

CITY OF WEST CHICAGO

WHERE HISTORY & PROGRESS MEET

Approved 09/27/2021

MINUTES

PUBLIC AFFAIRS COMMITTEE

Monday, August 30, 2021 7:35 P.M.

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

Chairman Chassee called the meeting to order at 7:35pm. Roll Call found Alderman Brown, Hallett, Swiatek, Short and Jakabcsin.

Alderman Birch Ferguson joined the meeting at 7:37pm.

2. Approval of Minutes.

A. Public Affairs Committee Minutes of July 26, 2021. Alderman Brown made a motion, seconded by Alderman Jakabcsin to approve the minutes of the Public Affairs Committee meeting. Voting Aye: Chairman Chassee, Alderman Brown, Hallett, Birch Ferguson, Swiatek, Short and Jakabcsin. Voting Nay: 0. Motion carried.

3. Public Participation / Presentations.

The following residents of West Chicago have expressed their concerns and opposition against Video Gaming.

Richard Vigsnes
Patrick McCormack
Brendan McCormack
Jim Beifuss
Heidi Kuharich, 140 East Pomeroy Street
Julie Harper, 645 Wildwood Lane

4. Items for Consent.

A. Halloween Festivities - Alderman Brown made a motion, seconded by Alderman Swiatek to direct this item to City Council for approval. Voting Aye: Chairman Chassee, Alderman Brown, Hallett, Birch Ferguson, Swiatek, Short and Jakabcsin. Voting Nay: 0. Motion carried.

5. Items for Discussion.

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Ruben Pineda
MAYOR
Nancy M. Smith
CITY CLERK

Michael L. Guttman
CITY ADMINISTRATOR

6. Unfinished Business.

A. City Museum – City Administrator Michael Guttman explained the contract with Phalen Consulting, Inc. Ms. Sara Phalen did follow up with an explanation of the contract.

Alderman Short suggested a change in hours to have more availability in the evenings and on weekends. Ms. Phalen did mention that she has been looking into extending the weekend hours.

Mr. Guttman mentioned the contract will continue as presented. Ms. Phalen and Tom Dabareiner, Community Development Director, will talk about the extended hours and will report to the Committee.

B. Video Gaming – Chief Fleury gave a report on information obtained from surrounding cities in the Dupage County area on video gaming. Data contains total number of machines, revenue and criminal activities. A survey was conducted with the business in West Chicago that hold liquor licenses and asked if they would be interested in having video gaming in their establishments. Out of the twenty businesses, eleven were interested, two were not, one is out of business due to Covid and the remaining were left messages for a call back with their vote.

The direction of the Committee is to Staff is to take this discussion item to City Council with recommendations. Yes: Chairman Chassee, Alderman Brown, Birch Ferguson, Swiatek and Short. No: Alderman Hallett and Jakabcsin.

7. New Business.

A. The speeding on Sophia Street item was withdrawn from the agenda. The enforcement action taken has satisfied the person who had previously requested the enforcement.

B. Alderman Short asked for additional traffic enforcement on the corner of Bishop and Forest. Chief Fleury will add additional enforcement at the intersection.

8. Reports from Staff.

A. West Chicago Police Department Monthly Report. Chief Fleury will provide the Joliet Street study report.

9. Adjournment. Alderman Hallett made a motion to adjourn, seconded by Alderman Birch Ferguson. The motion was approved by voice vote, and the meeting adjourned at approximately 8:55pm.

Respectfully submitted,

Yahaira Bautista

Administrative Assistant to Chief of Police
West Chicago Police Department