

These minutes were approved at the 12/18/23 City Council meeting with no changes.

CITY OF WEST CHICAGO – 475 Main Street
CITY COUNCIL MINUTES
Regular Meeting
December 4, 2023

1. Call to Order. Mayor Ruben Pineda called the meeting to order at 7:00 p.m. on December 4, 2023.

2. Pledge of Allegiance. Alderman Short led all in the Pledge of Allegiance.

3. Roll Call and Establishment of a Quorum.

Roll call found Dan Beebe, Sandy Dimas, Rebecca Stout, Melissa Birch Ferguson, Heather Brown, Alton Hallett, Jayme Sheahan, Christine Dettmann, Christopher Swiatek, Jeanne Short and John Smith, Jr. were present. Aldermen Lori Chassee and Joseph C. Morano were absent.

Also in attendance were City Administrator Michael Guttman, Assistant City Administrator Tia Messino, Public Works Director Mehul Patel, Finance Director Nikki Giles, Assistant Finance Director Diana Soltess, Community Development Director Tom Dabareiner and City Attorney Pat Bond.

4. Public Participation.

The following persons spoke in favor of Dan and Jody Bovey being able to finish the greenhouse project:

Dan Bovey
Jody Bovey
Emerita Garcia
Julieta Alcantar-Garcia
Steve Strong
Christie Whiteman
Lauren Wolf

The following spoke regarding the recent Main Park Apartments fire and its management:

Janette Hernandez
Emerita Garcia
Julieta Alcantar-Garcia

The following person spoke about the future water rate increases:

Christina V. Cortez

2024 Proposed Budget – Mayor Pineda opened the public hearing. There was no one wishing to speak from the public, therefore Mayor Pineda closed the hearing.

5. City Council Meeting Minutes of November 20, 2023. Alderman Dimas made a motion, seconded by Alderman Swiatek, to approve the minutes of November 20, 2023.

Voting Aye by Roll Call: Beebe, Dimas, Stout, Birch Ferguson, Brown, Hallett, Sheahan, Dettmann, Swiatek, Short and Smith, Jr. Motion carried.

6. Corporate Disbursement Report. Alderman Dimas made a motion, seconded by Alderman Beebe to approve the December 4, 2023, Corporate Disbursement Report in the amount of \$600,701.21.

Voting Aye by Roll Call Vote: Beebe, Dimas, Stout, Birch Ferguson, Brown, Hallett, Sheahan, Dettmann, Swiatek, Short, and Smith, Jr. Motion carried.

7. Consent Agenda:

***Finance Committee:**

A. Ordinance No. 23-O-0041 – An Ordinance Adopting the Annual Budget for the City of West Chicago, DuPage County, Illinois for the Fiscal Year Commencing January 1, 2024 and Ending December 31, 2024.

B. Ordinance No. 23-O-0042 – An Ordinance Levying Taxes on Property Within the Corporate Limits of the City of West Chicago as That Property is Assessed and

Equalized for State and County Purposes for the Fiscal Year Beginning January 1, 2024 and Ending December 31, 2024.

- C. **Ordinance No. 23-O-0043** – An Ordinance for the Levy and Assessment of Taxes for the Fiscal Year Beginning January 1, 2024 in and for the City of West Chicago Special Service Area No. 2.
- D. **Ordinance No. 23-O-0044** – An Ordinance Amending the Code of Ordinances of the City of West Chicago, Appendix C, Article VI, Sections A, B, C of the Personnel Rules Regarding Part-Time Employee Paid Leave.
- E. **Ordinance No. 23-O-0045** – An Ordinance Amending the Code of Ordinances of the City of West Chicago, Appendix C, Article V, Section 7 Amending the Personnel Rules Regarding Paid Leave to Opt Out of the Paid Leave for All Workers Act.
- F. **Resolution No. 23-R-0093** – A Resolution Adopting a Retirement Healthcare Funding Plan.

Items 7.A. and 7.C. were removed from the Consent Agenda and placed under Unfinished Business.

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

Voting Aye by Roll Voice Vote: Beebe, Dimas, Stout, Birch Ferguson, Hallett, Sheahan, Dettmann, Swiatek, Short and Smith, Jr. Alderman Brown abstained. Motion carried.

***Public Affairs Committee:**

- G. **Resolution No. 23-R-0094** – A Resolution Authorizing the Mayor to Enter into a Funding Agreement with the Western DuPage Chamber of Commerce to Support the 2024 Railroad Days Festival.

Alderman Hallett made a motion, seconded by Alderman Short, to approve the above item.

Voting Aye by Roll Voice Vote: Beebe, Dimas, Stout, Birch Ferguson, Brown, Hallett, Sheahan, Dettmann, Swiatek, Short and Smith, Jr. Motion carried.

8. Reports by Committees: None

9. Unfinished Business:

- A. **Ordinance No. 23-O-0041** – An Ordinance Adopting the Annual Budget for the City of West Chicago, DuPage County, Illinois for the Fiscal Year Commencing January 1, 2024 and Ending December 31, 2024.
- B. **Ordinance No. 23-O-0043** – An Ordinance for the Levy and Assessment of Taxes for the Fiscal Year Beginning January 1, 2024 in and for the City of West Chicago Special Service Area No. 2.

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

Alderman Brown raised concerns about the property tax raise and the impact on the residents. Mayor Pineda and Aldermen Dimas, Short, Dettmann, and Hallett spoke in support of the Budget and the need to cover costs.

Voting Aye by Roll Voice Vote: Beebe, Dimas, Stout, Birch Ferguson, Hallett, Sheahan, Dettmann, Swiatek, Short and Smith, Jr. Voting Nay: Alderman Brown. Motion carried.

10. New Business: None

11. Correspondence and Announcements

Upcoming Meetings

December 5, 2023	Plan Commission/ZBA (cancelled)
December 7, 2023	Infrastructure Committee
December 11, 2023	Development Committee
December 18, 2023	Public Affairs Committee

12. Mayor's Comments.

Mayor Pineda spoke about the apartment fire and the quick response from all involved and certain potential upgrades to the City Code with regards to fire prevention.

At 7:17 p.m., Alderman Stout made a motion, seconded by Alderman Dimas to adjourn the meeting. All Aldermen voted aye by Voice Vote.

It was decided that the January 2, 2024 City Council meeting will be held at 7:00 a.m.

Respectfully submitted,
Michael Guttman
City Administrator