

CITY OF WEST CHICAGO – 475 Main Street  
CITY COUNCIL MINUTES  
Regular Meeting  
September 19, 2022

1. **Call to Order.** Mayor Ruben Pineda called the meeting to order at 7:00 pm.
2. **Pledge of Allegiance.** Alderman Jakabcsin led all in the Pledge of Allegiance.
3. **Roll Call and Establishment of a Quorum.**

Roll call found James E. Beifuss, Jr., Heather Brown, Jayme Sheahan, Melissa Birch Ferguson, Sandy Dimas, Rebecca Stout, Christine Dettmann, Christopher Swiatek, Jeanne Short, John E. Jakabcsin and Joseph C. Morano present. Aldermen Lori Chassee and Alton Hallett were absent. The Mayor announced a quorum.

Alderman Matt Garling arrived at 7:04 p.m.

Also in attendance were City Administrator Michael Guttman, City Attorney Pat Bond, Mehul Patel, Director of Public Works, Mike Noa, Facilities Maintenance and Fleet Superintendent, and Jake Whiteaker, Streets Superintendent.

4. **Public Participation.**

- Mehul Patel introduced Mike Noa, Facilities Management and Vehicle Maintenance Superintendent, and Jake Whiteaker, Streets Superintendent.
- Brianne and Jeff Uecke spoke about the TIF Façade Grant for 104 Main Street.
- Steve Delarusa from Immigrant Solidarity of Wheaton spoke about his concern that the public hearing for the proposed LRS Waste Transfer Station is scheduled during Christmas time.
- Juliette Garcia from Immigrant Solidarity of Wheaton also spoke about the public hearing timing.

5. **City Council Meeting Minutes of August 15, 2022.** Alderman Brown made a motion, seconded by Alderman Swiatek, to approve the minutes of September 6, 2022, with no changes.

Voting Aye by Roll Call Vote: Beifuss, Brown, Birch Ferguson, Dimas, Stout, Sheahan, Jakabcsin, Dettmann, Swiatek, Short and Morano. Alderman Garling abstained. Motion carried.

6. **Corporate Disbursement Report.** Alderman Dimas made a motion, seconded by Alderman Dettmann to approve the September 19, 2022, Corporate Disbursement Report in the amount of \$1,055,137.30.

Voting Aye by Roll Call Vote: Beifuss, Brown, Sheahan, Birch Ferguson, Dimas, Stout, Short, Dettmann, Swiatek, Garling, Jakabcsin and Morano. Motion carried.

7. **Consent Agenda**

**\* Infrastructure Committee:**

**A. Resolution No. 22-R-0047** – A Resolution Authorizing the Mayor to Execute a Contract with Excel Electric, Inc. of Frankfort, Illinois, for the Water Treatment Plant SCADA and VFD Replacement Project (in an amount not to exceed \$850,000.00).

**B. Resolution No. 22-R-0050** – A Resolution Authorizing the Mayor to Execute a Contract Agreement with Schroeder & Schroeder, Inc. of Skokie, Illinois, for the 2022 Sidewalk and Curb Maintenance Program (in an amount not to exceed \$135,000.00).

Alderman Beifuss made a motion, seconded by Alderman Garling, to approve the above items.

Voting Aye by Roll Call Vote: Beifuss, Brown, Sheahan, Birch Ferguson, Dimas, Stout, Short, Dettmann, Swiatek, Garling, Jakabcsin and Morano. Motion carried.

**\* Items Not Sent to Committee:**

**C. Concur** – With the Mayor's Appointment of Alyssa Rodway to the Environmental Commission for a Term Ending April 2025.

**D. Ordinance No. 22-O-0033** – An Ordinance Approving a Special Use Permit for Contractor's Equipment Sales and Leasing with Ancillary Outside Storage – 1219 West Washington Street.

**E. Ordinance No. 22-O-0034** – An Ordinance Granting an Extension for Final Planned Unit Development and Special Use Permit Approval – 511 E Roosevelt Road.

**F. Resolution No. 22-O-0052** – A Resolution Approving Durbas Plat of Consolidation – 181 North Prince Crossing Road.

Alderman Stout made a motion, seconded by Alderman Dimas, to approve the above items.

Voting Aye by Roll Call Vote: Beifuss, Brown, Sheahan, Birch Ferguson, Dimas, Stout, Short, Dettmann, Swiatek, Garling, Jakabcsin and Morano. Motion carried.

**8. Reports by Committees: None**

**9. Unfinished Business:**

A. Ordinance No. 22-O-0031 – An Ordinance Amending the Code of Ordinances of the City of West Chicago to Provide for the Reassignment of the Duties of the City Clerk.

B. Ordinance No. 22-O-0032 – An Ordinance Amending the Code of Ordinances of the City of West Chicago to Reflect the Elimination of the Elected City Clerk.

Alderman Swiatek made a motion, seconded by Alderman Stout to approve the above items.

Voting Aye by Roll Call Vote: Beifuss, Brown, Sheahan, Birch Ferguson, Dimas, Stout, Short, Dettmann, Swiatek, Garling, Jakabcsin and Morano. Motion carried.

**10. New Business:**

Alderman Morano expressed his concerns with portions of the SAFE-T Act, and requested that staff preparing a resolution to express the City's concerns with it for City Council. There were no objections from the Aldermen.

Addressing concerns raised during the Public Participation portion of the agenda, Michael Guttman provided background on the status of the Façade Program and shared that no public hearing date for the proposed waste transfer station has been set, and it will likely occur in the first couple of weeks of January 2023, to comply with the State requirement that the hearing be completed between 90 and 120 days from the date the formal application is filed.

**11. Correspondence and Announcements**

**Upcoming Meetings**

September 20, 2022	Plan Commission/ZBA
September 22, 2022	Finance Committee (cancelled)
September 26, 2022	Public Affairs Committee
September 27, 2022	Historical Preservation Commission

Alderman Dettmann mentioned the Winfield Township Recycling Extravaganza.

**12. Mayor's Comments.** Mayor Pineda mentioned that his mother-in-law passed away on Saturday at 96 years old. He said she was a wonderful woman and that he will miss her tremendously.

**13. Executive Session.** None.

**14. Items to be Referred for final Action from Executive Session.** None.

**15. Adjournment.** At 7:43 pm, Alderman Stout made a motion, seconded by Alderman Beifuss, to adjourn. All Aldermen voted aye by Voice Vote.

Respectfully submitted,

Michael Guttman  
City Administrator

## Mayor's Statement on Siting Process

The City would like all of the residents to understand its role in the siting proceedings for a new transfer station in the City of West Chicago. Once an application is filed with the City, at least one public hearing to allow evidence, testimony and public comments on the nine criteria that must be satisfied to receive siting approval must be held. Under the Illinois Environmental Protection Act, the ultimate responsibility for acting on the application is vested with the City Council. As such, the City Council and its members serve like judges and determine whether the nine criteria under the Act have been met. No City Council member can pre-judge a siting application and under the law the City cannot simply say no to the transfer station. The process under the Illinois Environmental Act MUST be followed.

As the City moves forward with this process, please remember that it is imperative that issues of fundamental fairness are kept in mind. As such, state law prevents City Council members from engaging in any substantive conversation concerning the merits of an application or making any comments about the application until it has rendered its formal decision.

We appreciate everyone's understanding of the City's role in this state mandated process.