

CITY OF WEST CHICAGO

WHERE HISTORY & PROGRESS MEET

Approved 8/30/10

MINUTES

PUBLIC AFFAIRS COMMITTEE

July 26, 2010, 7:00 P.M.

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

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

Also in attendance were Deputy Chief Laz Perez, Rosemary Mackey, Coordinator of Marketing and Communications, Luann Bombard, Director of Museum and Cultural Services, David Sabathne, Executive Director of the West Chicago Chamber, Attorney Keith Letshe, Bond, Dickson & Associates, Alderman Nick Dzierzanowski and Alderman James Beifuss.

2. Approval of Minutes

A. **Public Affairs Committee of June 28, 2010.** Alderman Murphy made a motion, seconded by Alderman Connelly to approve the minutes of the Public Safety Committee Meeting of June 28, 2010 with no changes. Voting Yea: Chairman Chassee, Alderman Connelly, Monroe, Radkiewicz, Smith and Murphy. Voting Nay: 0. Motion carried.

3. Public Participation / Presentations

None.

4. Items for Consent

A. Rejuvenation Award for 413 Joliet Street

Alderman Connelly made a motion, seconded by Alderman Monroe to approve and direct this item to City Council. Voting Yea: Chairman Chassee, Alderman Connelly, Monroe, Radkiewicz, Smith and Murphy. Voting Nay: 0. Motion carried.

B. St. Mary's Festival

Alderman Connelly made a motion, seconded by Alderman Radkiewicz to approve and direct this item to City Council. Voting Yea: Chairman Chassee, Alderman Connelly, Monroe, Radkiewicz, Smith and Murphy. Voting Nay: 0. Motion carried.

C. Community High School District 94 Homecoming Parade

Alderman Murphy made a motion, seconded by Alderman Smith to approve and direct this item to City Council. Voting Yea: Chairman Chassee, Alderman Connelly, Monroe, Radkiewicz, Smith and Murphy. Voting Nay: 0. Motion carried.

D. Wheaton Academy Fireworks

Alderman Murphy made a motion, seconded by Alderman Radkiewicz to approve and direct this item to City Council. Voting Yea: Chairman Chassee, Alderman Connelly, Monroe, Radkiewicz, Smith and Murphy. Voting Nay: 0. Motion carried.

E. Frosty Fest

Alderman Connelly made a motion, seconded by Alderman Smith to approve and direct this item to City Council. Voting Yea: Chairman Chassee, Alderman Connelly, Monroe, Radkiewicz, Smith and Murphy. Voting Nay: 0. Motion carried.

F. Ordinance 10-O-0070 Amending Chapter 10, of Municipal Code of the City of West Chicago, to add Article VIII, Unwanted Periodicals

The City has received complaints from residents regarding foreign-language newspapers which they neither subscribe to nor are able to read. The residents do not want unsolicited newspapers and periodicals thrown on their lawns and or driveways.

Attorney Keith Letshe explained the ordinance to the committee that the city can regulate the distribution of unwanted newspapers and or periodicals; however the homeowner will have to display their desire to receive all or certain newspapers or periodicals. They will have to indicate the desired language as well. Homeowners will also have to submit to the City their names, address and type of sign they want to display on their premises. Then the City will compile a list of addresses of all protected residences and the kind of restriction on periodical delivery and this list will become available to all persons interested. Violation to this ordinance will result in a fine.

Alderman Smith suggested the wording for Section 10-59 (1) (a) should possibly be changed to indicate to position the sign where the homeowner usually gets their periodicals.

Chairman Chassee asked if these periodicals that are known by name and publisher be notified about this ordinance. Attorney Keith Letche explained that it was up to the City's discretion if they wanted to notify the publishers since any ordinance is a public notification.

Alderman Murphy is against this ordinance and finds it to be very restrictive.

Alderman Beifuss questioned where in the DuPage County, state or country is there an ordinance similar to this and are there any communities that have this ordinance in place and what have been there outcome? Attorney Letshe referred to a picketing case from Brookfield, Wisconsin that is similar to this ordinance.

Chairman Chassee addressed the issue of the sign and how it will be displayed as far as the language, size or possibly use a symbol to identify the unwanted periodicals. Homeowners do not have to participate however those that do will have to display their sign and add themselves to the list generated by the city.

Alderman Smith made a motion, seconded by Alderman Radkiewicz to approve and direct this item to City Council with the pending changes to Section 10-59 (b). Voting Yea: Chairman Chassee, Alderman Connelly, Monroe, Radkiewicz and Smith. Voting Nay: Alderman Murphy. Motion carried.

G. Ordinance 10-O-0071 Amending and Restating Chapter 9, Article VI of Municipal Code of the City of West Chicago, Solicitors, advertising material on residential premises.

Alderman Smith made a motion, seconded by Alderman Radkiewicz to approve and direct this item to City Council. Voting Yea: Chairman Chassee, Alderman Connelly, Monroe, Radkiewicz and Smith. Voting Nay: Alderman Murphy. Motion carried.

5. Items for Discussion.

A. Community Gardens. Chairman Chassee explained that based on research done, programs on Community Gardening are usually done by Garden Clubs or Park Recreational Departments and are not necessarily City run programs. So upon this review, Chairman Chassee informed the committee that Community Gardening needs to have an entity that would sponsor and run this type of program.

Alderman Murphy added that several years ago the Park District offered Community Gardening but fell apart over time because of the lack of interest from people.

B. Narrow banding and Radio Operability. Deputy Chief Perez presented the two factors driving the Emergency Telephone System Board of DuPage County

(ETSB) radio interoperability project. The first is the Federal Communications Commission's mandate for all non-federal public safety agencies to "narrowband" by January 1, 2013. The second is the identified need for interoperable communications between public safety agencies.

The action that is being asked from the Public Affairs Committee is to (1) submit the Intergovernmental Agreement to the City Council for consideration after DuComm and its attorney have indicated they are comfortable with such; (2) direct the City Administrator to take whatever action is necessary and most efficient.

Staff approved to direct this item to City Council with the recommendations.

6. Unfinished Business.

Chairman Chassee informed the committee that the problem with the street lighting on the western end of Main Street specifically in front of the funeral home where there was a dark patch and made it dangerous will soon be solved. The City will pay Commonwealth Edison to get a light post to brighten the area and increase the light safety.

7. New Business.

None.

8. Reports from Staff.

A. Traffic Management Report by Chief of Police. The Traffic Report for the month of June 2010.

B. 2010 West Chicago Railroad Days Festival Report. Mr. Dave Sabathne informed the committee the event was a great success however the intake was 12% less than last year. There were no incidents at the event and the Canadian Train was a huge success thanks to the police department. The only drawback was the rain that delayed the removal of all the equipment.

9. Adjournment. Alderman Connelly made a motion to adjourn, seconded by Alderman Radkiewicz. The motion was approved by voice vote, and the meeting adjourned at approximately 7:58P.M.

Respectfully submitted,

Yahaira Bautista

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Administrative Assistant