

**JOURNAL OF PROCEEDINGS OF THE MEETING
MAY 26, 2015**

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 May 26, 2015.

PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE

ROLL CALL

Roll Call indicates the following:

Present: 13 Ald. Carr, Ostling, Pittman, Johnson,
Frausto, Johanson, Poulos, Hawley, Vieyra,
Bilotto, Rita, Donahue, Slattery

Absent: 1 Thompson

Present Also: Randy Heuser, City Clerk
ShawnTe Raines, City Attorney
Carmine Bilotto, City Treasurer

JOURNAL OF PROCEEDING

Moved by Ald. Bilotto, second by Ald. Hawley the Journal of Proceedings of the Regular Meeting from April 28, 2015 and May 12, 2015 are accepted as printed.

Ayes: 13 Carr, Ostling, Pittman, Johnson, Frausto,
Johanson, Poulos, Hawley, Vieyra, Bilotto,
Rita, Donahue, Slattery

Nays: 0

Absent: 1 Thompson

Abstain: 0

There being Thirteen (13) Affirmative Votes, the Mayor declared the motion carried.

CITIZENS WISHING TO ADDRESS THE COUNCIL REGARDING THIS EVENINGS BUSINESS

Allan Stevo, 2324 Union Street, asked that the opponents be included for the Certification of the April 7, 2015 election results in the Journal of Proceedings for the Regular Meeting of May 12, 2015. Mr. Stevo asked why the Mayor, Treasurer Bilotto, and several other aldermen had not attended the Proposal Alternate Revenue Bond Ordinance Meeting that was held on May 20, 2015. He asked that MWRD President Mariyana Spyropoulos talk about the \$44 million dollars alley fight the taxpayers paid for. He asked why a police chief was not appointed and why more experienced aldermen were not selected to be committee chairs. Mr. Stevo asked why the Mayor is not answering the questions.

Carol DiPace-Green, 2731 Orchard Street, stated that property and property values are getting ready to tank again. The banks are either doing nothing with foreclosed properties or giving them back to the owner who foreclosed on them because it will only cost them money. Ms. Green stated we are going to see more foreclosures and properties being vacated. She asked that the council factor that information into the decisions that they make because it is going to mean a lot less money for the city.

Reverend Reindhart, 2508 Walnut Street, stated he was elected into the School Board and thanked the people of Blue Island for voting for him. He invited everyone to attend the Heal the River Day of Prayer on June 21st at 4:00.

REPORT OF CITY OFFICIALS**MAYOR:**

1) MWRD President Mariyana Spyropoulos addressed the council regarding the Thornton Reservoir and the benefits to the residents. The reservoir will hold about 8 billion gallons of water relieving some stress on the system and thus aid in reducing flooding problems.

2) Mayor's Appointments:

Director of Public Health and Safety – John Rita
 Director of Finance and Administration – Matt Anastasia
 Director of Municipal Services – Robert Houlf
 Deputy Police Chief – Michael Cornell
 Fire Chief – Jim Klinker
 City Attorney - ShawnTe Raines
 City Engineer – Tom Nagel

Motion by Ald. Bilotto, second by Ald. Donahue to accept the Mayor's Appointments for 2015.

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Ayes: 13 Carr, Ostling, Pittman, Johnson, Frausto,
Johanson, Poulos, Hawley, Vieyra, Bilotto,
Rita, Donahue, Slattery

Nays: 0

Absent: 1 Thompson

Abstain: 0

There being Thirteen (13) Affirmative Votes, the Mayor declared the motion carried.

3) Aldermanic Committee Assignments

Motion by Ald. Bilotto, second by Ald. Poulos to table the aldermanic committee assignments until the next council meeting.

Ayes: 13 Carr, Ostling, Pittman, Johnson, Frausto,
Johanson, Poulos, Hawley, Vieyra, Bilotto,
Rita, Donahue, Slattery

Nays: 0

Absent: 1 Thompson

Abstain: 0

There being Thirteen (13) Affirmative Votes, the Mayor declared the motion carried.

