

**JOURNAL OF PROCEEDING
OF THE
REGULAR MEETING, APRIL 23, 2013**

CALL TO ORDER

The regular meeting of the City Council of the City of Blue Island was called to order by Mayor Peloquin at 7:00 p.m. on April 23, 2013.

PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE

ROLL CALL

Roll Call indicates the following:

Present: 12 Ald. Frausto, Vargas, Thompson,
Natalino, Buckner, Vieyra, Spizzirri,
Patoska, Rita, Ruthenberg, Stone,
Ostling, Janko, Johnson.

Absent: 2 Ald. Thompson, Patoska.

Present Also: Pam Frasor, City Clerk
Terry Sullivan, City Attorney
Carmine Bilotto, City Treasurer

JOURNAL OF PROCEEDING

Moved by Ald. Janko, second by Ald. Rita the Journal Of Proceedings for the Regular Meeting on March 26, 2013 is accepted as printed.

Upon a vote, the Mayor declared the motion carried.

REPORT OF CITY OFFICIALS

Mayor

CHIEF CONTRERAS RETIRES

Mayor Peloquin announced on April 19, 2013 he received a letter from Chief Contreras stating he will be retiring; his last day will be May 3, 2012 and is asking Council's permission to accept the letter of resignation and send a letter of thanks to Chief Contreras.

Motion by Ald. Janko, second by Ald. Ostling to accept.

Upon a vote, the Mayor declared the motion carried.

Mayor Peloquin wanted to clarify a few things; he had talked to Mayor Elect Vargas and what's going to happen in the Police Department is Deputy Chief Cornell will continue to operate the department after Chief Contreras retires until the Council adopts and makes the new appointments at that time.

QUESTIONS TO THE MAYOR

No Questions.

BIDS

No Bids.

CITY CLERK

FLOOD DAMAGE

Clerk Frasor announced she provided each Alderman with Cook County's Initial Damage Assessment. Clerk Frasor stated that Mark Luety is handling this and there was very short notice. Residents can call her office and report any flood damage by Friday.

CITY TREASURER

Motion by Ald. Janko, second by Ald. Ostling to approve the Treasurer's Report for the period ending March 31, 2013 and to be placed on file.

Upon a vote, the Mayor declared the motion carried.

Treasurer Bilotto reported the Police Pension Fund from December to March went up approximately \$400,000 and the Fire Pension Fund went up approximately \$225,000.00.

CITY ATTORNEY

No Business.

COMMITTEE REPORTS

Finance Committee – Ald. Patoska, Chairman

ACCOUNTS PAYABLE

Motion by Ald. Stone, second by Ald. Natalino to approve Accounts Payable for April 9, 2013 - Grand Total for the amount of \$233,575.31.

ACCOUNTS PAYABLE

Motion by Ald. Stone, second by Ald. Natalino to approve Accounts Payable for April 23, 2013 - Grand Total for the amount of \$409,204.07.

Ayes: 12 Ald. Frausto, Vargas, Natalino, Buckner, Vieyra, Spizzirri, Rita, Ruthenberg, Stone, Ostling, Janko, Johnson.

Nays: 0

Absent: 2 Ald. Thompson, Patoska.

Abstain: 0

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

PAYROLL

Motion by Ald. Stone, second by Ald. Ostling to approve Payroll for March 28, 2013 for Net Pay - \$232,371.07 and Total Gross - \$388,582.16.

PAYROLL

Motion by Ald. Stone, second by Ald. Ostling to approve Payroll for April 12, 2013 for Net Pay - \$238,773.90 and Total Gross - \$402,845.34.

Ayes: 12 Ald. Frausto, Vargas, Natalino, Buckner, Vieyra, Spizzirri, Rita, Ruthenberg, Stone, Ostling, Janko, Johnson.

Nays: 0

Absent: 2 Ald. Thompson, Patoska.

Abstain: 0

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

Ald. Stone stated that the Tax Anticipate Warrant will be paid off tomorrow, the State is still 3-months behind \$570,000.00 and real estate taxes are still owed \$200,000.00 to \$250,000.00.

Mayor Peloquin announced there being no further Committee Reports.

Attorney Sullivan asked to defer the meeting to Ald. Janko.

Ald. Janko stated on behalf of the City Council and Treasurer Bilotto read the following:

RESOLUTION NO. 13 – 456

A RESOLUTION HONORING PAM FRASOR FOR HER SERVICE TO THE CITY OF BLUE ISLAND.

