

**JOURNAL OF PROCEEDING
OF THE
REGULAR MEETING, JANUARY 8, 2013**

CALL TO ORDER

The regular meeting of the City Council of the City of Blue Island was called to order by Mayor Pro-tem Vargas at 7:00 p.m. on January 8, 2013.

PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE

ROLL CALL

Roll Call indicates the following:

Present: 13 Ald. Ruthenberg, Stone, Ostling, Janko,
Johnson, Frausto, Vargas, Thompson,
Natalino, Buckner, Vieyra, Spizzirri,
Patoska.

Absent: 1 Ald. Rita

Present Also: Pam Frasor, City Clerk
Felicia L. Frazier, City Attorney
Carmine Bilotto, City Treasurer

Mayor Pro-tem Vargas wished everybody a Happy New Year.

JOURNAL OF PROCEEDING

Ald. Janko asked to amend the minutes of the December 11, 2012 City Council Meeting regarding the motion of the Home Rule Resolution being tabled and it was not.

Clerk Frasor stated that she had listened to the tape 2 times and the motion was made to table the Resolution and asked the Alderman if he would like to come to her office to listen to the tape he is welcome to do so.

Mayor Pro-tem Vargas asked the City Attorney how this should be handled.

Attorney Frazier stated the Alderman should make a motion to what he believes was motioned that day.

Ald. Janko asked should the motion be put out for the minutes or put the motion out for the floor.

Mayor Pro-tem Vargas stated it should go out to the floor and asked Attorney Frazier if that was correct.

Attorney Frazier stated that is correct but it should be stated once again that you do have the representation that there is a tape to listen to stating it was tabled, however that being said if you believe there was something other than that occurred at the meeting you can make the motion and see if that passes.

Ald. Janko stated that it states that it was motion by Ald. Vargas and second by Ald. Janko to table but the Alderman does not believe that he motion it to be tabled.

Clerk Frasor asked Ald. Janko at what point would he like to come to her office to listen to the copy of the tape and not to amend it until he listens to the tape. Clerk Frasor stated that her office had listened to it twice to make sure it was tabled and it was tabled.

Ald. Janko stated he did not believe that is what he stated.

Clerk Frasor stated that we have his voice on a recording seconding to table this.

Ald. Janko asked to hold off on this until he can listens to the tape.

Attorney Frazier stated that would be the best thing to do.

REPORT OF CITY OFFICIALS

Mayor

Mayor Pro-tem Vargas announced Blue Island Arts Alliance & Blue Island Historical Society are excited to present the first Blue Island & Neighbors Home Movie Night on Sunday, January 27th from 6:00pm-8:00pm at the Historical Society/Albee House at 13018 Maple Avenue

Mayor Pro-tem Vargas asked Mr. Nagel if he would like to approach the podium to give us a brief run down of what he has.

Mr. Tom Nagel, City Engineer approached the podium to give an update on the projects that are occurring.

- Today was a preconstruction meeting for the Downtown TIF sewer line that was awarded 6 months ago.

- Bid will be taken on January 18th and awarding it on January 22nd at the City Council Meeting for the Grunewald, Orchard and Collins CDBG sewer lining. This will occur in the spring.
- CDBG Paving for Grunewald, Orchard and Collins will follow and bids will be taken around March 1st.

On the Question: Ald. Janko asked what are the 100 blocks of Collins, Orchard and Grunewald were.

Mr. Nagel stated they are between Western Avenue & Greenwood.

Ald. Johnson asked when they would start with the sidewalks and curbs in the 6th Ward.

Mr. Nagel stated that project has been completed. There was \$100,000.00 to spend and every sent was spent.

Ald. Johnson thought there was suppose to have more work done in the 6th Ward because of the weather.

Mr. Nagel stated that the weather has been pretty nice and all the work has been completed.

QUESTIONS TO THE MAYOR

No Questions.

BIDS

No Bids

CITY CLERK

No Business.

CITY TREASURER

Motion by Ald. Janko, second by Ald. Stone to accept the Treasurer's Report for the period ending December 31, 2012 and to be placed on file.

Upon a vote, Mayor Pro-tem Vargas declared the motion carried.

CITY ATTORNEY

Motion by Ald. Janko, second by Ald. Ostling the headings be read and then a motion for adoption.

Upon a vote, Mayor Pro-tem Vargas declared the motion carried.

ORDINANCE NO. 13 - 216

AN ORDINANCE RESTRICTING A PORTION OF A CERTAIN STREET FOR HANDICAPPED PARKING ONLY WITHIN THE CITY OF BLUE ISLAND, COUNTY OF COOK, STATE OF ILLINOIS, AND PROVIDING PENALTIES FOR THE VIOLATION THEREOF.

