sanitary Sewer System Rehabilitation Project for York Avenue and Basins 1 and 4 (for an amount not to exceed \$29,395.00)

C. Resolution 12-R-0007 – A Resolution Authorizing the Mayor to Execute a Contract Agreement with Kramer Tree Specialists, Inc., for Professional Services Related to the Monthly Brush Collection Program for Fiscal Years 2012-2014 (for an amount not to exceed \$ 198,975.00)

D. Resolution 12-R-0008 – A Resolution Authorizing the Mayor to Execute a Contract Agreement with Emerald Tree Care, LLC for Professional Services Related to the Emerald Ash Borer Insecticidal Treatment Program for Fiscal Years 2012-2017

Alderman Dzierzanowski made a motion, seconded by Alderman Fuesting, to adopt the items on the consent agenda. During discussion, Mayor Kwasman asked if the contract related to brush collection (C. Resolution 12-R-007), was put out for bid. Alderman Dzierzanowski said it was not because it was put out for bid a few years ago and the less expensive company was not good. He said the Mayor has stated to the Aldermen that less expensive companies do not always work out, and the Infrastructure Committee agreed. The Mayor asked if the contract related to emerald ash borer treatment (D. Resolution 12-R-0008) was put out to bid. Alderman Dzierzanowski said it was not because Emerald Tree Care LLC came in \$11,000.00 less than any other company last year. Further, they are providing literature to distribute to the residents regarding the emerald ash borer problem so they can treat their trees. Voting Yea: Aldermen Chassee, Beifuss, Monroe, James Smith, Pineda Radkiewicz, Dimas, Murphy, John Smith, Meissner, Connelly, Stout, Dzierzanowski, and Fuesting. Voting Nay: 0. Motion carried.

* **Public Affairs Committee:** Alderman Chassee read and explained the following items:

E. Ordinance 12-O-0001 – An Ordinance Amending the Code of Ordinances of the City of West Chicago, Chapter 17, Article XIX, Section 17-1205

F. Approve – Blooming Fest 2012 Event Proposal

G. Resolution 12-R-0004 – A Resolution Authorizing the Mayor to Enter into a Certain Agreement with West Chicago Elementary School district #33 to Provide Professional Services for the 21st Century Community Learning Center Grant (removed and voted upon separately)

Alderman Chassee made a motion, seconded by Alderman Monroe, to adopt those items on the consent agenda. During discussion, the Mayor asked if the City would incur expenses for Blooming Fest. City Administrator Guttman said the City may be responsible for \$1-2,000.00. Voting Yea: Aldermen Chassee, Beifuss, Monroe, James Smith, Radkiewicz, Pineda, Dimas, Murphy, John Smith, Meissner, Connelly, Stout, Dzierzanowski, and Fuesting. Voting Nay: 0. Motion carried.

* **Finance Committee:** No report

* **Items Not Sent to Committee:** The Mayor read and explained the following items:

H. Approve – City Council Meeting Minutes of January 2, 2012

I. Resolution 12-R-0005 – A Resolution Authorizing the Participation in the Northern Illinois Municipal Electric Cooperative (NIMEC) and Authorizing the City Administrator to Approve a Contract with the Lowest Cost Electric Provider

Alderman Pineda made a motion, seconded by Alderman Beifuss, to adopt those items on the consent agenda. During discussion, the Mayor asked City Administrator Guttman to explain Resolution 12-R-0005. Mr. Guttman said with pricing utilities, it is best to sign right away. It is like emergency service. The Infrastructure Committee should be able to review the action, and it may be reviewed by the City Council down the road. The pricing should be available within the next few weeks. Voting Yea: Aldermen Chassee, Beifuss, Monroe, James Smith, Radkiewicz, Pineda, Dimas, Murphy, John Smith, Meissner, Connelly, Stout, Dzierzanowski, and Fuesting. Voting Nay: 0. Motion carried.

9. Reports by Committees.

From Item 8.G: Resolution 12-R-0004 – A Resolution Authorizing the Mayor to Enter into a Certain Agreement with West Chicago Elementary School district #33 to Provide Professional Services for the 21st Century Community Learning Center Grant

Alderman Chassee made a motion, seconded by Alderman Meissner, to approve Resolution 12-R-0004. During discussion, Alderman John Smith clarified that the grant would be for three years, and there would be no cost to the City. He asked who would bear the costs after that time. City Administrator Guttman said that would be a policy decision by the City Council if they want to continue the program or not. Alderman Smith felt that while this may be a good program, it appears that the City is taking on types of things that maybe parents should be doing. The Mayor said the City would pay the upfront costs and then be reimbursed by the state. He said a trust factor is always going to be there with regard to the state. Mr. Guttman said this will save the City money. Previously, the City spent \$15,000.00 for the Youth Program. Currently there is a part time coordinator who will become a full time employee at the same hourly rate. There will be a few aides. Alderman Beifuss said the Open Gym program will be included in this grant. Voting Yea: Aldermen Chassee, Beifuss, Monroe, James Smith, Radkiewicz, Pineda, Dimas, Murphy, John Smith, Meissner, Connelly, Stout, Dzierzanowski, and Fuesting. Voting Nay: 0. Motion carried.

10. Unfinished Business. None

11. New Business. Alderman Dzierzanowski asked if Interim Community Development Director Hupp, who has a long time association with St. Charles, could provide insight into how St. Charles attracts and keeps businesses.

12. Mayor's Comments. The Mayor said today we remember the past with the celebration of Martin Luther King Day. It seems that it was only a short time ago that we watched in shock how people could treat other people because of color. He was a young man during those days, but lived a very sheltered life. He knew people of color, but they lived many miles from his home on the southeast side. He knew the neighborhoods, and when traveling through them, used extreme caution and never questioned why. It was through Martin Luther King that we began to understand the true meaning of a word, a word that is used today to describe anything as a foil to the system, "Civil Rights." He did not understand until he watched what people, created by God, would do to other people because of color. He knew what tyrants did to others on foreign soil because of freedom of religion, but not here in his country, the USA.

But sadly it was, preventing education, preventing representation, and most of all, preventing freedom to pursue happiness and fulfill dreams.

Today the fight goes on, maybe on different standards and maybe different color or gender or even sexual gender. We have leaders who say that they're the followers of Martin Luther King and we have those who actually fight for what is right and not look at just headline space.

We all know those that take on a cause and hope to have friends follow them, but you usually look back and those that said, "we are behind you" are far far behind you. They stir the pot and cause division and again let someone else to fight. They say that they are part of a team until you are ready to take on the enemy, an enemy that you maybe didn't make, but still is an enemy. You fight for what is right not just what is right for you, but what is right for all. Remember the words of this man of peace: "In the end, we will remember not the words of our enemies, but the silence of our friends" – Martin Luther King Jr.

13. Executive Session. There was no executive session.

14. Items to be Referred for Final Action from Executive Session. Not applicable.

15. Adjournment. At 7:25 pm, Alderman Chassee made a motion, seconded by Alderman Stout, to adjourn. Motion was carried by voice vote.

Respectfully submitted,

Nancy M. Smith
City Clerk