

**JOURNAL OF PROCEEDINGS OF THE MEETING  
JULY 28, 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 July 28, 2015.

**PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE**

**ROLL CALL**

Roll Call indicates the following:

Present: 13 Ald. Frausto, Thompson, Hawley, Poulos,  
Vieyra, Bilotto, Rita (7:08), Donahue, Carr,  
Slattery, Ostling, Pittman, Johnson

Absent: 1 Johanson

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

**JOURNAL OF PROCEEDING**

Moved by Ald. Pittman, second by Ald. Carr the Journal of Proceedings of the Regular Meeting from July 14, 2015 is accepted as printed.

Ayes: 12 Frausto, Thompson, Hawley, Poulos,  
Vieyra, Bilotto, Donahue, Carr, Slattery,  
Ostling, Pittman, Johnson

Nays: 0

Absent: 2 Johanson, Rita

Abstain: 0

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

Regular Meeting – July 28, 2015

**CITIZENS WISHING TO ADDRESS THE COUNCIL REGARDING THIS EVENINGS BUSINESS**

Thomas Madrigal, 13427 Mozart Street, invited everyone to attend a car show that Bethel Pentecostal Church will be hosting on Saturday at Eisenhower High School. The car show will go from 11:00 a.m. to 4:00 p.m. and there will be music and food. Mr. Madrigal also stated his appreciation for the BIPD.

Dave Dagenais, 12544 Maple Ave, handed out flyers for council to give them an indication about what the game of pickleball is about. Currently there is a court at Hart Park and they are hoping for indoor courts in the Recreation Center once it is ready.

Allan Stevo, 2324 Union Street, stated that while attending last week's Public Health and Safety meeting, Ald. Poulos swore at him. Mr. Stevo asked that Ald. Poulos be censured. He also asked that Ordinance 2015-021 be tabled until there is a public hearing for it. Mr. Stevo asked when the Division Street bridge will be open. He stated that he wished Ald. Bilotto could show the same concern in the City of Blue Island for the legal fees the city is paying as he does at the Park District. Mr. Stevo stated that he stands for first responders.

**REPORT OF CITY OFFICIALS****MAYOR:**

Presentation by CTS Group

**BIDS:**

No bids.

**CITY CLERK:**

Motion by Ald. Pittman, second by Ald. Ostling to approve a request for a block party to be held on August 1, 2015 on 119<sup>th</sup> Street and Maple Avenue from 11:00 a.m. to 11:00 p.m.

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

Nays: 0

Absent: 1 Johanson

Abstain: 0

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

Regular Meeting – July 28, 2015

**Motion by Ald. Thompson, second by Ald. Carr to approve a request for a block party to be held on August 7<sup>th</sup> and 8<sup>th</sup>, 2015 on 122<sup>nd</sup> Street and Vincennes to Longwood from 10:00 a.m. to 6:00 p.m.**

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

Nays: 0

Absent: 1 Johanson

Abstain: 0

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

**Motion by Ald. Frausto, second by Ald. Johnson to approve a request for a block party to be held on August 8, 2015 at 2068-69 135<sup>th</sup> Place from 12:00 p.m. to 6:00 p.m.**

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

Nays: 0

Absent: 1 Johanson

Abstain: 0

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

**CITY TREASURER:** No business.

**CITY ATTORNEY:** No business.

### **COMMITTEE REPORTS**

**Community Development**– Ald. Hawley, Chairman

*Next Meeting – Third Tuesday of every month at 7:00 p.m.*

Regular Meeting – July 28, 2015

**Finance Committee – Ald. Rita, Chairman**

**Motion by Ald. Rita, second by Ald. Bilotto to approve Payroll for June 19, 2015 for \$340,736.94.**

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

Nays: 0

Absent: 1 Johanson

Abstain: 0

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

**Motion by Ald. Rita, second by Ald. Hawley to approve Payroll for July 2, 2015 for \$340,502.45.**

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

Nays: 0

Absent: 1 Johanson

Abstain: 0

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

**Motion by Ald. Rita, second by Ald. Donahue to approve Accounts Payable for June 17, 2015 for \$542,835.63.**

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

Nays: 0

Regular Meeting – July 28, 2015

Absent: 1 Johanson

Abstain: 0

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

**Motion by Ald. Rita, second by Ald. Donahue to approve Accounts Payable for July 2, 2015 for \$387,201.90.**

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

Nays: 0

Absent: 1 Johanson

Abstain: 0

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

**Motion by Ald. Rita, second by Ald. Ostling to approve Accounts Payable for July 17, 2015 for \$386,347.89.**

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

Nays: 0

Absent: 1 Johanson

Abstain: 0

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

**Motion by Ald. Rita, second by Ald. Bilotto to refer Ordinance 2015-021 back to the Finance Committee for further discussion.**