Location: 2450 New Street.

Motion by Ald. Ostling, second by Ald. Patoska to approve.

Ayes: 13 Ald. Ruthenberg, Stone, Ostling, Janko, Johnson, Frausto, Vargas, Thompson, Natalino, Buckner, Vieyra, Spizzirri, Patoska.

Nays: 0

Absent: 1 Ald. Rita.

Abstain: 0

There being Thirteen (13) Affirmative Votes, Mayor Pro-tem Vargas declared the motion carried.

ORDINANCE NO. 13 - 217

AN ORDINANCE DESIGNATING RESIDENTIAL PERMIT PARKING ONLY DISTRICT B6 WITHIN THE CITY OF BLUE ISLAND, COUNTY OF COOK, STATE OF ILLINOIS, AND PROVIDING PENALTIES FOR THE VIOLATION THEREOF.

Motion by Ald. Janko, second by Ald. Johnson to approve.

Ayes: 13 Ald. Ruthenberg, Stone, Ostling, Janko, Johnson, Frausto, Vargas, Thompson,

Natalino, Buckner, Vieyra, Spizzirri,
Patoska.

Nays: 0

Absent: 1 Ald. Rita.

Abstain: 0

There being Thirteen (13) Affirmative Votes, Mayor Pro-tem Vargas declared the motion carried.

Clerk Frasor’s question on number 3 is because it is in dispute that it was tabled, it can’t be tabled again. She does not know how to proceed with this, but to her if it is tabled once, if no body believes her that it has been tabled, she believes it has to be voted on.

Attorney Frazier stated even if it has been tabled once, this couldn’t be brought back up until it has been formerly removed.

RESOLUTION NO. 13 - 454

A RESOLUTION OF THE CITY OF BLUE ISLAND, COOK COUNTY, ILLINOIS REQUESTING THAT A PROPOSITION TO BECOME A HOME RULE UNIT BE SUBMITTED TO THE ELECTORS OF THE CITY OF BLUE ISLAND AT THE APRIL 9, 2013 CONSOLIDATED ELECTION.

Motion by Ald. Patoska, second by Ald. Johnson to remove this Resolution from the Agenda.

Ayes: 10 Ald. Ruthenberg, Stone, Ostling, Janko,
Johnson, Frausto, Vargas, Vieyra,
Spizzirri, Patoska.

Nays: 3 Ald. Thompson, Natalino, Buckner.

Absent: 1 Ald. Rita

Abstain: 0

There being Ten (10) Affirmative Votes, Mayor Pro-tem Vargas declared the motion carried.

PETITION

PETITION TO RECONSIDER THE COMMUNITY DEVELOPMENT COMMITTEE'S DECISION TO LIMIT THE HOURS OF OPERATION OF THE ISLAND SPORTS BAR & GRILL LOCATED AT 13414 OLDE WESTERN AVENUE, BLUE ISLAND, ILLINOIS.

Ald. Stone read the minutes from the Special Meeting that was held in regards to The Island Sports Bar & Grill.

The Committee called a Special Meeting pursuant to Notice concerning the status of the Business License of Island Sports & Grill because of complaints that the current operation of the business endangers the health and safety of the Community.

Ald. Frausto testified that he has received numerous complaints concerning the operation of the Island Sports & Grill located at 13414 S. Western Avenue. The Alderman stated that some of the complaints include but not limited to: noise-music emulating for the establishment that can be heard in the immediate neighborhood, patrons of the establishment parking in resident areas and many times parking illegally, bottles and other debris thrown in residential areas, public urination, public intoxication, patrons disturbing the neighborhood when leaving the establishment when closing.

Michael Sinda of 12718 Greenwood Avenue testified that upon visiting the Maple Tree (located a block north of the establishment) he has notice empty bottles-cases of beer, vehicles proceeding the wrong way on Olde Western Avenue. Mr. Sinda also submitted a letter from the Maple Tree concerning the present situation at the Island Sports Bar & Grill. Finally Mr. Sinda stated that the original business plan submitted by the license holder called for a family restaurant and not a club.

Dewey Smith of 4275 Thunderbolt, Scott Air Force Base, Ill testified that he is a Police Officer for the Village of Markham presently on leave for military duty. He stated that he and his wife patronize the business because it is a safe and enjoyable place. He stated that you must be 25 years of age or older to enter the premises.

Michael Evans of 10765 Warsaw, South Holland, Ill testified that he dj's on Wednesday playing Jazz and never had any trouble.

