

CITY OF WEST CHICAGO

WHERE HISTORY & PROGRESS MEET

Approved July 22, 2013

MINUTES

PUBLIC AFFAIRS COMMITTEE

June 24, 2013

7:00 P.M.

1. Call to Order, Roll Call, and Establishment of a Quorum.

Chairman Chassee called the meeting to order at 7:00pm. Roll Call found Alderman Earley, Fuesting, Hallett, Edwalds, Meissner and Murphy.

2. Approval of Minutes

A. Public Affairs Committee of May 28, 2013. Alderman Fuesting made a motion, seconded by Alderman Edwalds to approve the minutes of the Public Affairs Committee Meeting with corrections to the names of Alderman Hallett and Earley. Voting Yea: Chairman Chassee, Alderman Earley, Fuesting, Hallett, Edwalds, Meissner and Murphy. Voting Nay: 0. Motion carried.

3. Items for Discussion.

A. Local Assault Weapons Ban

This item was moved in the agenda due to the number of audience members present for the discussion. Chairman Chassee explained that this was on the agenda in response to the State concealed carry legislation that would give municipalities only 10 days to enact an assault weapons ban if desired. In order for staff to be prepared in that eventuality, they needed preliminary direction as to whether or not they should begin researching statute language. The Chairman noted that may communications had been sent via email and that they had been made available to the Alderman. It was further explained that the committee would first make its comments and then any member of the public wishing to speak to this issue would be given the opportunity to do so.

Arguments raised by committee members included infringement on the 2nd amendment, resistance to creating a patchwork approach to weapons ownership creating felons of law abiding citizens as they travel throughout the suburbs, the lack of connectivity to any meaningful crime prevention, the irresponsibility of the state legislature in passing this on to municipalities and resistance to being our community being forced into a

constitutional challenge that should rightfully be taken up at the state level. No member of the committee spoke in favor of an assault weapons ban.

Members of the audience wishing to speak were given the opportunity to do so. The Chairman advised that if they did not want to repeat comments previously made, that each persons name and position either for or against would be included in the minutes.

It was the unanimous direction of the committee that the City of West Chicago is not interested in participating in any attempt to ban "assault weapons" at the municipal level.

Voting Yea: 0. Voting Nay: Chairman Chassee, Alderman Earley, Fuesting, Hallett, Edwalds, Meissner and Murphy. Motion not carried.

4. Public Participation / Presentations.

A. The following people are against the Local Assault Weapon Ban:

Tom Tillman, 323 Harrison, West Chicago
John Banas, 2987 Andrews Drive, West Chicago
Charles Deutsch, 308 East Washington, West Chicago
Colin Hale, 513 Highland Ave, West Chicago
Steve Hale, 513 Highland Ave, West Chicago
Charles Mattingly, 522 Elmwood, West Chicago
William Deau, 1654 Orchard Ct, West Chicago
Stan Motyka, 730 Hillview Ave, West Chicago
Craig A. Hernan, 1N617 Arbor Ave, West Chicago
Michael Losacco, 380 S. Coolidge Ave, West Chicago

B. Mike Konewko, Konewko & Associates, asked for the Committee and the City of West Chicago to reconsider his termination from the city as the Hearing Officer.

5. Items for Consent.

A. Ordinance No. 13-O-0022 – Ordinance Amending Chapter 17, Traffic, Article XVII.

Alderman Earley made a motion, seconded by Alderman Fuesting to direct this item to City Council for approval. Voting Yea: Chairman Chassee, Alderman Earley, Fuesting, Hallett, Edwalds, Meissner and Murphy. Voting Nay: 0. Motion carried.

B. Wheaton Academy – Homecoming Fireworks Display

Alderman Fuesting made a motion, seconded by Alderman Meissner to direct this item to City Council for approval. Voting Yea: Chairman Chassee, Alderman Earley, Fuesting, Hallett, Edwalds, Meissner and Murphy. Voting Nay: 0. Motion carried.

C. St. Mary's Church – Mary Fest

Alderman Fuesting made a motion, seconded by Alderman Edwalds to direct this item to City Council for approval. Voting Yea: Chairman Chassee, Alderman Earley, Fuesting, Hallett, Edwalds, Meissner and Murphy. Voting Nay: 0. Motion carried.

D. Community High School Homecoming Parade

Alderman Murphy made a motion, seconded by Alderman Hallett to direct this item to City Council for approval. Voting Yea: Chairman Chassee, Alderman Earley, Fuesting, Hallett, Edwalds, Meissner and Murphy. Voting Nay: 0. Motion carried.

6. Unfinished Business.

7. New Business.

8. Reports from Staff.

A. Traffic Management Report for May 2013.

B. Chief Perez informed the Committee that the Precious Metals Ordinance will go directly to the City Council Meeting with the revisions of four (4) operating businesses oppose to five (5).

9. Adjournment. Alderman Fuesting made a motion to adjourn, seconded by Alderman Hallett. The motion was approved by voice vote, and the meeting adjourned at approximately 7:30pm.

Respectfully submitted,

Yahaira Bautista
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Administrative Assistant