Regular Meeting – July 28, 2015

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

Nays: 0

Absent: 1 Johanson

Abstain: 0

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

**Motion by Ald. Rita, second by Ald. Bilotto to approve A Resolution for Approval of Class 6(b) Real Estate Tax Incentive Abatement for the benefit of Express Carriers Corporation located at 3500 W. 127<sup>th</sup> Street, Blue Island, Cook County, Illinois.**

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

Nays: 0

Absent: 1 Johanson

Abstain: 0

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

**Motion by Ald. Rita, second by Ald. Frausto to approve A Resolution for Approval of Class 6(b) Real Estate Tax Incentive Abatement for the benefit of R&J Trucking and Recycling located at 13611 Thornton Road, Blue Island, Cook County, Illinois.**

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

Nays: 0

Absent: 1 Johanson

Regular Meeting – July 28, 2015

Abstain: 0

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

**Public Health & Safety Committee – Ald. Carr, Chairman**

**Public Health & Safety Committee Report  
for the Meeting of July 21st, 2015**

Present were Director John Rita, Deputy Police Chief Michael Cornell, Fire Chief James Klinker, 911 Supervisor Jim McGeever, Alderman James Johanson, Alderman Nancy Thompson, Alderman George Poulos, Alderman Dexter Johnson, and myself. Also present was resident Allan Stevo. Absent was Don Marchbanks. The meeting was called to order at 6:04.

**Citizens' Concerns**

Allan Stevo issued a verbal complaint against Alderman George Poulos.

Allan Stevo asked how much money the committee has left to spend for the rest of the year. I informed him that our committee does not spend money. Director John Rita stated that a quarterly budget review for all Departments was scheduled for August.

Allan Stevo asked what the Committee's policy was on sprinkler systems. I explained to him that the Committee does not have policies covering sprinkler systems. They are covered by State and Local statute and enforced by the Fire Department.

Allan Stevo remarked that three minutes each was not enough time for citizens to express their concerns, and demanded to be given time both before and after the meeting.

**Fire Department Report**

The Fire Department had 329 calls in June, 225 were EMS calls  
186 Patients were treated  
177 Patients were transported  
47 Patients refused transport

They responded to 14 general fire alarms, and 31 minor fire alarms.

They responded to 23 auto aid calls, most calls were from Calumet Park.

They had 33 calls to man the station.

They received 3 mutual aid response calls.

Average response time was 5.6 minutes.

**Regular Meeting – July 28, 2015**

The Fire Department assisted with a fire in Merrionette Park, a structure fire in Calumet Park, and a fire in Posen. There was one structure fire, possibly caused by careless smoking, one attempted suicide in Robbins, and a fire caused by an unattended candle. There was one dryer fire.

Medical Reimbursement Services for June was \$28,871.96

Fire Recovery paid \$744.00 in June.

False Fire Alarms Fees collected in June \$100.00

**General**

The Fire Prevention/7g Program was initiated.

The Part Time Firefighter Program was eliminated effective June 1, 2015

Four new Full Time Firefighters are in various stages of the hiring process.

Marine 2 is in service at Fay's Point - Boat training for all members is ongoing.

The new Thermal Imaging camera is in service

Three new Firefighters, Sutkus, Sheehan, and LaPorta have passed all pre-employment testing and will be starting July 6, 2015.

Firefighter Andrew Walsh started on June 22nd, 2015.

Firefighter William Hall resigned effective June 19, 2015.

New Firefighter candidate Raymond Houlihan started the pre-employment testing process.

Firefighters were out for Fill the Boot Drive on June 19th. The next date they will be out is July 24th.