Adam Shorter III of 13414 Olde Western Avenue, the license holder appeared before the Committee represented by his Attorney,

Randy Crampton of 70 West Madison Street, Suite 1400, Chicago, Ill. Mr. Shorter stated that he could not address the letter from Maple Tree because he has not had an opportunity to review it. Mr. Shorter did state that he has acquired an additional parking. He has entered into an arrangement with the Laundromat to utilize their parking lot. Mr. Shorter stated that he has hired additional security, placed signs within his establishment requiring patrons to respect the neighborhood, strict with his last call prior to closing, strict rules prohibiting leaving the premises with any type of container, use of more trash containers outside the premises, strict with occupancy limits (security at the door with a counter), put in place a policy of escorting patrons to their vehicle and will be more aggressive in patrolling outside the premises. Finally stated that he has a strict age limit of 25 years of age or older before being allowed admittance.

Ald. Johnson stated the Municipal Service Committee will be considering residential or permit parking for the area. Ald. Janko reiterated that his Committee would impose parking restrictions.

Apolonia Alvarado of 13434 Olde Western Avenue testified to noise and general disruption to the neighborhood caused by the patrons because they loiter after closing.

Anele DeLavria testified to the negative affect the establishment has on the neighborhood. Even though her bedrooms are located at the rear of their residence her family's sleep is interrupted by the noise and unruly behavior of the of the patron's leaving.

After much discussion between the Committee members, a motion was duly made and second to give Mr. Shorter 90 days to institute the changes he represented to the Committee. The motion was defeated by al roll call vote of 4 nays and 3 ayes.

A motion was made to require that the establishment close at the hour of 1:30 am, Monday thru Sunday inclusive. The motion was second and upon a roll call vote of 4 ayes and 3 nays was passed. This requirement was stayed pending an appeal to be heard by the entire City Council at its January 8, 2013 regularly scheduled meeting.

Ald. Stone announced that the Police Department had received 4 calls between the dates of January 5th and January 6th down to this establishment for various reasons among them including criminal damage to a vehicle, a theft over \$300, lost articles and 2 batteries.

Motion by Stone, second by Ald. Patoska to agree to limit the hours of operation on this establishment.

Clerk Frasor stated this is an Aye vote to support the Committee's decision.

Ayes: 11 Ald. Ruthenberg, Stone, Ostling, Janko, Frausto, Vargas, Natalino, Buckner, Vieyra, Spizzirri, Patoska.

Nays: 2 Ald. Johnson, Thompson.

Absent: 1 Ald. Rita

Abstain: 0

There being Eleven (11) Affirmative Votes, Mayor Pro-tem Vargas declared the motion carried.

COMMITTEE REPORTS

Finance Committee – Ald. Patoska, Chairman

ACCOUNTS PAYABLE

Motion by Ald. Patoska, second by Ald. Stone to approve Accounts Payable for December 21, 2012 for the Total Amount of \$446,514.63.

Ayes: 13 Ald. Ruthenberg, Stone, Ostling, Janko, Johnson, Frausto, Vargas, Thompson, Natalino, Buckner, Vieyra, Spizzirri, Patoska.

Nays: 0

Absent: 1 Ald. Rita.

Abstain: 0

There being Thirteen (13) Affirmative Votes, Mayor Pro-tem Vargas declared the motion carried.

ACCOUNTS PAYABLE

Motion by Ald. Patoska, second by Ald. Natalino to approve Accounts Payable for January 4, 2013 for the Total Amount of \$237,751.85.

Ayes: 13 Ald. Ruthenberg, Stone, Ostling, Janko,
Johnson, Frausto, Vargas, Thompson,
Natalino, Buckner, Vieyra, Spizzirri,
Patoska.

Nays: 0

Absent: 1 Ald. Rita.

Abstain: 0

There being Thirteen (13) Affirmative Votes, Mayor Pro-tem
Vargas declared the motion carried.

PAYROLL

**Motion by Ald. Patoska, second by Ald. Stone to approve
Payroll for December 21, 2012 Net Pay - \$231,894.54 and
Total Gross - \$387,647.22.**

Ayes: 13 Ald. Ruthenberg, Stone, Ostling, Janko,
Johnson, Frausto, Vargas, Thompson,
Natalino, Buckner, Vieyra, Spizzirri,
Patoska.

Nays: 0

Absent: 1 Ald. Rita.

Abstain: 0

There being Thirteen (13) Affirmative Votes, Mayor Pro-tem
Vargas declared the motion carried.

