

**JOURNAL OF PROCEEDINGS
OF THE
MEETING, FEBRUARY 25, 2014**

CALL TO ORDER

The regular meeting of the City Council of the City of Blue Island was called to order by Mayor Vargas at 7:00 p.m. on February 25, 2014.

PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE

ROLL CALL

Roll Call indicates the following:

Present: 11 Bilotto, Donahue, Stone, Carr,
Ostling, Pittman, Frausto, Thompson,
Johanson, Hawley, Vieyra

Absent: 3 Rita, Johnson, Buckner

Present Also: Randy Heuser, City Clerk
Patrick Ward, City Attorney
Carmine Bilotto, City Treasurer

JOURNAL OF PROCEEDING

Moved by Ald. Stone, second by Ald. Donahue the Journal of Proceedings of the Regular Meeting on February 11, 2014 is accepted as printed.

Ayes: 11 Bilotto, Donahue, Stone, Carr,
Ostling, Pittman, Frausto, Thompson,
Johanson, Hawley, Vieyra

Nays: 0

Absent: 3 Rita, Johnson, Buckner

Abstain: 0

There being Eleven (11) Affirmative Votes, the Mayor declared the motion carried.

CITIZENS WISHING TO ADDRESS THE COUNCIL
REGARDING THIS EVENINGS BUSINESS

Kevin Yates of 1520 Broadway St informed the council that a letter writing campaign was initiated per the Mayor's advice last council meeting. They have written to Ann Schneider (Secretary of IDOT), Congressman Bobby Rush, and State Representative Bob Rita. He asked if there was anything else residents could do to continue their efforts to get funding from state or federal to repair the bridges that are currently closed.

REPORT OF CITY OFFICIALS

MAYOR:

The Mayor spoke of some positive things going on in the City of Blue Island. He followed up on Blue Island winning WBEZ's Curious City contest regarding how the city resisted Chicago's annexation attempt. He spoke of what a success Black Culture Night was and invited everyone to check out the Museum in Robbins.

BIDS:

No Bids.

CITY CLERK:

Motion by Ald. Pittman, second by Ald. Bilotto to approve a request from the Blue Island Little League for their annual Opening Day Parade on Saturday, April 26, 2014 starting at 12:00 p.m.

Ayes: 11 Bilotto, Donahue, Stone, Carr,
Ostling, Pittman, Frausto, Thompson,
Johanson, Hawley, Vieyra

Nays: 0

Absent: 3 Rita, Johnson, Buckner

Abstain: 0

There being Eleven (11) Affirmative Votes, the Mayor declared the motion carried.

Motion by Ald. Frausto, second by Ald. Vieyra to approve a request from the Library to close the city parking lot east of

and adjacent to the Library all day on Saturday, April 19, 2014 for an outdoor civic event for Library Week.

On the question: Ald. Stone asked if they had specified hours?

Clerk Heuser answered that they had not specified hours in their letter.

Ayes: 11 Bilotto, Donahue, Stone, Carr,
Ostling, Pittman, Frausto, Thompson,
Johanson, Hawley, Vieyra

Nays: 0

Absent: 3 Rita, Johnson, Buckner

Abstain: 0

There being Eleven (11) Affirmative Votes, the Mayor declared the motion carried.

CITY TREASURER:

Treasurer Bilotto commended Finance Director Matt Anastasia for his work on maintaining the budget.

He also stated that he will have a report on a JAWA update for next meeting.

CITY ATTORNEY:

ORDINANCE. 2014-009

AN ORDINANCE AUTHORIZING EXECUTION AND PROVIDING FOR TERMS OF A CONTRACT FOR EMS BILLING SERVICES.

Motion by Ald. Hawley, second by Ald. Ostling to adopt.

Ayes: 11 Bilotto, Donahue, Stone, Carr,
Ostling, Pittman, Frausto, Thompson,
Johanson, Hawley, Vieyra

Nays: 0

Absent: 3 Rita, Johnson, Buckner

Abstain: 0

There being Eleven (11) Affirmative Votes, the Mayor declared the motion carried.

RESOLUTION. 2014-012

A RESOLUTION AUTHORIZING EXECUTION OF SETTLEMENT AGREEMENT RELATING TO CERTAIN LITIGATION.

Motion by Ald. Stone, second by Ald. Carr to approve.

Ayes: 11 Bilotto, Donahue, Stone, Carr,
Ostling, Pittman, Frausto, Thompson,
Johanson, Hawley, Vieyra

Nays: 0

Absent: 3 Rita, Johnson, Buckner

Abstain: 0

There being Eleven (11) Affirmative Votes, the Mayor declared the motion carried.

COMMITTEE REPORTS

Community Development – Ald. Hawley, Chairman

Minutes - February 11, 2014

Meeting was called to order @ 7:01 p.m.

