

These minutes were approved at the 12/19/11 City Council meeting with no changes.

CITY OF WEST CHICAGO – 475 Main Street

CITY COUNCIL MINUTES

Regular Meeting

December 5, 2011

1. Call to Order. Mayor Michael B. Kwasman called the meeting to order at 7:00 pm.

2. Pledge of Allegiance to the Flag. Boy Scout Troop 33, Glen Arbor Community Church, under the direction of Scout Leader Steve Usedom, presented the colors and led all in the pledge of allegiance.

3. Invocation. The City Clerk gave the invocation.

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, Kurt Meissner, Nanette B. Connelly, Rebecca Stout, Nicholas Dzierzanowski, and Matt Fuesting present. Alderman Lori J. Chassee was absent. The Mayor announced a quorum.

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 Laz Perez, City Administrator Michael L. Guttman, Marketing and Communications Coordinator Rosemary Mackey, and Assistant to Marketing and Communications Krista Coltrin.

5. Public Participation. The following people spoke during Public Participation:

Dirk Enger, DuPage County Representative for District 6, provided an update on the vote to close the DuPage County Youth Center and send the youths to Kane County. He said this is not completely settled as Kane County must approve the agreement. He handed out copies of the agreement. He spoke of the costs being “kicked down the road” to the municipalities. He thanked Chief Perez for obtaining back up information on what it will cost each municipality in DuPage County. Representative Enger said he was very proud of having the highest attendance of any board member. He was the only one that voted “no” on the budget because of the Youth Center transfer provision. He wished all a Merry Christmas and a Happy New Year. He said he is so proud to represent a municipality such as West Chicago. The Mayor thanked him for a job well done.

A. Honoring Chuck Scheckel. The Mayor said no matter what is asked of him, Chuck Scheckel will volunteer. For the 9/11 observance, he repaired the bells of St. Mary’s so that they could chime. Chuck Scheckel has been a good friend of the City of West Chicago and to him. He said Chuck was in the Navy in the Pacific during World War II. The Mayor was honored to speak to his shipmates about a year ago. The Mayor said World War II and veterans must never be forgotten: the stories must be told. The Mayor said Chuck gave him a newspaper from WWII as he knew of his interests in veterans’ organizations. The Mayor made a vow that as long as he was Mayor there would be close ties to the veterans’ organizations. The Mayor called Chuck up to the podium, and presented him with the framed newspaper. He said he read it and staff read it, and they wanted it to hang in one of the halls of heroes: either the American Legion or the VFW, there to live in Chuck’s honor and those on the USS Indianapolis and those that brought them back. The Mayor said **4 the People** funded the framing of the newspaper and Don Early read the dedication to Chuck. There was a standing ovation. Mr. Scheckel said when this newspaper was first printed it cost four cents. He picked this up at Pearl Harbor when they dedicated the USS Missouri where they signed the treaty ending the war. He said he was in Tokyo Bay when the peace treaty was signed on the Missouri. He recently went on a cruise in Mexico. He stood outside and saw the moon on the water and thought, “Here I am riding on top of the biggest cemetery in the world. They don’t have a tombstone. They have eternity.”

B. Brilliance in Business Awards Presentation. The Mayor said honoring the business community is actually honoring the backbone of West Chicago; the people are the heart, but the backbone holds us together. It is a simple way to say thank you. Marketing Coordinator Mackey showed a video of this year’s Brilliance in Business awardees. The Mayor then went to the podium and passed out the awards as follows:

1) Green Initiatives Award – Siemens Industry, Inc., for manufacturing its SINVERT solar inverters which are being shipped to solar projects across the country, allowing the power of the sun to be harnessed. The Siemens representative said they added 100 jobs.

2) Community Service Award – Sleep Innovations, Inc. for donating 100 queen-size memory foam mattresses and pillows to the victims of the July 11, 2011, fire in the Aspen Apartment complex in West Chicago. The Sleep Innovations representative said they would do this again if needed.