PAYROLL

**Motion by Ald. Patoska, second by Ald. Stone to approve
Payroll for January 4, 2013 Net Pay - \$241,675.17 and
Total Gross - \$404,378.24.**

Ayes: 13 Ald. Ruthenberg, Stone, Ostling, Janko,
Johnson, Frausto, Vargas, Thompson,
Natalino, Buckner, Vieyra, Spizzirri,
Patoska.

Nays: 0

Absent: 1 Ald. Rita.

Abstain: 0

There being Thirteen (13) Affirmative Votes, Mayor Pro-tem Vargas declared the motion carried.

Ald. Patoska announced that the Assistant Finance Director Anastasia submitted to Committee a Quarterly Financial Report and will be put on line.

State Income Tax is still behind \$469,00.00.

Property Tax still owed to the City is \$250,000.

The Tax Anticipation Warrant was processed and finalized at the end of last month

Judiciary Committee – Ald. Vargas, Chairman

Insurance Loss –

Medical Loss – Mr. Sullivan commented that the majority of claims were Worker's Comp cases. Except the line item labeled Meade Electric, which was in regards to a city light pole.

August street sweeper accident - location of accident Union & Elm. The parked vehicle was unoccupied at the time of the incident. The City is liable; cost of repair is \$9000.00 for a Mercedes Benz.

Parking in Residential Areas –

Committee continued discussion regarding "B" plate vehicles. At previous meetings the Committee made a temporary list of vehicles it would like restricted/banned from parking on residential streets in Blue Island. The Committee is cognizant that Blue Island is a Workman's Community.

The issue is aesthetics/property values.

The Committee would like additional suggestions from the City Council regarding the types of vehicles that should be banned from parking in the City's Residential areas.

Home Rule –

The Committee recognized that there are Pro's and Con's regarding this topic.

The Committee spoke about tax caps but needs more information.

City Attorney Sullivan stated that a community with a population over \$25,000 inhabitants automatically becomes Home Rule but it also can opt out.

The Committee concurred that City Council as well as the public needs to be educated regarding Home Rule.

Mr. Stevo asked if the issue of Home Rule started in the Judiciary Committee and we answered no and that is why the request to bring it to the committee for the January meeting was made.

Ms. DePace Green informed that communities such as Country Club Hills, Calumet Park, Markham, ect. are Home Rule. She added that some of these Communities are not better off.

Ms. Knuekner reminded the Committee that the Home Rule Referendum was brought to the Blue Island Electorate in April of 2005 and in November of 2010 and the voters said no.

The Committee pointed out that Home Rule has benefits other than just raising taxes. The Committee stressed that it needs more information on the topic to give an opinion/recommendation.

Ms. Knuekner suggested getting information from the Better Business Association. Ald. Natalino that the Committee and the Public should read the recent article found in the Chicago Tribune (on line).

The Committee suggested even inviting one of the experts on the topic to come and speak to the Citizens of Blue Island.

The Committee agreed to continue discussion on the topic of Home Rule at the next meeting in February.

Next meeting – Tuesday, February 5, 2013, 6:00 pm – East Annex.

Public Health & Safety Committee – Ald. Ostling, Chairman

Fire Department Report –

The Fire Department had 256 emergency call in November, 160 were EMS calls.

43 medical illness, 16 psychiatric evaluations 3 suicidal threats, 35 complaints of pain, 13 cardiac call, 12 breathing problems, 1 overdose 4 intoxication, 5 seizure calls, 1 DOA, 25 refused transport, 8 lift assists, 2 women with labor pains, 2 battery victims, 140 patients treated and 125 transported.

The Fire Department responded to 23 fire alarms. 9 burned food, 1 power surge, 3 maintenance work, 3 bad detectors, 1 smoke from burned CFL light bulb, 1 dryer fire in home, 1 dryer fire in Laundromat, 1 furniture in garage, 1 remolding job, 1 dumpster fire, 7 calls were carbon monoxide alarms, 4 natural gas odors, 1 threatened arson and 39 assist to other towns.

No respond from FEMA regarding grant applications.

Roof repair work for firehouse 2 completed.

Firefighters participated in the hazardous materials operation training that is State mandated.

One Firefighter is in work hardening after shoulder surgery.
One Firefighter has been hired to replace Firefighter who resigned.
One Lt. Is off from surgery from knee injury and one Firefighter has resigned.

Mr. Dan Krause Engineer has helped determine cost to proceed with the feasibility study to relocated station 2 that would be \$25,000.00.

Lt. Klinker received his Bachelor of Science Degree in Fire Science.

