

**JOURNAL OF PROCEEDINGS
OF THE
MEETING, MARCH 11, 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 March 11, 2014.

PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE

ROLL CALL

Roll Call indicates the following:

Present: 12 Ald. Rita, Donahue, Stone, Carr,
Ostling, Pittman, Johnson (7:04),
Frausto, Johanson, Hawley, Vieyra,
Bilotto (7:03)

Absent: 2 Ald. Thompson, Buckner

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

JOURNAL OF PROCEEDING

Moved by Ald. Hawley, second by Ald. Stone the Journal of Proceedings of the Regular Meeting on February 25, 2014 is accepted as printed.

On the question: Ald. Stone had a Robert's Rules of Order question. She asked if the adjournment times needed to be included in the minutes.

Clerk Heuser said he would write it down.

Ayes: 10 Rita, Donahue, Stone, Carr,
Ostling, Pittman, Frausto, Johanson,
Hawley, Vieyra

Nays: 0

Absent: 4 Johnson, Thompson, Buckner, Bilotto

Abstain: 0

There being Ten (10) Affirmative Votes, the Mayor declared the motion carried.

CITIZENS WISHING TO ADDRESS THE COUNCIL
REGARDING THIS EVENINGS BUSINESS

Kevin Murphy of 2317 Florence invited everybody to join him for “Tame Your Computer before it Tames You” computer classes offered at the Blue Island Library on Tuesdays nights.

REPORT OF CITY OFFICIALS

MAYOR:

Update on Ashland Avenue Bridge

Repairs on bridge began as of last Wednesday. The bridge is expected to be completed by the end of the month (weather permitting).

The Mayor congratulated Blue Island resident, Lauren Catinella, on winning Queen of the 2014 St. Patrick’s Day Parade.

BIDS:

No Bids.

CITY CLERK:

Motion by Ald. Carr, second by Ald. Stone to approve a request from the Friends of the Chicago River to access the property at Ann Street along the north bank of the Cal-Sag Channel for their 22nd annual Chicago River Day cleanup and workday event on Saturday, May 10, 2014.

Ayes: 12 Rita, Donahue, Stone, Carr, Ostling,
Pittman, Johnson, Frausto, Johanson,
Hawley, Vieyra, Bilotto

Nays: 0

Absent: 2 Thompson, Buckner

Abstain: 0

There being Twelve (12) Affirmative Votes, the Mayor declared the motion carried.

Motion by Ald. Johnson, second by Ald. Rita to approve a request from the Salvation Army to hold their annual Donut Day on Friday and Saturday, May 30th and 31st and June 6th and 7th, 2014 and their Red Kettle Campaign starting November 7th through December 24th, 2014.

Ayes: 12 Rita, Donahue, Stone, Carr, Ostling,
Pittman, Johnson, Frausto, Johanson,
Hawley, Vieyra, Bilotto

Nays: 0

Absent: 2 Thompson, Buckner

Abstain: 0

There being Twelve (12) Affirmative Votes, the Mayor declared the motion carried.

Motion by Ald. Vieyra, second by Ald. Hawley to approve a request from Blue Cap to hold a Tag Day fund raiser on Friday, August 22nd and Saturday, August 23rd 2014.

Ayes: 12 Rita, Donahue, Stone, Carr, Ostling,
Pittman, Johnson, Frausto, Johanson,
Hawley, Vieyra, Bilotto

Nays: 0

Absent: 2 Thompson, Buckner

Abstain: 0

There being Twelve (12) Affirmative Votes, the Mayor declared the motion carried.

CITY TREASURER:

Motion by Ald. Ostling, second by Ald. Carr to accept the Financial Statement ending in February 28, 2014.

Ayes: 12 Rita, Donahue, Stone, Carr, Ostling,
Pittman, Johnson, Frausto, Johanson,
Hawley, Vieyra, Bilotto

Nays: 0

Absent: 2 Thompson, Buckner

Abstain: 0

There being Twelve (12) Affirmative Votes, the Mayor declared the motion carried.

Police and Fire Pension Actuarial Presentation by Jason Franken of Foster and Foster

Ald. Johanson asked how Blue Island's under-funded situation compare to other communities that Mr. Franken is knowledgeable of. Is Blue Island alone in this issue?

