

CITY OF WEST CHICAGO

WHERE HISTORY & PROGRESS MEET

Approved 7/23/12

MINUTES

PUBLIC AFFAIRS COMMITTEE

June 25, 2012 7:00 P.M.

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

Chairman Chassee called the meeting to order at 7:00P.M. Roll Call found Alderman Connelly, Fuesting, Monroe, and Meissner present. Alderman Monroe, Radkiewicz, and Murphy were not present.

Also in attendance was Chief of Police Laz Perez; Rosemary Mackey, Marketing & Communications Coordinator; Dave Sabathne, Executive Director of the West Chicago Chamber; Robert Flatter, Director of Public Works; Representative David Hoover from Northern Illinois Municipal Electric Collaborative; Tom Perez, Action Pawnners & Jewelers, 206 S. Neltor Ave.

2. Approval of Minutes

A. **Public Affairs Committee of May 29, 2012.** Alderman Connelly made a motion, seconded by Alderman Fuesting to approve the minutes of the Public Affairs Committee Meeting with no changes. Voting Yea: Chairman Chassee, Alderman Connelly, Fuesting, and Meissner. Voting Nay: 0. Motion carried.

3. Public Participation / Presentations

4. Items for Consent

A. St. Mary's Parish Fest

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

B. Ordinance No. 12-O-0020 – Ordinance Amending Chapter 2, Article II, Section 2-45 – Emergency Line of Succession

Amend Chapter 2, Article II, Section 2-45 of the Code of Ordinance to reflect that only those serving in the capacity of alderman are eligible to be considered part of the mayoral emergency line of succession.

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

C. Resolution No. 12-R-0059 – Mayoral Emergency Line of Succession

The City's Emergency Operations Plan and chapter 2. Article II, Section 2-45 of the Code of Ordinance the City is required to have a mayoral emergency line of succession. Resolution No. 07-R-0086 was amended to outline the mayoral emergency line of succession and eliminate the need to appoint specific aldermen to the mayoral emergency line of succession.

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

5. Items for Discussion

A. Conversion of Print Newsletter to Electronic Newsletter

The bi-monthly City newsletter, Window to West Chicago, has prompted staff to consider the cost-cutting of the current production and postage of the newsletter to an electronic newsletter. A digital format would open the possibility of greater coverage of issues of interest. For those who may not have access to the internet, copies printed in-house would be available at public locations including City Hall and the library.

Committee recommended promoting the E-Newsletter on the next printed newsletters informing the residents that an electronic replacement will be delivered via email and uploaded to the city website starting the new year.

B. Ordinance No. 12-O-0007 – Licensing of Pawnbrokers and Precious Metals Dealers

At the May Public Affairs Meeting, staff was directed to add language to the proposed ordinance. Chairman Chassee and Chief Perez

reviewed all public suggestions and presented the revisions with Staff for any necessary feedback.

Staff recommended sending this ordinance to City Council with amendments for approval.

C. Municipal Aggregation – Northern Illinois Municipal Electric Collaborative (NIMEC)

Representative David Hoover of Northern Illinois Municipal Electric Collaborative provided a brief presentation on municipal aggregation, listing of NIMEC members, and savings by NIMEC members with municipal aggregation. The City has used NIMEC for the past several years for the City's large pumping stations (wells, lift station, water treatment plant, and wastewater treatment plant).

Municipal aggregation is the easiest, and safest method for a municipality to reduce residents Commonwealth Edison bills. This allows local governments to bundle residential and small commercial retail electric accounts and seek for a lower cost of power. All eligible residents and small businesses are automatically enrolled, however for those who don't want to participate can opt out of the program without being penalized. This aggregation program can only be implemented when the voters approve a referendum in a primary or general election. So the City of West Chicago would have to pass an ordinance by August 20 to place the referendum on the upcoming November 2012 ballot.

Staffs direction was to proceed on Municipal Aggregation of electric service and authorization to use NIMEC.

6. Unfinished Business

None.

7. New Business

None.

8. Reports from Staff

A. Traffic Management Report for Ma y 2012

B. Railroad Days Update

Dave Sabathne updated the committee that they continue to work on resolving a few outstanding issues before the event. The Chamber is working with the City, Police Department, and Fire Department in making sure all certificates and licenses are issued and backgrounds are complete.

9. Adjournment. Alderman Fuesting made a motion to adjourn, seconded by Alderman Meissner. The motion was approved by voice vote, and the meeting adjourned at approximately 7:59P.M.

Respectfully submitted,

Yahaira Bautista

Yahaira Bautista
Administrative Assistant