Another MSA 4 gas meter was placed in service at Firehouse 2. This meter is used to determine the safety of atmospheric conditions. Each station will have these instruments to respond to gas odor investigations.

Medical Reimbursement Service –
November collections - \$25,760.26
Processing Fee - \$2,447.22

Police Department Report -
456 parking tickets, 420 moving violations, 14,659 miles patrolled and \$43,761.16 total fines collected.

Detective Division –

1 narcotics search warrant, 11 search warrants as a part of investigation and 1 Major Crime Task Force Call out for a homicide.

911 Center –

Blue Island Police & Fire calls – 2,624

Midlothian Police & Fire calls – 1,813

Calumet Park Police & Fire calls – 1,543

Posen Police & Fire calls – 970

Detectives conducted 2012 tobacco enforcement program citations & police reports were generated in those found in violation. There were 5 in violation.

Next meeting – Monday, January 21, 2013, 6:30 p.m. – Lower Level of the Police Department.

Municipal Services Committee – Ald. Janko, Chairman

Motion by Ald. Janko, second by Ald. Johnson to approve to have an Ordinance to be drafted for revive Permit Parking in the area of 135th Street to the South, Broadway to the North for the Streets of Ann and Greenwood and also Market.

On the Question: Clerk Frasor asked if this was for Residential Parking Only or Residential Permit Parking Only.

Ald. Janko stated there is no longer a Residential Only Parking Ordinance; this would be for Residential Permit Parking Only.

Ald. Buckner wanted to clarify that these residents don't have to pay for these stickers that they would be provided with them.

Ald. Janko stated that is correct.

Ayes: 13 Ald. Ruthenberg, Stone, Ostling, Janko, Johnson, Frausto, Vargas, Thompson, Natalino, Buckner, Vieyra, Spizzirri, Patoska.

Nays: 0

Absent: 1 Ald. Rita.

Abstain: 0

Clerk Frasor asked this will be designated Residential Permit Parking B7, correct.

Ald. Janko stated this would be correct

There being Thirteen (13) Affirmative Votes, Mayor Pro-tem Vargas declared the motion carried.

Motion by Ald. Janko, second by Ald. Ostling to approve an Ordinance to be drafted for Handicapped Parking at the location of 2322 W. 122nd Street.

Upon a vote, Mayor Pro-tem Vargas declared the motion carried.

Water Superintendent Werner addressed the Committee on the review of the hydrant testing that was conducted through out the City. The testing identified 2 hydrants that require replacement. The Water Department is working on completing it. The Superintendent also reported that a new basin was place at 135th and Ann Street to relieve flooding that area. Superintendent Werner along with City Engineer, Mr. Tom Nagel is in planning on replacement of water mains through out the City. He is currently collecting data that will address any effects on life and health safety. The Superintendent is also working along with Robinson Engineering in regards to over land flooding that is currently occurring in the northeast area of the 7th Ward, projects for 2013 include the sewer relining, the downtown TIF on High, York and New Streets. The pre construction meeting is scheduled for January 8th; this will be financed with TIF funding sewer relining on Grunewald, Orchard and Collins Streets and will be going out to bid on the 18th and should be awarded on the 22nd. This is CDBG and should be completed in March then road surfacing should follow with CDBG repairs.

Superintendent Werner discussed the RPZ testing program for commercial properties and businesses. He is looking into implementing this through an out side agency and will be bring more information to the Committee. He would like to have the Committee look at the current ordinance and look to bring it up to date. He provided a sample ordinance, which would go to the Judiciary Committee for review as well.

Public Works Superintendent Stachulak reported that all the snow equipment is ready. The Wireton Road facility received 6 new service doors to replace the ones that needed repair.

Director of Golf Jerry Vidovic reported that the Golf Course is in winter mode and is negotiating a contract with Service Scape. He is working on a 12-month contract in lieu of administration changes that will be taking place in April.

The December receipts for the Golf Course was \$22,311.61.

Resident Ronald Young presented the Committee with a water rate estimated gallon uses in relations to the JAWA project. He encouraged the Committee and Alderman and all Blue Island elected officials to participate and educated them selves about this project.

Carol DePace-Green also spoke about the JAWA to the Committee.

Next meeting – Tuesday, February 5, 2013 at 7:00 p.m. – East Annex

Community Development – Ald. Stone, Chairman

Chairman Stone read a memo form Mr. William R. Jackson, President of SBJ Enterprises, Inc. at 12757 S. Western Avenue informing the Committee that the business had cancelled their lease agreement for the use of the banquet facilities and would no longer be holding any events there. They will however continue to conduct business meetings in suite 223 at that location.