Firefighters Stedman and O'Hagan passed their probation.

The Fire Department attended Kid Community Day and numerous Block Parties.

Lt. Olson has begun fire inspections under the 7g provisions of the contract. He has been working with the building department with inspections of new businesses, complaints and out of service fire alarms. Eventually he will move into annual fire inspections.

**Maintenance**

Truck 2104: Left master leveling cylinder and left lift cylinder repair \$5212.74

Ambulance 2162: Three batteries \$333.85

**Training**

The training division has completed 368.5 hours of training for the month of June.

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All crews attended auto aid crude oil training at Valero with the Alsip Fire Department.

Crews began attending Silver Dawn training.

Chief Klinker attended METRA Operation Lifesaver Program.

**Grants**

2014 AFG Grant -- Application was sent in on December 5<sup>th</sup>, 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.

IDPH EMS Grant - AED's

Fire Protection Grant - IPADs for annual fire inspections.

**Police Department**

**Amendment to Red Light Camera Ordinance**

Deputy Chief Cornell reviewed the changes to the Red Light Camera Ordinance. There was a motion to approve by Alderman Poulos, seconded by Alderman Johnson. A voice vote was taken, all in favor. I'd like to put this in the form of a motion.

**Boot Ordinance**

Deputy Chief Cornell has talked to the City Attorney about an amendment to the Boot Ordinance, to include a Boot Release Fee.

**Alarm Ordinance**

Deputy Chief Cornell has talked to the City Attorney about a False Alarm Ordinance for the Police Department, similar to that of the Fire Department. Excessive false alarms for hold-ups and burglar alarms would be fined.

**Purchases**

The Police Department recently purchased a 2015 Ford Explorer to add to the fleet, and new in car computers.

**Police Department Report**

The Police Department answered 2159 calls including 327 business premise checks, 106 were liquor establishment checks.

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**Stats/Cases of Interest**

126 Alarm Calls (all unfounded)  
7 Robberies (1 unfounded)  
0 Burglaries  
10 Residential Burglaries (3 unfounded)  
9 Shots Fired (all were considered unfounded)  
112 Domestic Disputes  
214 Traffic Stops

Total money collected for the month of June \$37,726.83

17,565 miles patrolled.

**Calls of Interest**

On Wednesday, June 3<sup>rd</sup>, in the area of 120<sup>th</sup> and Vincennes victim was approached by one person who displayed a dark colored handgun. The victim grabbed the gun and began to wrestle it away from the offender. A second offender ran up from behind and assisted the first offender. A witness saw the incident and yelled at the offenders. The offenders fled.

**Liquor Establishment Calls**

There were 3 Disturbance calls, 1 Fight calls, 1 Disturbance call, and 1 Subject Removals in the month of June.

**Training**

Commander Sisk attended On-Target Leadership for Law Enforcement at College of DuPage/SLEA.  
Officer Padron attended SSERT training.

Officer Murray attended 40-Hour Field Training Course through NEMERT.

Handgun Qualifications were completed by: Director John Rita, Deputy Chief Cornell, Commander Sisk, Sergeant Morey, Sergeant Podbielniak, Officer Slattery, and Retired Deputy Chief Hardy.

**Community Policing Unit (CPU)**

CPU was requested by the Detectives to 12200 block of Maple for financial exploitation of a senior. First Midwest Bank advised law enforcement that two subjects entered the bank with checks from the account of the senior, which were in excess of \$1000.00. An investigation concluded that the senior suffered from dementia but the payment was approved for services. The family was unaware of the severity of the dementia, and he will be moving in with family.

CPU has begun working with Silver Dawn. Several members of the Fire Department and MetroSouth Medical Center have already received training.

220 properties listed as abandoned were checked to make sure they are within building code compliance and secured.

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CPU assisted with Building Court. A total \$62,600.00 in fines were issued through the Building Department.

National Night Out will be held Tuesday August 4<sup>th</sup> from 6:00 to 9:00 at the Rec Center. All are invited.

St. Donatus fest will be held August 5<sup>th</sup> through 9<sup>th</sup>.

**911 Center**

The 911 Center received 14,246 calls in June.