Ald. Frausto Chaired this evenings meeting

Present: Ald. Bilotto, Ald. Vieyra, Ald. Frausto, Ald. Carr, Ald. Ostling, Ald. Thompson

Also present: Commissioner Jason Berry, Sup. of Buildings Nich Crite, Ald. Stone, Tre. Bilotto

Absent: Chairman Hawley

Old Business:

Updates where provided by Supervisor of Buildings Nich Crite

-Update on the Lyric Theatre

Final frame inspection and Rough plumbing inspection where done and are still moving through the construction process.

Ald. Thompson asked if this was previously tabled and was informed that this is a status update.

-Update on Jenn Care

Staff spoke with Jen Care and they are still working out an agreement with the building owner.

Ald. Vieyra expressed concerns about the vacant building not having snow removed from adjacent sidewalks and asked if the building department can get in contact with property owners and make certain the areas are walkable and also asked if there is an ETA on when phase-one would be projected to start. The committee was informed that at this time there is no time frame for construction.

-Update on Dream Bags

Staff Spoke with Dream Bags on January 28th with regards to the second means of egress. Ald. Bilotto asked how long has these discussions been going. An exact date was not available but goes back to early last year. Dream Bags is currently not operating at the location and it is up to them if they want to submit plans to operate there or occupy different space within the building.

-Update on Fun and Cocktails

At the time, no request for an inspection has been made and currently is not in operation.

-Update on Olde. Western Business sign

Ald. Frausto informed the committee that he invited all business owners and will be hosting a meeting on Tuesday Feb. 18 at 8p.m. to discuss the signage, seek feedback and take suggestions

New Business:

-Discussion and review of New Business Handbook

A new business handbook was provided to committee members for review. Mr. Crite explained the different parts of the handbook consisting of the business license, type of licenses, process, codes, contact information, and application.

Ald. Vieyra asked if this packet would be available online. The Committee was informed that once complete it would be. Also, applicants would be able to fill out forms electronically prior to printing.

-Planning Commission

AGENDA ITEMS

Review of Sign Ordinance

Special Use - Manufactures Depot 2218 W 138th St: Applicant will be seeking a special use to allow for a retail establishment in an I-1: Limited Industry District

-ZONING BOARD OF APPEALS

AGENDA ITEMS

Special Use - Manufactures Depot 2218 W 138th St: Applicant will be seeking a special use to allow for a retail establishment in an I-1: Limited Industry District

Variation - 12851 Clinton: Applicant will be seeking a variation of the property lot line to allow for the construction of an addition to the home within the rear yard of the property.

PENDING/APPROVED BUSINESS LICENSES

-Des Plaines Market, Inc. 2216 Des Plaines

The business as presented is a **CHANGE OF OWNERSHIP** application for the existing retail business establishment. Building department staff has inspected the property at which time it has been determined that the establishment complies with all applicable codes and ordinance established by the city.

-The Abyss 11930 S Western Ave

The business as presented is a **CHANGE OF OWNERSHIP** application for the existing retail business establishment. Building department staff has inspected the property at which time it has been determined that the establishment complies with all applicable codes and ordinance established by the city.

Ald. Vieyra suggested a shared drive or drop box be set up for council members to be able to access information such as changes in ownership, license status, and directory of businesses in their respective ward and city as a whole. Mr. Crite said he would look into the feasibility of creating and setting up such access.

Ald. Carr requested that moving forward, with our new committee format, a brief description apart from the general zoning description be included so that it is known what type of business is looking to open or change of ownership provided that the name does not always clearly reflect type of business.

-Dos Brothers 2426 Vermont

The business as presented is a **FOOD ESTABLISHMENT** located in the U-TOD: Uptown Transit Oriented Development District. Upon inspection of the premises, the business owner was given a list of items that must be completed from the building, health and fire inspectors prior to the issuance of a business license. As of the date of this report no re-inspection has been requested by the business owner.

-Vintage Hair Boutique 12149 S Western Ave

The business as presented is a **RETAIL ESTABLISHMENT** located in the C-2: Highway Commercial District. Upon inspection of the premises, the business owner was given a list of items that must be completed from the building and fire inspectors prior to the issuance of a business license. As of the date of this report no re-inspection has been requested by the business owner.

-Manufactures Depot 2218 W 138th St

The business as presented is a **RETAIL ESTABLISHMENT** located in the I-1: Limited Industry District. Given the nature of the business, it requires a special use prior to the issuance of a business license. The business is scheduled to appear before the Plan Commission and the Zoning Board of Appeals on February 9, 2014 and March 3, 2014, respectively.

-It Takes a Village 1843 Oak St

The home business as presented is a **HOME DAY CARE** located in the R-1: Single Family Residential District. Per the zoning ordinance as written this is a permitted business and must comply with the rules as established by the Illinois Department of Children and Family Services.

Ald. Ostling expressed concern with Home Day Cares and current guidelines. Ald. would like to review with our city attorney and in judiciary committee. issues such as parking how many children can be cared for based on square footage. Mr. Crite noted that this currently a permitted use within our zoning.

-Taco Mex 12739 S Sacramento

The business as presented is a **FOOD ESTABLISHMENT** located in the R-1: Single Family Residential District. As of the date of this report an inspection by the building and health inspector has been scheduled.