Mr. Franken answered that Blue Island is definitely is not alone in this issue. There are a lot of plans in similar situations.

CITY ATTORNEY:

ABATEMENT

ABATEMENT OF \$786,750.00 OF REAL ESTATE TAXES LEVIED PURSUANT TO ORDINANCE 98-197.

ABATEMENT

ABATEMENT OF \$394,737.50 OF REAL ESTATE TAXES LEVIED PURSUANT TO ORDINANCE 06-046.

ABATEMENT

ABATEMENT OF \$57,000.00 OF REAL ESTATE TAXES LEVIED PURSUANT TO ORDINANCE 12-189.

ORDINANCE. 2014-010

AN ORDINANCE GRANTING A SPECIAL USE PERMIT TO MANUFACTURES DEPOT TO OPERATE A WHOLESALE RETAIL STORE.

RESOLUTION. 2014-13

A RESOLUTION AUTHORIZING THE CITY OF BLUE ISLAND'S APPLICATION FOR FUNDING FROM THE COOK COUNTY COMMUNITY DEVELOPMENT BLOCK GRANT PROGRAM AND AUTHORIZING THE EXPENDITURE OF FUNDS IN CONNECTION THEREWITH.

Motion by Ald. Hawley, second by Ald. Rita to add the above stated items in the consent agenda as items 8-12.

Ayes: 12 Rita, Donahue, Stone, Carr, Ostling,
Pittman, Johnson, Frausto, Johanson,
Hawley, Vieyra, Bilotto

Nays: 0

Absent: 2 Thompson, Buckner

Abstain: 0

There being Twelve (12) Affirmative Votes, the Mayor declared the motion carried.

COMMITTEE REPORTS

Community Development – Ald. Hawley, Chairman

No Report.

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

Finance Committee – Ald. Rita, Chairman

Next Meeting – Wednesday, March 19, 2014, 6:30 – East Annex

Public Health & Safety Committee – Ald. Carr, Chairman

**Public Health & Safety Committee Report
for the Meeting of March 5th, 2014**

Present were Director John Rita, Deputy Police Chief Michael Cornell, Deputy Fire Chief James Klinker, Jim McGeever, Don Marchbanks, Alderman Johnson (7:45), Alderman Marcia Stone as a guest, and myself. Absent were Alderman Vieyra, Alderman Johanson, Alderman Buckner. We did not have a

quorum, but as there were no votes to be taken, we continued with the department reports. The meeting was called to order at 7:05.

Citizens Concerns

No citizens were present.

Fire Department Report

The Fire Department had 271 emergency calls in January, 170 were EMS calls
151 Patients were treated
131 Patients were transported
38 Patients refused transport

They responded to 27 general fire alarms, and 29 minor fire alarms, many of these were carbon monoxide related calls. The Fire Department has recorded a Public Service Announcement with Lieutenant Joe Olson regarding carbon monoxide.

They responded to 29 auto aid calls.

They had 24 calls to man the station.

They received 2 mutual aid calls.

There were no major events for the month of February.

Due to the changeover in billing services to Fire Recovery Inc., there are no current medical billing figures to report.

General

The call volume for February was down from January but the department utilized extra men for some of the days when they encountered harsh cold and snow conditions.

Fire Recovery Inc. billing service is being utilized. Billing was started from February 1st. All the shifts have been trained on this new service.

The interns from Moraine Valley Community College Fire Science program have been averaging a minimum of 14 hours per week, have already challenged State Fire Marshals test, and have been very busy training with the shifts. Moraine Valley will be presenting a plaque on March 25th to the Fire Department for working with these four interns.

Chief Luetz attended a MABAS conference February 17th, 18th, and 19th in Springfield, IL along with several 911 dispatchers. The three days consisted of updates to the MABAS organization and fire science intelligence. This was paid for through MABAS.

Last year the Fire Department submitted to have the City of Blue Island's Insurance Services Office rating re-evaluated. After spending several months compiling information from the Fire Department, Water Department and Dispatch and submitting this information for review, they have just received a report from ISO in which they received a better rating and changed from a previous rating of a 5 to a 4.

The Fire Department would like to offer a special thanks to Bob Houlf from the Water Department for his assistance in helping compile information for this report.

Presentation of Firefighter of the Year and CPR Saves will be presented at the March 25th City Council Meeting.

