

# CITY OF WEST CHICAGO

WHERE HISTORY & PROGRESS MEET

APPROVED January 22, 2010

## MINUTES

### PUBLIC AFFAIRS COMMITTEE October 28, 2009, 6:00 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, Fuesting, Monroe, Radkiewicz, Smith and Murphy present.

#### 2. Approval of Minutes

A. **Public Safety Committee of September 28, 2009.** Alderman Fuesting made a motion, seconded by Alderman Radkiewicz to approve the minutes of the Public Safety Committee Meeting of September 28, 2009 with no changes. Voting Yea: Chairmen Chassee, Alderman Connelly, Fuesting, Monroe, Radkiewicz, Smith and Murphy. Voting Nay: 0. Motion carried.

#### 3. Public Participation / Presentations.

A. **Video Gaming.** Scott Alley of 101 Bishop expressed his opinion on being against the "gaming proposition."

Carl Knight and family who are residents of West Chicago are against the Video Gaming Act. They believe it will be an extra expense.

Ed Velasquez, small music company owner, handed out information on how this act would be beneficial to his business and to the City of West Chicago. He explained the amount of revenue these machines would bring to the city.

Alderman Nancy Smith explained how she believes this act is well regulated and the VFW should be given a chance in having these machines. She also asked that the committee wait and see what the Illinois regulations will be in the beginning of the year before making a final decision on banning the act.

Bob Blaus, 1234 Gates Street expressed his concern via email to Alderman Connelly saying, "I would encourage the city council to vote to prohibit video gaming in West

Chicago.”...It would most likely be patronized by those who can least afford it and could harm the fine reputation the city has worked hard to build...”

Chairmen Chassee thanked the committee and Chief of Staff for the information provided for the meeting. It was explained that the regulations for video gaming are still not in place however the committee will have three different options. 1) Make a recommendation to council to ban video gaming in the City of West Chicago. 2) Take no action which would cause video gaming to go into effect on January 1, 2010. 3) Differ a final decision pending the Rules and Regulations of the Gaming Commission.

Alderman Radkiewicz favors prohibiting the gaming machines pending the full gaming Rules and Regulations. Alderman Smith agreed with Alderman Radkiewicz who is not in favor of the games but would be agreeable to wait and see what the Rules and Regulations will be. Alderman Monroe, Connelly and Murphy also agreed with the other alderman of not being in favor of the act but will wait to know the rules and regulations of the act.

Alderman Fuesting was not in favor of the Video Gaming Act and he questioned if the committee was to choose option 1) Recommendation to ban video gaming now then why can't the committee take their position now and revisit the issue at a later time.

Alderman Smith agreed with Alderman Fuesting. In his opinion the committee should take the position of not being in favor of video gambling and if the Rules and Regulations come back different in a way that the committee does not agree on then the issue can be revisited.

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

**4. Items for Consent.**

None.

**5. Items for Discussion.**

None.

**6. Unfinished Business.**

None.

7. **New Business.**

None.

8. **Reports from Staff.**

**A. Traffic Management Report by Chief of Police.** Chief of Police Goncher reported the Traffic Report for the month of September 2009.

9. **Adjournment.** Alderman Radkiewicz made a motion to adjourn, seconded by Alderman Fuesting. The motion was approved by voice vote, and the meeting adjourned at approximately 6:19 P.M.

Respectfully submitted,

*Yahaira Bautista*

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Administrative Assistant