The 911 Center has been working with the Wireless Carriers serving Blue Island in updating our Phase II capabilities. During the month of June, 24.1% of all 911 calls received were from a cell phone. Just recently a Phase II call was received and the Police were dispatched to within 158 feet from the person requesting assistance.

**BIEMA**

No report submitted.

**Monthly Health and Sanitation Report**

In the month of June 25 Health and Sanitation Inspections were done. All businesses were in compliance with State and Local Ordinances.

Several businesses were found to be operating with a Blue Island Business Licenses. All have been required to obtain a proper license.

**Aldermen's Concerns**

Alderman Poulos expressed his concern over the transport of Fracking Crude Oil through the City and the dangers that are involved.

Alderman Johnson asked about arrangements for National Night Out.

Alderman Poulos asked about the timing of yellow lights. Deputy Chief Cornell stated that our lights have been tested for proper timing.

Alderman Thompson asked about the Boot Fee and how it was applied.

Alderman Johnson asked about penalties for a resident removing the Boot by themselves. There is a \$500 fine and a felony charge of damage to government property.

Alderman Thompson reported that METRA trucks are driving down Longwood, and should be travelling on Vincennes.

Alderman Johnson reported thefts from autos in the California Gardens area, and suggested that an Officer be assigned to patrol the area around the Rec Center.

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Alderman Poulos asked about how to address people throwing garbage from their vehicles. A discussion ensued about the difference between littering and illegal dumping.

Meeting was adjourned at 6:46 p.m.

Our next regular meeting will be August 11<sup>th</sup>, at 6:00 pm in the East Annex.

Respectfully submitted,  
Candace Carr  
4<sup>th</sup> Ward Alderman

**Motion by Ald. Carr, second by Ald. Slattery to approve An Ordinance Amending the City of Blue Island Code of Ordinances Title VII, Chapter 70, Regarding Automated Traffic Law Violations.**

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

Nays: 0

Absent: 1 Johanson

Abstain: 0

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

*Next Meeting – Tuesday, August 11, 2015, 6:00 – East Annex*

**Municipal Services Committee – Ald. Donahue, Chairman**

**Motion by Ald. Donahue, second by Ald. Pittman to approve A Resolution of the City of Blue Island Authorizing the Adoption of the Cook County Multi-Jurisdictional Hazard Mitigation Plan.**

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

Nays: 0

Absent: 1 Johanson

Abstain: 0

Regular Meeting – July 28, 2015

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

*Next Meeting – Thursday, August 13, 2015, 6:00 – East Annex*

**Judiciary Committee – Ald. Frausto, Chairman**

**Motion by Ald. Frausto, second by Ald. Poulos to deny three claims (2015-12241, 2015-20324, 2015-2619) as presented in the minutes.**

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

Nays: 0

Absent: 1 Johanson

Abstain: 0

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

*Next Meeting – Tuesday, August 18, 2015, 7:00 – East Annex*

**ALDERMANIC ANNOUNCEMENTS/COMMENTS:**

Ald. Donahue asked that neighbors look out for each other as it will be a hot week. He stated that the Calumet Township and the Library are cooling centers. Ald. Johnson announced that National Night Out will be held on Tuesday, August 4 from 6:00 to 9:00 at the Recreation Center, he invited everyone to attend. Ald. Thompson asked Mark Miller to come up and explain what happened to the native plants at 120<sup>th</sup> and Washington.

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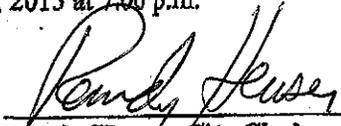
**ADJOURNMENT**

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

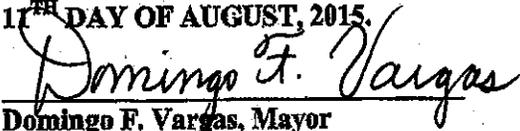
Upon a vote, the Mayor declared the motion carried.

The meeting was adjourned at 8:23 p.m.

The next regular meeting of the City Council is scheduled for August 11, 2015 at 7:00 p.m.

  
\_\_\_\_\_  
Randy Heuser, City Clerk

APPROVED BY ME THIS  
11<sup>TH</sup> DAY OF AUGUST, 2015.

  
\_\_\_\_\_  
Domingo F. Vargas, Mayor