Maintenance

Engine 2123 will be having the front springs repaired and preventative maintenance service conducted. Engine 2133 will be getting a new pump panel information system. The cost for these repairs will be from Foreign Fire Tax Funds. A list of maintenance issues on equipment is still needed and is being addressed, as finances allow.

A total of 13.25 hours for in-house maintenance, repairs and documentation was performed by Lieutenant Kunz and Tom Kissell on various equipment.

Training

The training division has completed 442.75 hours of training for the month of February.

Two Firefighters have obtained 3 new State Certifications.

The Fire Department hosted a class on Firefighter Situational Awareness on Wednesday February 12th that was attended by both on-duty and off-duty personnel along with members from other departments from Northern Illinois with 23 personnel in attendance. This is a four-part class sponsored by Cook County Department of Home Land Security. Our department has been asked to host the other three classes.

Grants

The new radios from the Radio Grant will be in use after each shift receives approximately two hours of training on March 11th, 12th, and 13th. The Air Packs should be approved through NIOSH on or before April 1st or the Fire Department will submit for an extension of the grant.

No word has been received on the Safer Grant for staffing of new Firefighters.

Police Department Report

The Police Department patrolled 11,710 miles for the month of February. 1818 calls answered.

456 Parking Citations

220 Moving Citations

120 Traffic Stops

12 Felonies

28 Misdemeanors

6 Warrant Arrests

35 Local Ordinance Violations (equipment violations, seatbelts)

61 Vehicles Impounded

Total Fees Collected: \$58,760.39

Stats/Cases of Interest

3 Armed Robberies (2) unfounded

2 Robberies (1) unfounded

7 Residential Burglaries (2) unfounded

1 Business Burglary

135 Accident Reports. This was high due to treacherous road conditions.

115 Alarm Calls

5 Shots Fired (2) unfounded

January Detective Report

30 Cases were assigned

6 Larcenies

24 Other Cases

44 Cases were cleared

10 Burglaries/10 Larcenies

24 Other Cases

Overtime Paid

Supervisors: 47 hours

Patrol Officers: 39.5 hours

Court: 173 hours

Detectives: 37.5 hours

Late calls/Paperwork: 32 hours

Regular Meeting – March 11, 2014

Liquor Establishment Calls

7 disturbance calls were received in February on liquor establishments.

Training

Five clerks were sent to Markham Courthouse for updated Clerk procedures.

Miscellaneous

On February 4th, School District 130 requested a police K9 search.

On February 25th, the Blue Island Police Department conducted tobacco compliance checks with funds provided by the Illinois Tobacco Grant.

Code Red EMERGENCY NOTIFICATION

Code Red EMERGENCY NOTIFICATION program is awaiting approval by the Department of Justice for use of forfeiture funds.

Facebook account

The Police Department Facebook has added almost 200 followers in the last month, and is up to 542 likes.

Upcoming Events

Ike Hike 5K run is set for April 26, 2014.

Officers are being assigned to help out doing Public Service Announcements. Before the end of the year, all officers will have done at least one PSA.

Citizens Academy will be held in April.

911 Center

The biggest problem the 911 Center is working on now is overtime hours. They are creating a Power Shift to assign more dispatchers when call volume is heavy. The part-time dispatchers have been very helpful.

The 911 Center received 11,249 calls in February. These included calls from Blue Island, Calumet Park, Midlothian, and Posen.

Regular Meeting – March 11, 2014

The tornado sirens have been tested and are operational. A policy and procedure is being worked on with BIEMA for sounding the tornado sirens.

BIEMA

Don Marchbanks gave a brief report of BIEMA activities for the month of February. They had four call outs, two of those were traffic related. The membership is now up to 16. They hosted a mutual aid meeting on Thursday, February 27th with 22 agencies and 31 people attending. Don Marchbanks has spoken to six different Chiefs in an attempt to obtain needed equipment.

Public Health

The Fire Department along with the Cook County Department of Public Health and BIEMA is working on an emergency plan in case of a public health emergency. Initial plans include using Eisenhower High School as a public health emergency center.

Tom Mailhot performed 20 health inspections on businesses in the month of February.

Statement by Director John Rita

Director John Rita expressed his concerns over the condition of equipment used by the Fire Department and BIEMA.

