

CITY OF WEST CHICAGO – 475 Main Street  
CITY COUNCIL MINUTES  
Regular Meeting  
October 19, 2020

The City Council meeting of October 19, 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 at this time.
2. **Pledge of Allegiance.** Alderman Hallett 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., Jayme Sheahan, Heather Brown, Alton Hallett, Michael D. Ferguson, Sandy Dimas, Christopher Swiatek, Jeanne Short, Rebecca Stout, John E. Jakabcsin, and Noreen Ligino-Kubinski present remotely. Alderman Matthew Garling was present in person. Alderman Melissa Birch-Ferguson 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 Sean Conway attended remotely.

City Clerk Nancy M. Smith was also in attendance in person.

5. **Public Participation.** There was no public participation.
6. **City Council Meeting Minutes of October 5, 2020.** Alderman Ferguson made a motion, seconded by Alderman Jakabcsin, to approve the minutes of October 5, 2020, with no changes.

Voting Aye: Alderman Chassee, Beifuss, Sheahan, Brown, Ferguson, Hallett, Dimas, Garling, Swiatek, Stout, Jakabcsin, and Ligino-Kubinski. Alderman Short abstained.

7. **Corporate Disbursement Report.** Alderman Dimas made a motion, seconded by Alderman Chassee, to accept the October 19, 2020, Corporate Disbursement Report in the amount of \$791,161.75. Voting Aye: Aldermen Chassee, Beifuss, Sheahan, Brown, Hallett, Ferguson, Dimas, Garling, Swiatek, Sort, Stout, Jakabcsin, and Ligino-Kubinski. Voting Nay: 0. Motion carried.

8. **Consent Agenda.**

\* **Development Committee:** Alderman Stout read and explained the following item:

A. **Ordinance 20-O-0022** – An Ordinance Granting an Extension to Special Use Permits for an Internet Based Motor Vehicle Facility, a Motor Vehicle Care Center, and a Motor Vehicle Repair Shop – 1850 West Roosevelt Road

Alderman Stout made a motion, seconded by Alderman Beifuss, to adopt the above item.

Voting Aye: Aldermen Chassee, Beifuss, Sheahan, Brown, Hallett, Ferguson, Dimas, Garling, Swiatek, Short, Stout, Jakabcsin, and Ligino-Kubinski. Voting Nay: 0. Motion carried.

\* **Finance Committee:** Alderman Dimas read and explained the following item:

B. **Resolution 20-R-0023** – A Resolution Authorizing the Mayor to Adopt the Amended Loss Prevention Policy

Alderman Dimas made a motion, seconded by Alderman Chassee, to approve the above item.

Voting Aye: Alderman Chassee, Beifuss, Sheahan, Brown, Hallett, Ferguson, Dimas, Garling, Swiatek, Short, Stout, Jakabcsin, and Ligino-Kubinski. Voting Nay: 0. Motion carried.

9. **Reports by Committee:** None

10. **Unfinished Business:**

A. **Resolution 20-R-0056** – A Resolution Authorizing the Adoption of an Elected Official Conduct Policy

Alderman Chassee made a motion, seconded by Alderman Ferguson, to approve Resolution 20-R-0056. During discussion, Alderman Beifuss thought the draft was good and said the items



should be common sense. Some items are concerned with ethics and some with vexing/problematic behavior. He had some concerns with language and would like to see this tightened up. Some areas seem intentionally ambiguous. Item E seems to be a sort of catch all and could be tightened up. It seems on its face to prohibit legislative activities. He also thought Items J and K could be tightened up.

City Attorney Conway said as an example for Item E, if there is a zoning matter before the City Council, people will be trying to benefit from talk outside a City Council meeting.

The Mayor asked City Administrator Guttman if he could look at this and see how to clean up the verbiage.

Alderman Jakabcsin asked what the expectation is on verbiage. The document cannot spell out every possibility. Attorney Conway provided one example. Alderman Jakabcsin said he researched other cities. Most are cookie cutter but this one is very specific and better than the ones he has seen. He thought this one was quite thorough. City Administrator Guttman can set some examples, but not every possibility.

Alderman Chassee said she somewhat agrees with the City Administrator and Alderman Jakabcsin. She read Item E as the City Attorney explained it. She would like to see it come back with a statement of the intentions and provide some examples. While we cannot cover every eventuality, some things can be more specific.

Alderman Garling said everything cannot be covered in Item E, and using the example of zoning, no one should be speaking to the community saying, "yes that zoning will pass."

Alderman Jakabcsin said this is a living document and will evolve. It is not set in stone and changes can be made as needed. Alderman Beifuss agreed with the idea of providing some examples of the intent.

Alderman Chassee made a motion, seconded by Alderman Beifuss, to table this item to the next meeting. Voting Aye: Alderman Chassee, Beifuss, Sheahan, Brown, Hallett, Ferguson, Dimas, Garling, Swiatek, Short, Stout, Jakabcsin, and Ligino-Kubinski. Voting Nay: 0. Motion carried.

**11. New Business:** None

## **12. Correspondence and Announcements**

### **Upcoming Meetings**

October 20, 2020	Plan Commission/Zoning Board of Appeals (cancelled)
October 22, 2020	Finance Committee (cancelled)
October 26, 2020	Public Affairs Committee
October 27, 2020	Historical Preservation Commission

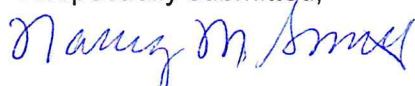
**13. Mayor's Comments.** The Mayor spoke of the spiking numbers of COVID-19 cases in West Chicago, the County, and the nation. The Illinois governor said we could go back a phase if the numbers continue to rise, and so we need to be careful and to think smart. Haggerty Ford has given thousands of masks to the food pantry, the police department, the fire department, and the VFW. The government is not forcing anyone to wear a mask, but it is important. Doctors said wear a mask until something else comes along. The Mayor said the City has been proactive and has put signage all over the community regarding washing hands, wearing a mask, and social distancing. The Mayor said the City is working with other communities to reduce the numbers. Restaurants are only at 25% now, but as winter comes on, they will suffer. He urged the Aldermen to do what they can to get the word out.

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

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

**16. Adjournment.** At 7:26 pm, Alderman Chassee made a motion, seconded by Alderman Stout, to adjourn. Voting Aye: Aldermen Chassee, Beifuss, Sheahan, Brown, Hallett, Ferguson, Dimas, Garling, Swiatek, Short, Stout, Jakabcsin, and Ligino-Kubinski. Voting Nay: 0. Motion carried.

Respectfully submitted,



Nancy M. Smith  
City Clerk