BIDS:

No bids.

CITY CLERK:

Motion by Ald. Vieyra, second by Ald. Johnson to approve a request from St. Benedict Church to have their St. Benedict Fest on Saturday, September 12, 2015 that will begin at 12:00 p.m. until 11:00 p.m. Street closing will start at 8:00 a.m. for set-up.

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Ayes: 13 Carr, Ostling, Pittman, Johnson, Frausto,
Johanson, Poulos, Hawley, Vieyra, Bilotto,
Rita, Donahue, Slattery

Nays: 0

Absent: 1 Thompson

Abstain: 0

There being Thirteen (13) Affirmative Votes, the Mayor declared the motion carried.

Motion by Ald. Pittman, second by Ald. Ostling to approve a request from Blue Island Church of Christ to hold its annual Vacation Bible School from June 22nd to June 26, 2015 from 9:30 a.m. until 2:00 p.m.

Ayes: 13 Carr, Ostling, Pittman, Johnson, Frausto,
Johanson, Poulos, Hawley, Vieyra, Bilotto,
Rita, Donahue, Slattery

Nays: 0

Absent: 1 Thompson

Abstain: 0

There being Thirteen (13) Affirmative Votes, the Mayor declared the motion carried.

Motion by Ald. Johnson, second by Ald. Frausto to approve a request from Bethel Pentecostal Church to hold its annual Community Kid Day on Saturday, June 13, 2015 from 11:00 a.m. until 2:00 p.m.

Ayes: 13 Carr, Ostling, Pittman, Johnson, Frausto,
Johanson, Poulos, Hawley, Vieyra, Bilotto,
Rita, Donahue, Slattery

Nays: 0

Absent: 1 Thompson

Abstain: 0

There being Thirteen (13) Affirmative Votes, the Mayor declared the motion carried.

Motion by Ald. Hawley, second by Ald. Ostling to approve a request from Kerr Middle School to have an end of the year outdoor block party on Thursday, June 4, 2015 from 12:00 p.m. until 2:15 p.m.

Ayes: 13 Carr, Ostling, Pittman, Johnson, Frausto, Johanson, Poulos, Hawley, Vieyra, Bilotto, Rita, Donahue, Slattery

Nays: 0

Absent: 1 Thompson

Abstain: 0

There being Thirteen (13) Affirmative Votes, the Mayor declared the motion carried.

Motion by Ald. Vieyra, second by Ald. Carr to approve a request from Veterans Memorial Middle School to hold their annual bicycle parade on Monday, June 1, 2015 starting at 9:00 a.m.

Ayes: 13 Carr, Ostling, Pittman, Johnson, Frausto, Johanson, Poulos, Hawley, Vieyra, Bilotto, Rita, Donahue, Slattery

Nays: 0

Absent: 1 Thompson

Abstain: 0

There being Thirteen (13) Affirmative Votes, the Mayor declared the motion carried.

Motion by Ald. Johanson, second by Ald. Pittman to approve a request from Veterans Memorial Middle School to have an outdoor block party on Wednesday, June 3, 2015 from 8:00 a.m. to 2:30 p.m.

Ayes: 13 Carr, Ostling, Pittman, Johnson, Frausto,
Johanson, Poulos, Hawley, Vieyra, Bilotto,
Rita, Donahue, Slattery

Nays: 0

Absent: 1 Thompson

Abstain: 0

There being Thirteen (13) Affirmative Votes, the Mayor declared the motion carried.

Motion by Ald. Carr, second by Ald. Rita to approve a request from Blue Island Community Health Coalition, American Heart Association and Active Transportation Alliance to hold an Open Streets 2015 on Sunday, June 7, 2015 from 12:00 p.m. until 3:00 p.m. Street closures are on Greenwood Avenue from 123rd Street to 127th Street.

Ayes: 13 Carr, Ostling, Pittman, Johnson, Frausto,
Johanson, Poulos, Hawley, Vieyra, Bilotto,
Rita, Donahue, Slattery

Nays: 0

Absent: 1 Thompson

Abstain: 0

There being Thirteen (13) Affirmative Votes, the Mayor declared the motion carried.