Aldermen's Concerns

Alderman Johnson addressed his concerns about the Rec Center.

Meeting was adjourned at 8:05 p.m.

Next Meeting – Wednesday, April 2, 2014, 7:00 – East Annex

Municipal Services Committee – Ald. Johanson, Chairman

Next Meeting – Monday, April 14, 2014, 6:30 – East Annex

Judiciary Committee – Ald. Ostling, Chairman

Next Meeting – Monday, April 7, 2014, 6:00 – East Annex

MOTIONS

Motion by Ald. Johanson, second by Ald. Johnson to approve the Consent Agenda which includes:

- 1. Payroll for February 28, 2014 in the amount of \$367,890.03**
- 2. Accounts Payable for March 5, 2014 in the amount of \$327,092.32**
- 3. Committee Reports and Recommendations as presented**
- 4. An Ordinance Restricting a Portion of a Certain Street at or near 12819 Lincoln Street for Handicapped Parking Only within the City of Blue Island, County of Cook, State of Illinois, and Providing Penalties for the Violation Thereof.**
- 5. An Ordinance Rescinding Handicapped Parking Restrictions at 2528 Orchard Street in the City of Blue Island, County of Cook and State of Illinois.**
- 6. An Ordinance Rescinding Time-Related Parking Restrictions on the East Side of Chatham Street between Broadway and Market Streets within the City of Blue Island, County of Cook, State of Illinois and Deeming that Portion of Chatham Street to be a "Loading Zone".**
- 7. An Ordinance Prohibiting Parking on the South Side of Broadway Street from 2153 Broadway Street to Chatham Street, within the City of Blue Island, County of Cook, State of Illinois, and providing Penalties for the Violation Thereof.**
- 8. Abatement of \$786,750.00 of Real Estate Taxes Levied Pursuant to Ordinance 98-197.**
- 9. Abatement of \$394,737.50 of Real Estate Taxes Levied Pursuant to Ordinance 06-046.**
- 10. Abatement of \$57,000.00 of Real Estate Taxes Levied Pursuant to Ordinance 12-189.**
- 11. An Ordinance Granting a Special Use Permit to Manufactures Depot to Operate a Wholesale Retail Store.**
- 12. A Resolution Authorizing the City of Blue Island's Application for Funding from the Cook County Community Development Block Grant Program and Authorizing the Expenditure of Funds in Connection Therewith.**

| | | |
|-------|----|---|
| Ayes: | 12 | Rita, Donahue, Stone, Carr, Ostling, Pittman, Johnson, Frausto, Johanson, Hawley, Vieyra, Bilotto |
|-------|----|---|

| | |
|-------|---|
| Nays: | 0 |
|-------|---|

| | | |
|---------|---|-------------------|
| Absent: | 2 | Thompson, Buckner |
|---------|---|-------------------|

| | |
|----------|---|
| Abstain: | 0 |
|----------|---|

There being Twelve (12) Affirmative Votes, the Mayor declared the motion carried.

CLOSED SESSION

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

Upon a vote, the Mayor declared the motion carried.

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

The Meeting was reconvened at 7:49 pm.

REGULAR MEETING

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

Ayes: 12 Rita, Donahue, Stone, Carr, Ostling,
Pittman, Johnson, Frausto, Johanson,
Hawley, Vieyra, Bilotto

Nays: 0

Absent: 2 Thompson, Buckner

Abstain: 0

There being Twelve (12) Affirmative Votes, the Mayor declared the motion carried.

ADJOURNMENT

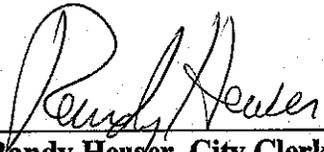
Motion by Ald. Vieyra, second by Ald. Donahue to adjourn the meeting.

Upon a vote, the Mayor declared the motion carried.

The meeting was adjourned at 7:50 p.m.

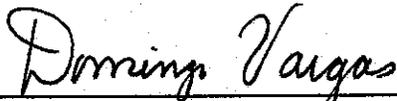
Regular Meeting – March 11, 2014

The next regular meeting of the City Council is scheduled for
March 25, 2014 at 7:00 p.m.



Randy Heuser, City Clerk

APPROVED BY ME THIS
19th DAY OF MARCH, 2014.



Domingo Vargas, Mayor