Mr. Crite Planning Director presented the committee with a memorandum with recommendations for the following businesses –

Twenty Nine Eleven LLC, dba: Crooked Prism Group at 12224 Fairway Circle, Unit D – Approved pending getting their Tax I.D. Number.

Embellish Hair Studio at 11930 S. Western Avenue – Approved pending inspections and signage approval.

Island Sports Bar & Grill at 13414 Olde Western Avenue – Ald. Frausto came before the Committee regarding issues at the Island Sports Bar and Grill including parking lots are all over flowing, 135th Street full, Olde Western Avenue full from 135th to the Cal Sag, even the Laundromat lot full. There is reckless driving, people

congregating outside, cars stopping and blocking the street, urinating in the street, trash left in the neighborhood that has been thrown from cars, and a gun was found in a flowerpot on 135th Street. The residents are constantly being woken up from the noise. He stated the residents are scared and are asking the Committee to address the issues. He stated that businesses are welcome in Blue Island, but the business should not be allowed to disturb the peace and tranquility of the neighborhood.

Other citizens who came before the Committee regarding the Island Sports Bar and Grill included:

Ms. Apolonia Alvarado of 13434 Olde Western Avenue who stated bottles are being thrown from cars, profanity being yelled out at all hours, loud music, drinking in cars, and cars parked everywhere – even illegally. She has called the Police on numerous occasions. Every Friday and Saturday night this is going on. Security is outside laughing and talking with the customers rather than doing their job. Ms. Alvarado presented the Committee with a petition from residents along with the issues she has talked about.

Mr. Mike Sinde of 12718 Greenwood who stated he was in the area on Saturday around 11pm and cars were going the wrong way on Western. He is in the area frequently going to the restaurants there. He is concerned about the image and safety in the area. He also saw public urination and people falling over and is worried about what this establishment is doing to the area.

Fred Bilotto of 13408 Rexford stated there is no parking on Rexford, which is more than 2 blocks away, and there is noise that echoes thru the neighborhood until after 3 am.

Eric Frausto of 13436 Ann Street stated there is no parking on Ann Street; over 2 blocks away and has pictures on his cell phone showing the garbage left behind all over the street.

Mike McCarthy, the Hideaway at 13404 Western has been in business over 8 years and cannot run his business on the weekends. Customers from the Island Bar come into his bar to use the washrooms and trash them. They fill his dumpsters with empty liquor bottles and his customers have no place to park. Would appreciate an opportunity to continue to run his business as he used to.

Deputy Chief Cornell stated there has been a spike in Police calls since the bar opened with issues being parking and arguments over

parking, and customer being very loud. It was noted that security does not seem to be actively involved in settling the disputes. D.C. Cornell stated it was his understanding the main business was to be a restaurant, but there are no tables and it is more of a lounge.

Ald. Stone read from the original business plan that Mr. Shorter presented to the Committee when he applied for his license. Highlights include it would “create an inviting neighborhood atmosphere that would include a multimedia system, bar and open layout which appeals to families and sports fans” it also stated the Island Sports Bar and Grill “will be a quality establishment that caters to the city residents and a beacon for individuals who enjoy old service and hospitality.” He also stated he would “provide plenty of parking for his patrons”.

City Attorney Terry Sullivan addressed the committee suggested the committee notice to the owner to allow him to retain council, send out a notice to the owner and post a date for a revocation hearing.

Motion by Ald. Patoska, second by Ald. Johnson to schedule a hearing date of Thursday, December 27, 2012 at 7:00 p.m. for the purpose of Island Sports Bar and Grill.

Mr. Avilos of 2624 Broadway stated he has lived in the area for 44 years and asked for 2 Police Officers to be at the bar at closing time.

Labriola Frausto of 13437 Greenwood stated he gets woke up at 4 a.m. by loud music coming from cars and saw people urinating in the street and throwing trash.

Mrs. Danielle Shorter of 14626 S. Clark, Dolton testified on behalf of her husband.

Mr. Shorter discussed several issues including that he has gone above and beyond trying to respond to the Community. And he has taken several steps to try to resolve the issues including parking and asked his patrons to please not park in the neighborhoods.

Liquor Ordinance –

The Liquor Ordinance amendment was discussed. Moved by Ald. Buckner, seconded by Ald. Johnson to send the ordinance to City Council for review. Motion carried.

The noise Ordinance was discussed and the newspaper rack ordinance tabled until January.