Motion by Ald. Hawley, second by Ald. Slattery to approve a request for two block parties at: 2447 Walnut Street on June 6, 2015 from 12:00 p.m. to 10:00 p.m. and Minnesota and California Avenue on June 20, 2015 from 10:00 a.m. to 7:00 p.m.

Ayes: 13 Carr, Ostling, Pittman, Johnson, Frausto,
Johanson, Poulos, Hawley, Vieyra, Bilotto,
Rita, Donahue, Slattery

Nays: 0

Regular Meeting – May 26, 2015

Absent: 1 Thompson

Abstain: 0

There being Thirteen (13) Affirmative Votes, the Mayor declared the motion carried.

CITY TREASURER:

Motion by Ald. Hawley, second by Ald. Rita to approve the Financial Statement for the period ending April 30, 2015.

Ayes: 13 Carr, Ostling, Pittman, Johnson, Frausto, Johanson, Poulos, Hawley, Vieyra, Bilotto, Rita, Donahue, Slattery

Nays: 0

Absent: 1 Thompson

Abstain: 0

There being Thirteen (13) Affirmative Votes, the Mayor declared the motion carried.

CITY ATTORNEY:

No business.

COMMITTEE REPORTS

Community Development – Ald. Hawley, Chairman

Next Meeting – T.B.D.

Finance Committee – Ald. Rita, Chairman

Moved by Ald. Rita, second by Ald. Donahue to approve Payroll for April 24, 2015 for \$332,593.00.

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Ayes: 13 Carr, Ostling, Pittman, Johnson, Frausto,
Johanson, Poulos, Hawley, Vieyra, Bilotto,
Rita, Donahue, Slattery

Nays: 0

Absent: 1 Thompson

Abstain: 0

There being Thirteen (13) Affirmative Votes, the Mayor declared the motion carried.

Moved by Ald. Rita, second by Ald. Carr to approve Accounts Payable for May 6, 2015 for \$405,524.04.

Ayes: 13 Carr, Ostling, Pittman, Johnson, Frausto,
Johanson, Poulos, Hawley, Vieyra, Bilotto,
Rita, Donahue, Slattery

Nays: 0

Absent: 1 Thompson

Abstain: 0

There being Thirteen (13) Affirmative Votes, the Mayor declared the motion carried.

Next Meeting – T.B.D

Public Health & Safety Committee – Ald. Carr, Chairman

**Public Health & Safety Committee Report
for the Meeting of May 6th, 2015**

Present were Deputy Police Chief Michael Cornell, Fire Chief James Klinker, 911 Supervisor Jim McGeever, Alderman James Johanson, Alderman Letty Vieyra, and myself. Clerk Randy Heuser present as a guest. Absent were Director John Rita, Alderman Buckner, Alderman Johnson, and Don Marchbanks. The meeting was called to order at 7:00.

Regular Meeting – May 26, 2015

Citizens Concerns

There were no citizens present.

There was a temporary change of order in the agenda. Police Department business was conducted first.

911 Board Ordinance

The amendment to Ordinance 92-928 relating to the establishment and organization of the emergency telephone board for the city of Blue Island was presented. Motion to approve by Alderman Johanson, second by Alderman Vieyra. Voice vote taken, motion passed. (I'd like to put that in the form of a motion.)

Police Department Report

The Police Department answered 2313 calls including 524 business premise checks, 106 were liquor establishment checks.

Stats/Cases of Interest

115 Alarm Calls (all unfounded)
3 Robberies (1 unfounded)
9 Residential Burglaries (4 unfounded)
6 Shots Fired (all unfounded)
92 Domestic Disputes
344 Traffic Stops

Total money collected for the month of April \$58,953.94

17,111 miles patrolled.

