

These minutes were approved at the 2/1/2010 City Council meeting with no changes.

CITY OF WEST CHICAGO – 475 Main Street

CITY COUNCIL MINUTES

Regular Meeting

January 18, 2010

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 Beifuss led all in the pledge of allegiance.
3. **Invocation.** The City Clerk gave the invocation in memory of Adele Zimmerman.
4. **Roll Call and Establishment of a Quorum.** Roll call found Aldermen James E. Beifuss, Jr., H. Ronald Monroe, James Smith, Russell Radkiewicz, Ruben Pineda, Sandy Dimas, Alan Murphy, John C. Smith, Joey Gianforte, Nanette B. Connelly, Rebecca Stout, Nicholas Dzierzanowski, and Matt Fuesting present. Alderman Lori J. Chassee was absent.

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

Also in attendance were City Attorney Patrick K. Bond, Chief of Police Donald Goncher, City Administrator Michael L. Guttman, and Community Development Director Joanne Kalchbrenner. From the Police Department were Sergeants Bill Hall, Steve Laub, and Officer Dan Herbert.

5. Public Participation.

a. West Chicago Sister Cities Participation. The Mayor called upon Don Smith, President of the West Chicago Sister Cities Organization, who presented to the City, a framed print of the Water Castle located in the Sister City, Taufkirchen/Vils, Germany. The print was commissioned for the Tenth Anniversary of the partnership. The Mayor accepted the print and said he will ask staff to display it next to the Sister City shadow box in City Hall so everyone who comes into City Hall can see it. The Mayor thanked Mr. Smith and the Sister Cities organization for their continued support of West Chicago and their support of Taufkirchen/Vils.

The following persons spoke during regular public participation:

- 1) Bill Haggerty, Haggerty Ford, 330 E. Roosevelt Road, West Chicago, spoke on his request for a sign variance for his business. He said it is very important to have the appropriate signage. He said they are good neighbors and cited the use of their cars in the high school Homecoming and Railroad Days Parades, and in surveillance work for the Police Department.
- 2) Diane Ferguson, 30W276 Pomeroy Street, West Chicago, expressed her appreciation at being able to speak. She was told that the Council would have a copy of a resolution, but the Mayor said it would be at the February 1, 2010, meeting. Ms. Ferguson also was concerned about the recapture agreement for Habitat for Humanity, which required the residents in her area to pay their share of over \$5,800. If they do not hook up immediately, the cost will increase each year. The total hook-up for their area would only be \$49,000. Ms. Ferguson felt since they had been told on February 17, 2009, that they would not be annexed if they did not wish to be, but are now being forcibly annexed, that the City should become creative and find some monetary help for them, perhaps from the Kerr-McGee Public Benefit Fund. She said she would like this Council to help the people being affected rather than letting them feel like victims. The Mayor assured Ms. Ferguson that all her questions would be answered at the February 1, 2010, City Council meeting.

6. Correspondence and Announcements.

Alderman Pineda announced that the Bowling for Diabetes fundraiser would be held on Friday, February 26, 2010, from 9:00 pm to closing at Bowling Green. He said this fundraiser was started several years ago with local residents Len and Willine Mahony, and has raised closed to \$50,000.00. In the past they worked with the American Diabetes Association, but have switched to the Juvenile Diabetes Association. The cost is \$20.00 per person and will include shoes, unlimited bowling, pizza, and entertainment from Danny Campos. Anyone wishing to attend should contact Alderman Pineda. Alderman Pineda also noted that in the past, the Sons of the American Legion have helped out. The Mayor said the event is a lot of fun.

City Clerk Smith announced that the West Chicago Sister Cities would be hosting a movie night at 7:00 pm this Friday at City Hall. The movie is "*Go for Zucker.*" Everyone is invited, and there is no charge.

City Clerk Smith also announced that the West Chicago City Museum has "*Historic West Chicago*" calendars available for sale at \$10 (\$8 for Friends members) at City Hall and at the

Museum. The *Tastee Freez* ornament was so popular that it sold out in two weeks, but another shipment will arrive at the end of February.

Upcoming Meetings. The Mayor announced the following meetings.

- January 19, 2010 Plan Commission/Zoning Board of Appeals (cancelled)
- January 25, 2010 Public Affairs Committee
- January 26, 2010 Historical Preservation Commission
- January 28, 2010 Finance Committee (cancelled)

7. Corporate Disbursement Report. Alderman Connelly made a motion, seconded by Alderman Radkiewicz, to approve the January 18, 2010, Corporate Disbursement Report in the amount of \$ 2,080,456.56. Voting Yea: Aldermen Beifuss, Monroe, James Smith, Radkiewicz, Dimas, John Smith, Gianforte, Connelly, Stout, Dzierzanowski, and Fuesting. Voting Nay: 0. Aldermen Pineda and Murphy abstained. Motion carried.

8. Consent Agenda – Consideration of an Omnibus Vote. At 7:24 pm, Alderman Murphy excused himself from the Council Chambers because his business would be considered in the following matters.