Building Department Report

Please see January monthly Report

Ald. Thompson inquired what is the date for Xmas decorations to be removed by and was informed that it is Feb. 1st given the weather it has been a bit difficult for residents to comply with.

Alderman Concerns

Ald. Bilotto explained that she has received complaints about the Island Bar & Grill and mentioned that there was an incident over the weekend that not only required assistance from

BIPD but from other municipalities as well. Ald. Bilotto noted that this was posted via social media as well and many complaints were being expressed. Ald. Frausto also mentioned that he also received complaints as well and that there have been ongoing issues and complaints with this establishment and that the owner has had to appear before this committee before for the same issues.

Ald. Frausto requested that the building dept. address the issue of semis obstructing traffic and parking on 135th street with the owners of Sawing and Searing on 13500 Western Ave. Several residents have expressed complaints about this issue.

Citizens wishing to speak

Erich Weinberg owner of The Maple Tree 13301 Olde Western Ave.

Mr. Weinberg stated his concerns of safety, garbage being left behind, consumption of alcohol and narcotics in parking lots, and traffic issues being caused by the island and said 'If you do not believe me, come park on Olde Western and see for yourself.' Ald. Thompson asked if individuals were walking out of the establishment with alcohol. Mr. Weinberg stated no, it seems to him that patrons are coming early and drinking in their cars first or walk out of the establishment to their cars consume and then go back again. Ald. Thompson asked if there are not any other establishments causing problems or bringing unwanted elements in the city? Mr. Weinberg stated that he did not know. Ald. Frausto noted that the committee would look into the concerns.

Motion to adjourn by Ald. Bilotto second by Ald. Carr

Adjourn: 8:15 p.m.

Next Meeting – Wednesday, March 12, 2014, 7:00 pm – East Annex.

Finance Committee – Ald. Rita, Chairman

Next Meeting – Tuesday, March 4, 2014, 7:00 – East Annex

Public Health & Safety Committee – Ald. Carr, Chairman

Next Meeting – Wednesday, March 5, 2014, 7:30 – East Annex

Municipal Services Committee – Ald. Johanson, Chairman

Next Meeting – Monday, March 10, 2014, 6:30 – East Annex

Ald. Johanson thanked Public Works, Robert Houlf, and the Water Department for the sensational job they have done through the several severe weather events we have had.

Judiciary Committee – Ald. Ostling, Chairman

Next Meeting – Monday, March 3, 2014, 6:00 – East Annex

MOTIONS

Motion by Ald. Donahue, second by Ald. Hawley to approve the Consent Agenda which includes:

- 1. Payroll for February 14, 2014 in the amount of \$355,912.42**
- 2. Accounts Payable for February 19, 2014 in the amount of \$304,393.42**
- 3. Committee Reports and Recommendations as presented**
- 4. A Resolution Delegating the Treasurer’s Signatory Authority for the Blue Island Police Pension Fund.**

Ayes: 11 Bilotto, Donahue, Stone, Carr,
 Ostling, Pittman, Frausto, Thompson,
 Johanson, Hawley, Vieyra

Nays: 0

Absent: 3 Rita, Johnson, Buckner

Abstain: 0

There being Eleven (11) Affirmative Votes, the Mayor declared the motion carried.

CLOSED SESSION

Motion by Ald. Carr, second by Ald. Bilotto to go into Executive Session.

Upon a vote, the Mayor declared the motion carried.

Ald. Thompson thanked the Mayor, Treasurer Bilotto, Ald. Hawley, Ald. Johanson, and Ald. Carr for attending Black Culture Night and everybody who donated.

*****CLOSED SESSION*****

REGULAR MEETING

Motion by Ald. Stone, second by Ald. Pittman to reconvene Regular Meeting.

Ayes: 11 Bilotto, Donahue, Stone, Carr,
Ostling, Pittman, Frausto, Thompson,
Johanson, Hawley, Vieyra

Nays: 0

Absent: 3 Rita, Johnson, Buckner

Abstain: 0

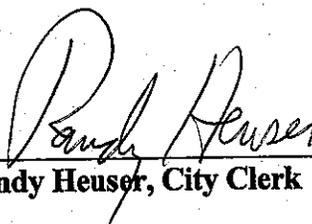
There being Eleven (11) Affirmative Votes, the Mayor declared
the motion carried.

ADJOURNMENT

Motion by Ald. Pittman, second by Ald. Johanson to adjourn the meeting.

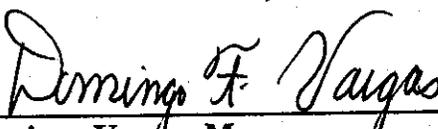
Upon a vote, the Mayor declared the motion carried.

The next regular meeting of the City Council is scheduled for
March 11, 2014 at 7:00 p.m.



Randy Heuser, City Clerk

**APPROVED BY ME THIS
7TH DAY OF MARCH, 2014.**



Domingo Vargas, Mayor