

**JOURNAL OF PROCEEDINGS  
CITY COUNCIL REGULAR MEETING  
May 14, 2015**

**CALL TO ORDER**

The regular meeting of the Hickory Hills City Council was called to order by Mayor Mike Howley on Thursday, May 14, 2015, at 7:32 p.m. in the City Hall Council Chambers.

**PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE**

Mayor Howley led the Pledge of Allegiance.

**ROLL CALL**

Upon roll call, the following were present:

Mayor.....M. Howley  
Aldermen .....D. Ferrero  
.....B. Fonte  
.....M. McHugh  
.....T. McAvoy  
.....J. Stachnik (7:40 p.m.)  
.....J. Szeszycki  
.....B. Waight  
.....S. Zimmerman  
City Clerk.....D. Catizone  
City Attorney.....V. Cainkar  
City Treasurer.....D. Schramm  
City Engineer.....M. Spolar  
Police Chief.....A. Vodicka  
Public Works Director.....L. Boettcher  
Building Commissioner.....J. Moirano

There being a quorum present, the meeting was called to order.

The Swearing in Ceremony took place with the following being sworn into office for another term: Hon. Judge Jim Riley administered the Oaths of Office to Mayor Mike Howley, City Clerk Dee Catizone, and Alderman Scott Zimmerman. City Clerk Dee Catizone administered the Oaths of Office to Treasurer Dan Schramm, Alderman Mike McHugh, Alderman John Szeszycki and Alderman Tom McAvoy. Father Joseph Mol gave a blessing to the newly elected officials. Mayor Howley thanked all for attending.

**OPEN TO PUBLIC**

Alderman Stachnik moved to open the meeting to the public. Alderman McAvoy second. Roll call: Aldermen Fonte, Ferrero, McAvoy, McHugh, Stachnik, Szeszycki, Waight, Zimmerman aye. So approved.

Mrs. LuAnnVolanti  
8620 84<sup>th</sup> Court

Mrs. Volanti is at the Council meeting to discuss the apartment buildings on 85<sup>th</sup> Court. She is very concerned about her property value. Mrs. Volanti stated the Police Department is doing a great job keeping her updated but she is concerned about the appearance of these apartment buildings. The grass is not cut and the children are running in the street in the evening. The conditions will attract wrong people to our area. Mrs. Volanti understands the City is trying their best but the problems are still there. She is constantly picking up debris in the street. Mrs. Volanti stated she is speaking for all her neighbors when she voices her concerns.

Mr. Bart Dziabala  
8640 S. 84<sup>th</sup> Court

Mr. Dziabala explained he is also concerned with children playing in the dark near these apartments. He finds it very disturbing to see garbage strewn about every morning.

Mr. Cesar Romero  
8901 S. 83<sup>rd</sup> Court

Mr. Romero thanked the Council for all their service. He is present this evening to invite the community to get involved with each other. He also inquired on the status of the sewer project near his home. City Engineer Mike Spolar explained the City is finalizing the plans for the sewer project in his area. He noted breaking ground will begin in August.

**CLOSE TO THE PUBLIC** Alderman Waight moved to close the meeting to the public. Alderman Ferrero second. Roll call: Aldermen Ferrero, Fonte, McAvoy, McHugh, Stachnik, Szeszycki, Waight, Zimmerman aye. So approved.

**JOURNAL OF  
PROCEEDINGS**

Alderman McHugh moved to approve the minutes of the regularly scheduled meeting of April 23, 2015 as printed subject to deletions or corrections. Alderman Szeszycki corrected his vote on the 2015/2016 appointments as Present not Aye. Alderman Ferrero second. Roll call: Aldermen Fonte, Ferrero, McAvoy, McHugh, Stachnik, Szeszycki, Waight, Zimmerman aye. So approved.

**REPORTS OF CITY  
OFFICIALS**

**MAYOR**

Mayor Howley stated under his report that Treasurer Schramm will present the Radio Operators Agreement and the Non-Union Employee increases.

**Radio Operators  
Agreement**

Treasurer Schramm presented the Radio Operators Agreement for approval. He distributed a summary and the agreement to the Council. This was covered and discussed at the last budget meeting. The Radio Operators have approved this Agreement. Alderman McAvoy moved to approve the Radio Operators Agreement dated May 1, 2015 through April 30, 2019. Alderman Ferrero second. Roll call: Aldermen Ferrero, Fonte, McAvoy, McHugh, Stachnik, Szeszycki, Waight, Zimmerman aye. So approved.