Calls of Interest

On Monday, April 13th, officers responded to an armed robbery call in the 2200 block of Prairie. Officers spoke with the juvenile victim and learned that the victim was approached by one subject in his twenties. The offender kept his hand tucked into his sweatshirt and inferred he had a weapon. The offender took the victim's cell phone and fled. The offender was later identified and was arrested on April 29th and charged with one count of Robbery.

On Monday, April 27th, officers responded to an Armed Robbery call at 10:30 pm in the 12100 block of Greenwood. The victim was walking with his girlfriend when three offenders walked by them. One of the offenders asked for a lighter. When the victim did not have a lighter, one of the offenders pulled out an object that appeared to be a gun. The offenders grabbed the victim's wallet and cell phone. This case is currently under investigation.

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Liquor Establishment Calls

There were 4 disturbance calls, 1 suspicious person, and 1 domestic dispute in the month of April.

Training

1. Department-wide use-of-force training was conducted incorporating the following:
 - Taser Refresher
 - OC Spray (Pepper Spray)
 - Handcuffing Techniques
 - Use of Force Legal Review
2. Officer Kaczanowski attended one day of the NEMERT verbal judo class.
3. Radio Procedures #2 training was conducted with the four new part-time trainees.

Use of Force Reviews

A use of force review was conducted into an incident that occurred on April 17th, 2015.

A use of force review was conducted into an incident that occurred on April 21st, 2015.

Community Policing Unit (CPU)

The CPU was requested by the Fire Department to 2506 Grove for two seniors with disabilities. The family and PLOWS is assisting with the issue.

Officer Slatter began work with Silver Dawn. The pilot program will make Blue Island the first in the country to be certified as a Senior Friendly City.

The CPU responded to Greenwood School for a 14 year old student who walked out of school. The juvenile was located and returned to school. The juvenile's mother was notified and arrived on the scene.

Several businesses were cited for violations regarding the excessive covering of windows with paper signs.

Bicycle patrols will start in May.

Bethel Church Kid Community Day will be held on Saturday, June 13th.

Local ordinance officers will be patrolling the neighborhoods for grass violations and construction being done without permits.

Overnight Parking Ban Ordinance

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There was a discussion about enforcement of the Overnight Parking Ban Ordinance. After much discussion, Clerk Heuser said he would get clarification from the City Attorney.

Fire Department Report

The Fire Department had 266 calls in March, 177 were EMS calls.

155 Patients were treated

140 Patients were transported

38 Patients refused transport

They responded to 17 general fire alarms, and 21 minor fire alarms.

They responded to 19 auto aid calls, most calls were from Calumet Park.

They had 32 calls to man the station.

They received 0 mutual aid response calls.

Average response time was 5.6 minutes.

There was one trailer fire at 13667 Western Ave., one garage fire at 12834 Hoyne, one structure fire in Calumet Park, one body recovery from the Little Cal Sag, one kitchen fire at 1837 Canal and one bedroom fire at Fay's Point 13201 S Ashland.

Medical Reimbursement Services for April was \$47,242.75

Fire Recovery collected \$435.00 in the month of April.

False Fire Alarm Fees Collected: \$100.00 YTD.

General

Firefighter Ken Dompeling retired April 9, 2015 after 30+ years of service to the City of Blue Island. He was presented with the Firefighter of the Year award for 2014 at the April 14th Council Meeting.

Andrew Walsh is being processed as the next Full Time Firefighter.

Three new Firefighter positions were created with the new contract. Matthew Sutkus, Matthew Sheehan and Kyle LaPorta are being processed for those positions.

Firefighter Richard Whitlock injured his left ankle at the fire on April 2nd. He has completed physical therapy and has returned to full duty on April 26th.

Regular Meeting – May 26, 2015

The Fire Department received five free Weather Alert Radios from Cook County Homeland Security and Emergency Management. They were issued to Fire, Police, Public Works, the Rec Center and the Golf Course.

Annual wellness exams were completed according to the contract requirements.