3) Community Image Award – Kramer Tree Specialists, for its continuing growth and for being an internationally recognized leader in the arboricultural industry. The International Society of Arboriculture selected Kramer Tree Specialists from all the greater Chicago area tree care companies as the host company for its 2010 international conference tour. Mr. Kramer said they have been in West Chicago for 25 years and enjoyed all of it and West Chicago is a great community.

4) Small Business of the Year Award – Main Street Family Dentistry. This business demonstrates the staying power of a successful quality care business. They also continue to be very involved in charitable and community events. Dr. Smith thanked the Mayor and introduced some of his staff who were in attendance.

5) Outstanding Not-for-Profit Award – to Deicke Scout Shop, operated by the Boy Scouts of America Three Fires Council, providing all the resources necessary for scouting and information and activities of the Three Fires Council. The Deicke Scout Shop representative thanked the Mayor.

6) Economic Development Award – Western DuPage Chamber of Commerce for its services to businesses in Warrenville and West Chicago through networking events, training grants, legislative advocacy, and more. The Mayor said under Dave Sabathne's leadership, the Chamber has continued to grow. He said they are a backbone and a friend. Mr. Sabathne said they are a not-for-profit organization, but he was pleased they won under the Economic Development category. Mr. Sabathne introduced members of the Board.

The Mayor thanked the City staff for a tremendous job well done.

C. Proclamation: Drunk and Drugged Driving Prevention Month. At the Mayor's request, the City Clerk read Proclamation #19, in which the Mayor proclaimed December 2011 as Drunk and Drugged Driving (3D) Prevention Month in West Chicago, and called upon everyone to support programs and policies to reduce the incidence of impaired driving, and to promote safer and healthier behaviors regarding the use of alcohol and other drugs this December holiday season and throughout the year.

6. Correspondence and Announcements

Alderman Pineda said they had a sewer main break in his neighborhood just before Thanksgiving and then a water main break. He thanked Public Works employees Steve Wilson, Bill Domzalski, and Mike Mittman who worked to 4:00 am to repair the sewer main break. He also thanked those who worked on the water main break: Steve Wilson, Bill Farrelly, Don Gates, and Rick Clavey. He thought they all did a tremendous job.

City Clerk Smith invited everyone to the Holiday Party for the Community to be held this Saturday at the VFW Hall.

Upcoming Meetings

December 6, 2011	Plan Commission/Zoning Board of Appeals
December 12, 2011	Development Committee

7. Corporate Disbursement Report. Alderman Connelly made a motion, seconded by Alderman Radkiewicz, to approve the December 5, 2011, Corporate Disbursement Report in the amount of \$ 774,261.55. Voting Yea: Aldermen Beifuss, Monroe, James Smith, Radkiewicz, Dimas, John Smith, Meissner, Connelly, Stout, Dzierzanowski, and Fuesting. Voting Nay: 0. Aldermen Pineda and Murphy abstained. Motion carried.

8. Consent Agenda – Consideration of an Omnibus Vote.

* **Development Committee:** No report

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

A. Approve – Change Order No. 1 and Final to the Contract with M&A Cement Works, Inc. (for an amount not to exceed \$1,107.75)

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

* **Public Affairs Committee:** Alderman Monroe read and explained the following item:

B. Ordinance 11-O-0064 – An Ordinance Amending the Code of Ordinances of the City of West Chicago – With Respect to Synthetic Alternative Drugs

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

* **Finance Committee:** City Treasurer Earley said the December 22, 2011, meeting has been rescheduled to December 13, 2011, at 6:00 pm at City Hall.

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

C. Approve – City Council Meeting Minutes of November 21, 2011

D. Resolution 11-R-0132 – A Resolution Accepting a Lease Agreement between the City of West Chicago and Keith Parks – 305 Main Street

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

9. Reports by Committees. None

10. Unfinished Business. None

11. New Business. None

12. Mayor's Comments. The Mayor said a lot was said this evening. He thanked everyone for their participation this evening, as they are what makes West Chicago

13. Executive Session. There was no executive session.

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

15. Adjournment. At 7:38 pm, Alderman Stout made a motion, seconded by Alderman Dimas, to adjourn. Motion was carried by voice vote.

Respectfully submitted,

Nancy M. Smith
City Clerk