**Non-Union Employee  
Increases**

Treasurer Schramm presented the summary of the Non-Union Employee increases. He noted these were previously discussed in length at the budget meeting. Alderman McHugh moved to approve the Non-Union Employee increases as of May 1, 2015. Alderman Zimmerman second. Roll call: Aldermen Ferrero, Fonte, McAvoy, McHugh, Stachnik, Szeszycki, Waight, Zimmerman aye. So approved.

**Golf Outing Fundraiser**

Mayor Howley announced his Charity Golf Outing will be held on June 6<sup>th</sup> at Water's Edge. All proceeds will support the Helping Hand Center's Program for persons with disabilities.

**CITY CLERK**

Clerk Catizone informed the Council the deadline for the summer newsletter is May 29<sup>th</sup>.

Clerk Catizone reported Boxing for the Troops will be held on Tuesday, May 19<sup>th</sup> at the Community Center.

Clerk Catizone thanked the Clerk's Office staff for helping with this evenings swearing in ceremony. She also thanked her family for their continued support.

**CITY TREASURER**

Treasurer Schramm presented the Treasurer's Report dated April 30, 2015 for approval. Alderman McHugh moved to approve the Treasurer's Report for period ending April 30, 2015. Alderman Szeszycki second. Roll call: Aldermen Ferrero, Fonte, McAvoy, McHugh, Stachnik, Szeszycki, Waight, Zimmerman aye. So approved.

**Budget 2015**

Treasurer Schramm distributed a summary of the actual 2014/2015 budget update. He noted the good news is that the City did not need the Utility Tax Fund to transfer the full \$480,000.00 budgeted to the General Fund for operating expenses. (Utility Tax Fund transferred only \$250,000.00 to the General Fund for operating expense deficit). He thanked the department heads for coming in under budget and it was a good performing year.

**Illinois Dept. of Revenue Agreement**

Treasurer Schramm reported the City will enter into a reciprocal agreement with the Illinois Department of Revenue to obtain sales tax information.

**CITY ATTORNEY**

No report submitted.

**CITY ENGINEER**

No report submitted.

**COMMUNICATIONS  
BILLS PAYABLE**

Alderman Szeszycki moved to approve the bills payable for the first half of May 2015 in the amount of \$423,933.22. Alderman McHugh second. Roll call: Aldermen Ferrero, Fonte, McAvoy, McHugh, Stachnik, Szeszycki, Waight, Zimmerman aye. So approved.

**STANDING  
COMMITTEES**

Szeszycki/Finance

Alderman Szeszycki presented the 2015/2016 Budget for approval. He distributed a summary along with the budget packet. Alderman McHugh moved to approve the 2015/2016 Budget. Alderman Ferrero second.

Roll call: Aldermen Ferrero, Fonte, McAvoy, McHugh, Stachnik, Szeszycki, Waight, Zimmerman aye. So approved.

Stachnik/Public Safety Chief Vodicka noted Peace Officer Memorial Day is Friday, May 15<sup>th</sup>. He asked that you keep fallen officers in your prayers.

Zimmerman/Public Works Mr. Boettcher reported current fiber optic's engineering firm has claimed that there is no easement for the North Cell tower to the west City Hall property Line. Public Works is recommending the City Council approve a 10 foot utility easement along the north property line. Alderman Zimmerman moved to approve a 10 foot utility easement at City Hall along the north property line. Alderman Ferrero second. Roll call: Aldermen Ferrero, Fonte, McAvoy, McHugh, Stachnik, Szeszycki, Waight, Zimmerman aye. So approved.

Mr. Boettcher noted the street repaving program will begin next week on Christina Drive and Ash Lane.

McHugh/ Bldg./Facilities Alderman McHugh thanked his wife for attending the meeting to celebrate his swearing in this evening.

Alderman McHugh reported the Street Fair plans are progressing.

Waight/Laws & Ordinances Alderman Waight presented one business certificate application: 1) Rainbow International located at 9909 S. 78<sup>th</sup> Avenue. This is a restoration company. No objections were noted.

Fonte/ Health & Environmental Control No report submitted.

Ferrero/Community Affairs/Youth Advisory No report submitted.

McAvoy/Chamber Business Development Alderman McAvoy reported the Chamber of Commerce has a meeting on May 13<sup>th</sup> with the Hickory Police and Palos Police presenting a program.

Alderman McAvoy thanked his Chief of Staff, Erin, for all of her support.

**UNFINISHED  
BUSINESS**

None.

**NEW BUSINESS**

None.

**ADJOURNMENT**

Alderman Ferrero moved to adjourn the meeting until the next regularly scheduled or specially called meeting. Alderman Waight second. Roll call: Aldermen Fonte, Ferrero, McAvoy, McHugh, Stachnik, Szeszycki, Waight, Zimmerman aye. So approved.

Meeting adjourned at 8:14 p.m.