Maintenance

Ambulance 2152: On board charging system \$278.88 Air filter \$19.06

Truck 2104: Air brake repairs \$538.94 Lift cylinders O.O.S. estimate is \$1600.00

Engine 2123: Headlight \$10.00

Training

The training division has completed 345.15 hours of training for the month of April.

Grants

2014 AFG Grant – Application was sent in on December 5th, 2014. We have applied for two ambulances along with a micro grant request for Thermal Imaging Cameras and Multi-Gas Detectors. No response yet.

Private Grant – A grant application was submitted through the Grants Coordinator for 2 Thermal Imaging Cameras, 3 Automatic External Defibrillators, and 3 Smoke Ejectors. No response yet.

New Applications: Fireman's Fund Grant, IDPH EMS Grant, and Fire Protection Grant.

911 Center

Supervisor Jim McGeever gave a presentation of the Telecommunicator Emergency Response Task Force Intergovernmental Agreement. This is a mutual aid agreement similar to the Fire Department MABAS, and Police Department ILEAS. No action was taken.

BIEMA

No report submitted.

Monthly Health and Sanitation Report

No report submitted.

Aldermen's Concerns

Regular Meeting – May 26, 2015

None

Meeting was adjourned at 7:50 p.m.

Our next regular meeting will be June 3rd at 7:00 pm in the East Annex.

Respectfully submitted,
Candace Carr
4th Ward Alderman

Motion by Ald. Carr, second by Ald. Ostling to approve the amendment to Ordinance 92-928 relating to the establishment and organization of the emergency telephone board for the city of Blue Island.

Ayes: 13 Carr, Ostling, Pittman, Johnson, Frausto,
Johanson, Poulos, Hawley, Vieyra, Bilotto,
Rita, Donahue, Slattery

Nays: 0

Absent: 1 Thompson

Abstain: 0

There being Thirteen (13) Affirmative Votes, the Mayor declared the motion carried.

Next Meeting – T.B.D

Municipal Services Committee – Ald. Johanson, Chairman

No report. Ald. Johanson complimented his colleagues for trying to find ways to finance for equipment for Public Works.

Next Meeting – T.B.D

Judiciary Committee – Ald. Ostling, Chairman

Next Meeting – T.B.D.

ALDERMANIC ANNOUNCEMENTS/COMMENTS: Ald. Johnson asked when was the last time that they went for a federal grant and actually received it. Ald.

Frausto thanked the Mayor, Aldermen, Finance Committee, Ald. Johnson, and State Representative Bob Rita, for their support in prioritizing funding for the Recreation Center.

CLOSED SESSION

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

Upon a vote, the Mayor declared the motion carried.

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

REGULAR MEETING

Motion by Ald. Johnson, second by Ald. Vieyra to reconvene Regular Meeting.

Ayes: 13 Carr, Ostling, Pittman, Johnson, Frausto, Johanson, Poulos, Hawley, Vieyra, Bilotto, Rita, Donahue, Slattery

Nays: 0

Absent: 1 Thompson

Abstain: 0

There being Thirteen (13) Affirmative Votes, the Mayor declared the motion carried.

ADJOURNMENT

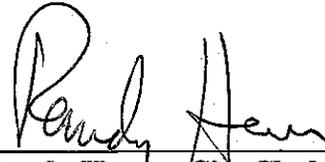
Motion by Ald. Pittman, second by Ald. Rita to adjourn the meeting.

Upon a vote, the Mayor declared the motion carried.

The meeting was adjourned at 7:51 p.m.

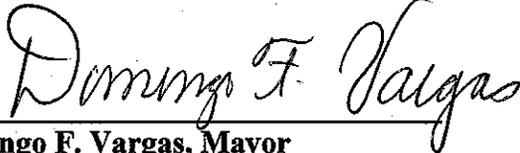
The next regular meeting of the City Council is scheduled for June 9, 2015 at 7:00 p.m.

Regular Meeting – May 26, 2015



Randy Heuser, City Clerk

**APPROVED BY ME THIS
9TH DAY OF JUNE, 2015.**



Domingo F. Vargas, Mayor