Mr. Adams presented the Building Department report of November --

• Building Permits	145
• Apartment Inspections	41
• Residential Inspections	65
• Commercial Inspections	19
• Letter of Conditions	8
• Demand Notices	3
• Court Summons Issued	7
• Complaints Checked	55
• “Not Approved for Occupancy”	10
• “Code Violations” door tags	65
• “Notice of Christmas Decorations”	0
• “Stop Work”	18
• Vacant Properties Registered	67
• Vacant Properties Inspected	12
• Housing Court Fines Issued	\$1,000.00

Next Meeting – Tuesday, January 15, 2013, 6:00 p.m. – East Annex.

Clerk Frasor addressed Ald. Janko stating she had spoken to the Deputy Clerk and she has the recording marked exactly where it calls for the tabling and if he would like to go to her office directly after the meeting we can play it for you.

Ald. Janko stated absolutely and thanked Clerk Frasor.

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

Carol DePace-Green of 2731 Orchard Street stated in regards to the Home Rule Resolution, number 3 on the Agenda, she did not hear if it was passed or not.

Mayor Pro-tem Vargas stated it was taken off the Agenda.

Ms. Green stated the Chicago Tribune had an article on Home Rule and she had a copy of it if anybody would like to read it and asked Mayor Pro-tem Vargas if the annual finance report is available at City Hall to look at.

Mayor Pro-tem Vargas stated he would find out for her.

Clerk Frasor stated it was available.

Ms. Green stated it could be viewed on line through Cook County and asked about the Municipal Pension Fund and if the Mayor Pro-tem knew how much it was.

Mayor Pro-tem Vargas stated he would get her that information.

Ms. Green asked how much currently is the City in debt.

Mayor Pro-tem Vargas stated again he would get that information for her.

Mark Kuehner of 2250 Orchard Street stressed his concerns with the education of children. He stated that Casa Blue Island has partnered with the Tommy Brown Sports Association and also with the Black Star Project. Black Star Project created an idea called the Saturday University, which members of the community can come and engage in an educational program. The next 10-week session will start this Saturday, January 12th.

Tony Lee of 2800 W. 127th Street gave special thanks the Angel Touch Organization that made a lot of people smile, they are a great organization.

Willie Scott of 11917 Longwood Avenue stated he has been complaining about the hiring practice in Blue Island for 22 years and stressed his concerns with African Americans not working.

Mayor Pro-tem Vargas stated he would relay this to the Mayor and for Mr. Scott to attend the next Judiciary Meeting.

Ald. Frausto stated that Mr. Shorter was told he could appeal at today's Council Meeting, he was here he might of stepped out.

Ald. Thompson would like to respond to Mr. Scott and stated, as an African American Woman who is on this Council would like to sit with him any time to discussion the hiring practice in Blue Island.

Apolonia Alvarado of 13434 Western Avenue asked since the residential permit parking passed, how long would it be before it would be in effect and how can we obtain it.

Clerk Frasor stated the permits are obtained in her office and it would take her about a month to put it together. She first has to identify every address in that zone, the Street Department has to

get the signage up and the decals and visitor passes have to be ordered so a month or maybe a little longer.

Ms. Alvarado asked after this is all done and if someone parks without a permit what happens.

Clerk Frasor stated ticketed first and if they are repeat offenders they would get towed.

Ald. Frausto stated that it does take time that the ordinance has to get drafted yet then voted upon and that this does not pertain to Olde Western Avenue, which is zoned as commercial.

Ms. Alvarado stated that she has nowhere to park them.

Ald. Frausto stated that he had brought it up at Municipal Services but because it is zoned as commercial, there cannot be permit parking areas.

Ms. Alvarado asked what could she do to secure parking.

Ald. Johnson stated that he had spoken to Mr. Shorter and he stated that he would have his security guards insure that you would have a space to park.

Ms. Alvarado stated that Mr. Shorter did address her regarding parking and it was fine for awhile but this last week end there was a problem of no parking again. Ms. Alvarado asked what the City is going to do to insure she has parking in front of her house along with the other houses that are there.

Ald. Frausto stated that they would have to all work together for a solution since the ordinance zones that area as commercial but it's going to be a process.

Ald. Johnson stated he talked to Mr. Shorter and stated he will work with you regarding the parking problem. The Alderman stated they have not turned a blind eye to any of the residents and we fight for them all the time, the thing is there is a process on how things have to be done and we have to follow the law.

Mayor Pro-tem Vargas invited Mr. Shorter to approach Council for a brief presentation.

