

CITY OF WEST CHICAGO - 475 Main Street  
CITY COUNCIL MINUTES  
Regular Meeting  
September 8, 2020

The City Council meeting of September 8, 2020, was held partly remote (via Zoom) and partly in person due to the coronavirus pandemic.

1. **Call to Order.** Mayor Ruben Pineda (in person) called the meeting to order at 7:00 pm. The Mayor said it was determined that in person meetings are not practical and prudent.
2. **Pledge of Allegiance.** Alderman Dimas led all in the pledge of allegiance.
3. **Invocation.** There was no invocation.
4. **Roll Call and Establishment of a Quorum.**

Roll call found Aldermen Lori J. Chassee, James E. Beifuss, Jr., Heather Brown, Jayme Sheahan, Alton Hallett, Michael D. Ferguson, Sandy Dimas, Melissa Birch-Ferguson, Christopher Swiatek, Rebecca Stout, John E. Jakabcsin, and Noreen Ligino-Kubinski present remotely. Alderman Matthew Garling was in person.

Alderman Jeanne Short was absent. The Mayor announced a quorum.

Also in attendance in person were City Administrator Michael Guttman, Chief of Police Mike Uplegger and Deputy Chief of Police Chris Shackelford. City Attorney Bond attended remotely.

City Clerk Nancy M. Smith joined the meeting remotely at 7:11 pm.

**5. Public Participation.**

**A. Proclamation: Move with the Mayor.** The Mayor read his Proclamation supporting the United States Surgeon General's Call to Action to Promote Walking and Walkable Communities. West Chicago supports the efforts of Healthy West Chicago and the National Forum for Heart Disease and Stroke Prevention through the Virtual Move with the Mayor Campaign.

**B. Proclamation: National Rail Safety Week.** The Mayor read his Proclamation in which he proclaimed September 21-27, 2020, as National Rail Safety Week and cited the dangers of grade crossing incidents. The Mayor joins the International Association of Chiefs of Police, National Operation Lifesaver, U.S. Department of Transportation, and all local, state, county, and railroad law enforcement officers in encouraging all citizens to recognize the importance of all aspects of railroad safety.

**6. City Council Meeting Minutes of August 17, 2020.** Alderman Garling made a motion, seconded by Alderman Jakabcsin, to approve the minutes of August 17, 2020, with no changes. Voting Aye: Aldermen Chassee, Beifuss, Brown, Sheahan, Ferguson, Hallett, Dimas, Birch-Ferguson, Swiatek, Garling, Stout, Jakabcsin, and Ligino-Kubinski. Voting Nay: 0. Motion carried.

**7. Corporate Disbursement Report.** Alderman Dimas made a motion, seconded by Alderman Chassee, to approve the September 8, 2020, Corporate Disbursement Report in the amount of \$544,172.89). Voting Aye: Aldermen Chassee, Beifuss, Brown, Sheahan, Hallett, Ferguson, Dimas, Birch-Ferguson, Swiatek, Garling, Stout, Jakabcsin, and Ligino-Kubinski. Voting Nay: 0. Motion carried.

**8. Consent Agenda.**

\* **Infrastructure Committee:** Alderman Beifuss read and explained the following items:

**A. Ordinance 20-O-0018** - An Ordinance Authorizing the Disposal or Sale of Surplus Equipment, Stock Inventory, and/or Personal Property Owned by the City of West Chicago

**B. Resolution 20-R-0046** - A Resolution Authorizing the Mayor to Execute a Contract with Hushion Pavement Maintenance, Inc. for Parking Lot Sealcoating and Striping Services at Various City Owned Facilities During Fiscal Year 2020 (for an amount not to exceed \$42,059.00)

**C. Resolution 20-R-0047** - A Resolution Authorizing the Mayor to Execute a Contract with Heartland Recycling-Aurora CCDD, LLC for Professional Services Related to the 2020 Water Treatment Plant Waste Lime Sludge Removal Project (for an amount not to exceed \$700,000.00)

**D. Resolution 20-R-0049** - A Resolution Authorizing the Mayor to Execute a Contract Agreement with Thomas Engineering Group, LLC for Construction Oversight Services of Public Improvements to be Constructed by Pulte Home Company, LLC for the Trillium Farm Subdivision Development Project (for an amount not to exceed \$109,830.24)

Alderman Beifuss made a motion, seconded by Alderman Garling, to adopt the above items. Voting Aye: Aldermen Chassee, Beifuss, Brown, Sheahan, Hallett, Ferguson, Dimas, Birch-Ferguson, Swiatek, Garling, Stout, Jakabcsin, and Ligino-Kubinski. Voting Nay: 0. Motion carried.

\* **Items Not Sent to Committee.** The Mayor read and explained the following item:

**E. Concur - With the Mayor's Appointment of Stephanie Ross to the Cultural Arts Commission for a Term Ending April 2021**

Alderman Chassee made a motion, seconded by Alderman Ferguson, to concur with the Mayor's appointment of Stephanie Ross to the Cultural Arts Commission for a term ending April 2021. Voting Aye: Aldermen Chassee, Beifuss, Brown, Sheahan, Ferguson, Hallett, Dimas, Birch-Ferguson, Swiatek, Garling, Stout, Jakabcsin, and Ligino-Kubinski. Voting Nay: 0. Motion carried.

**9. Reports by Committee:** None

**10. Unfinished Business:** None

**11. New Business:**

**A. Elected Official Conduct Policy.** The Mayor said several Aldermen wanted to have a discussion on this matter. City Attorney Bond has drafted a policy that can be amended. The Mayor then discussed some of the items in the policy such as being careful of what is put out on social media, and no one should speak outside of the executive session. Contact the Mayor if there are comments regarding the City Administrator and staff. Misinformation can lead to damage and panic. Personal time should be respected for staff and vendors, and contact with the City Attorney can be expensive.

Alderman Chassee said the draft was a good start, and she would like to see some portions fleshed out more. Alderman Hallett said he was 100% behind this policy. Alderman Garling asked how the Mayor voting affects the supermajority. City Attorney Bond explained how the supermajority would work. He further said the Council does not have the authority to remove any member, but the Mayor can remove Committee chairmanships. The Mayor said the policy is important to have and he thanked the Aldermen for looking over it.

**12. Correspondence and Announcements**

**Upcoming Meetings**

September 14, 2020  
September 15, 2020

Development Committee  
Plan Commission/Zoning Board of Appeals

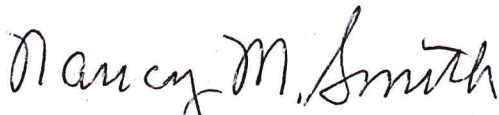
**13. Mayor's Comments:** The Mayor spoke of the great job that Carly Smitherman is doing with Healthy West Chicago in conjunction with the National Forum for Heart Disease and Stroke Prevention through the Virtual Move with the Mayor Campaign. There are four other communities participating in Move with the Mayor, and West Chicago is leading. The Mayor discussed all the activities involved and the prizes awarded. We are now in Week 2.

**14. Executive Session.** There was no executive session.

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

**16. Adjournment.** At 7:41pm. Alderman Chassee made a motion, seconded by Alderman Stout, to adjourn. Voting Aye: Aldermen Chassee, Beifuss, Brown, Sheahan, Ferguson, Hallett, Dimas, Birch-Ferguson, Swiatek, Garling, Stout, Jakabcsin, and Ligino-Kubinski. Voting Nay: 0. Motion carried.

Respectfully submitted,



Nancy M. Smith  
City Clerk