* **Development Committee:** Alderman Pineda read and explained the following items:

A. Resolution 09-R-0116 – A Resolution Authorizing the Mayor and City Clerk to Execute a Certain Downtown Rehabilitation Façade Program Agreement – Murphy Ace Hardware – 319 S. Neltor Boulevard

B. Ordinance 10-O-0033 – An Ordinance Granting Sign Variances for 334-340 S. Neltor Boulevard – Neltor Plaza

C. Ordinance 10-O-0034 – An Ordinance Granting Sign Variances for 319 S. Neltor Boulevard – Murphy’s Ace Hardware

D. Ordinance 10-O-0035 – An Ordinance Granting Sign Variances for 330 E. Roosevelt Road – Haggerty Ford

Alderman Pineda made a motion, seconded by Alderman Gianforte, to adopt the items on the consent agenda. Voting Yea: Aldermen Beifuss, Monroe, James Smith, Radkiewicz, Pineda, Dimas, John Smith, Gianforte, Connelly, Stout, Dzierzanowski, and Fuesting. Voting Nay: 0. Motion carried.

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

E. Resolution 10-R-0001 – A Resolution Authorizing the Acceptance of the Public Improvements for the Development Known as Fox Valley Volkswagen – 560 W. North Avenue

F. Resolution 10-R-0002 – A Resolution Authorizing the Mayor to Execute a Contract Amendment No. 2 / Second Extension to the Well No. 7 Generator Project – Broadway Electric, Inc.

Alderman Dzierzanowski made a motion, seconded by Alderman Fuesting, to adopt the items on the consent agenda. Voting Yea: Aldermen Beifuss, Monroe, James Smith, Radkiewicz, Pineda, Dimas, John Smith, Gianforte, Connelly, Stout, Dzierzanowski, and Fuesting. Voting Nay: 0. Motion carried.

* **Public Affairs Committee:** No report

* **Finance Committee:** No report

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

G. Approve – City Council Meeting Minutes of January 4, 2010

H. Resolution 10-R-0004 – A Resolution Authorizing the Mayor to Accept an Easement for Public Utilities and Drainage – North Industrial Park

I. Resolution 10-R-0005 – A Resolution Accepting a Sanitary Sewer Service Hold Harmless Agreement for 1400 South Neltor

J. Approve – The Appointment of P. J. Fisher to the Cultural Arts Commission for a Term Ending April 2014

K. Approve – The Appointment of Janet Gilleland to the Cultural Arts Commission for a Term Ending April 2014

L. Approve – The Appointment of Steve M. Timbrook to the Environmental Commission for a Term Ending April 2012

M. Approve – The Appointment of Robert A. Blaus to the Environmental Commission for a Term Ending April 2013

Alderman Dimas made a motion, seconded by Alderman Beifuss, to adopt those items on the consent agenda. Voting Yea: Aldermen Beifuss, Monroe, James Smith, Radkiewicz, Pineda, Dimas, John Smith, Gianforte, Connelly, Stout, Dzierzanowski, and Fuesting. Voting Nay: 0. Motion carried.

9. Reports by Committees. None

10. Unfinished Business. None

11. New Business. Alderman Dzierzanowski requested that the City investigate allowing the City Council to start teleconferencing into meetings in case someone cannot make it to a meeting. He could not attend an Infrastructure Committee meeting because of weather and could not teleconference because the City does not have rules. The Mayor said he would direct staff to research the matter and send it to the Finance Committee.

The Mayor said the City Council received packets from Beth Hunter, 342 E. York Avenue, West Chicago, about steps that can be taken for reducing sewage flooding. Staff is to analyze the packet and send a report to the Infrastructure Committee. The Hunters will be notified when this is done.

12. Mayor's Comments. The Mayor said as soldiers fight in some foreign land to protect the rights of others, we can look back to the days of the good Reverend King who championed the rights of Americans. In a generation of so many things that are taken for granted, it was only a few years ago that people were judged by the color of their skin. The rights of others were challenged and people let hatred guide their actions. Hatred never could settle anything and violence is a weak excuse to get one's point across.

We as Americans must learn to be tolerant and discuss among ourselves solutions and topple roadblocks. We have the right to be heard by electing people to carry the banner and if you disagree you also have the right of having someone else carry the same banner.

We live in times when people want to destroy people because of faith, because of power and because of control on how people think. They want to let only a chosen be the spokesman and dictate on how you live and how you want to pursue your life. We as a country have come far and the Mayor prays that other countries around the world have a version of Dr. King, and live by this saying:

“When evil men plot, good men must plan. When evil men shout ugly words of hatred, good men must commit themselves to the glories of love.”

13. Executive Session. At 7:32 pm, Alderman Stout made a motion, seconded by Alderman Monroe, to adjourn into executive session to discuss litigation [5 ILCS 120/2(c)(11)], personnel matters [5 ILCS 120/2(c)(1)], and review of Official Record [5 ILCS 120/2(c)(21)]. Voting Yea: Aldermen Beifuss, Monroe, James Smith, Radkiewicz, Pineda, Dimas, John Smith, Gianforte, Connelly, Stout, Dzierzanowski, and Fuesting. Voting Nay: 0. Motion carried. Minutes for the executive session are filed separately.

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

15. Adjournment. See above.

Respectfully submitted,

Nancy M. Smith
City Clerk