Mr. Shorter and his Attorney Mr. Randy Crumpton approached the podium. Attorney Randy Crumpton stated he represents Mr. Shorter,

Owner of the Island Sports Bar and Grill stated that he had file an appeal on December 27th. The basis of the appeal is that Mr. Shorter has worked diligently to correct some of the issues that were brought to the committee's attention. Attorney Crumpton supplied the Council with a packet with all that Mr. Short has done. With all that Mr. Shorter is doing is an additional expense coming out of his pocket then for the Committee to shorten the length hours of operation is going to hurt/cripple the business. Attorney Crumpton asked can all the Police calls be all for the Island Sports Bar with several other establishments also located on Olde Western Avenue and went on to say that Mr. Shorter has complied with all the compliances and is willing to work with everyone and to continue to make improvements but to shorten his hours will cripple him and respectfully ask if Council would reconsider it.

Mayor Pro-tem Vargas advised Mr. Shorter that his security must be certified and have to be registered with the Blue Island Police.

Ald. Buckner asked since it was already voted on shortening their hours to 1:30am it will start today for the next 60 days.

Mayor Pro-tem Vargas stated that was correct.

Ald. Frausto stated they are appealing it tonight but their hours are reduced until the next special Community Development Meeting.

Mr. Shorter, owner of the Sports Island and Grill, stressed the concerns with all the issues. Mr. Shorter stated he has done any and everything that was asked by him to resolve the problems and feels that how changing the hours would make a difference. As a Business owner I would do what is asked by me but at the same time he needs somebody to reach out and work with him as well.

Treasurer Bilotto pointed out that he has additional parking lots, are there signs designating that they're for your establishment and by cutting down your hours your customers will realize to do the right thing so you can stay open longer. Any business that causes problems would also be addressed so that no body is picking on you.

Mr. Shorter stated that with obtaining so many more expenditures in order to try to appease and to make things better and now I will have a loss of revenue. He stated that by midnight the people who are already coming are already there so now that is where the revenue will stop. His finances went up and now his revenue now got hit and might not be able to survive.

April Dueshop of 12110 Greenwood Avenue stated with all do respect for Mr. Scott, he makes it seem that there is a conspiracy to keep African Americans out of the Fire Department but that is not so at all. The test that is given is not dumb downed for anybody; it isn't changed for females, not for Hispanic and it isn't changed for blacks. We are what we are and you either pass the test or you don't. It is a Civil Service Exam if you do well on that you move on to the physical agility part, some pass one part and not the other but it is only given every 2 to 3 years and if your not ready to go then you don't get a position. You get on a list based on your score and from there it depends how many openings there are. So even if you're on the list, you may not become a Firefighter. She was the first female and it is what it is, but she passed the same exam that the guys took and that is expected from everybody. It is not about color in the fire service, it's about knowing your stuff.

Ald. Johnson addressed with Mr. Scott and stated he had a conversation with former Chief Copp and former Chief Hoglund in addressing a cadet program for the youth and it was not just for African American people, it was all people. To let you know he is due diligent in trying to give everybody an opportunity.

Mr. Scott asked the female firefighter how many years has the Blue Island Fire Department existed and he stated over 150 years. He stated he rest his case.

Rachael Orosco of 11957 Longwood Drive stated the lady is wrong, that in 150 years no black people qualified to be a fireman in Blue Island and asked her if she was the mascot. Ms. Orosco stated that everyone there is ignoring the fact that Blue Island is 30% black and it is time you acknowledge it. She stated that the panel does not represent the people.


Uniqua Brown of 207 Kentucky Street, Oak Forest is Mr. Shorter sister and in regards to his business she feels that he was not given an appeal amount of time to address all of the concerns with the committee and restricting his hours is very unfair. A lot of the decisions that were made were on here say and not based on facts. Ms. Brown asked the Committee to make a decision based on fact and not on here say and give him the opportunity to bring a lot of success to the community.

ADJOURNMENT

Motion by Ald. Janko, second by Ald. Patoska to adjourn the meeting.

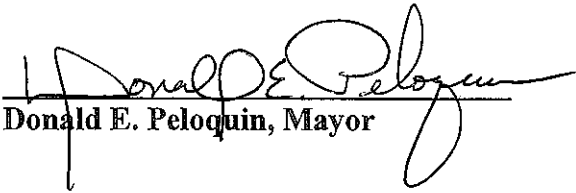
Upon a vote, Mayor Pro-tem Vargas declared the motion carried.

The next regular meeting of the City Council is scheduled for January 22, 2012 at 7:00 p.m.



Pam Frasar, City Clerk

**APPROVED BY ME THIS
15TH DAY OF JANUARY, 2013.**


Donald E. Peloquin, Mayor

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