Whereas, Pam Frasor was born to John and Violet Denton in Blue Island Illinois and has lived in Blue Island ever since; and

Whereas, Pam Frasor attended St. Benedict School and Dwight D. Eisenhower High School; and

Whereas, Pam Frasor married John Frasor and have been blessed with three (3) children; namely Jonna; Joel; and John; four (4) grandchildren namely; John; Gabriel; Emma and Jack; and

Whereas, Pam Frasor was elected Alderman for the 5th Ward for the City of Blue Island in 1979 and re-elected Alderman for the 5th Ward in 1983; and

Whereas, Pam Frasor was appointed Community Relations Director for the City of Blue Island in 1985;

Whereas, Pam Frasor was appointed City Clerk for the City of Blue Island in 1991; and

Whereas, Pam Frasor was elected City Clerk for the City of Blue Island in 1993 and re-elected City Clerk in 1997; 2001; 2005 and 2009; and

Whereas, Pam Frasor during her tenure of twenty-two (22) years as City Clerk has been instrumental in the progress of the City of Blue Island; namely; Producer of Blue Island Television Station (BITV); Re-Activation of Tax Delinquent Properties; On-line water payments; Building a Golf Course on a landfill; and facilitating the transition of St. Francis Hospital to MetroSouth Medical Center; and others too numerous to mention and

Whereas, Pam Frasor's commitment to professionalism, integrity and work ethics has made the City of Blue Island a better place to live and raise a family; and

Now, Therefore, Be it Resolved by its elected officials of the City of Blue Island, County of Cook and State of Illinois, do hereby wish to express our most sincere and heartfelt thanks to Pam Frasor for her 34 years of service to the City of Blue Island.

All in favor along with Mayor Peloquin voted Aye to adopt.

Ald. Janko asked Clerk Frasor to approach the podium to accept a token of their appreciation and presented her with a clock with the inscription saying; Pamela Frasor, City Clerk - City of Blue Island - 1991 to 2013.

RESOLUTION NO. 13 - 457

A RESOLUTION HONORING DONALD E. PELOQUIN FOR HIS SERVICE TO THE CITY OF BLUE ISLAND.

Whereas, Donald E. Peloquin was born on December 25, 1950 to Norman and Virginia Peloquin in Blue Island Illinois and has lived in Blue Island ever since;

Whereas, Donald E. Peloquin attending St. Walter School and Dwight D. Eisenhower High School; and

Whereas, Donald E. Peloquin upon graduation from Eisenhower High School served our country in the U.S. Army and was stationed in Vietnam in 1971 and 1972; and

Whereas, Donald E. Peloquin married Mary Ellen Hickey and have been blessed with five (5) children; namely Daniel; David; Jamie; Donald; and Donna; two (2) grandchildren namely; Aiden and Brynn and a third grandchild is expected soon; and

Whereas, Donald E. Peloquin, is a licensed Funeral Director and Co-owner of Hickey Memorial Chapel; and

Whereas, Donald E. Peloquin is an active member of St. Benedict Church; and

Whereas, Donald E. Peloquin was elected Alderman for the 4th Ward for the City of Blue Island in 1981; and

Whereas, Donald E. Peloquin was elected Mayor for the City of Blue Island in 1985 and re-elected Mayor in 1989; 1993; 1997; 2001; 2005 and 2009.

Whereas, Donald E. Peloquin during his tenure of twenty-eight years as Mayor has been instrumental in the progress of the City of Blue Island; namely, Electing City's first Hispanic Alderman; Electing the City's first African-American Alderman; Building a Golf Course on a landfill; new streets and sewers in the California Garden community; facilitating the transition of St. Francis Hospital to MetroSouth Medical Center; and others too numerous to mention; and

Whereas, Donald E. Peloquin's commitment to professionalism, integrity and work ethic has made the City of Blue Island a better place to live and raise a family; and

Whereas, Donald. El Peloquin has been, is and will continue to be the biggest advocate of the City of Blue Island.

Now, Therefore, Be It Resolved by its elected officials of the City of Blue Island, County of Cook and State of Illinois, do hereby wish to express our most sincere and heartfelt thanks to Donald E. Peloquin for his 32 years of service to the City of Blue Island.

All in favor voted Aye to adopt.

Ald. Stone approached the podium and stated on behalf of the Alder-Chick's thanked the Mayor for 28 great years to the great City of Blue Island and he will be missed. She then presented him with a gift.

Mayor Peloquin stated there is a tradition when people leave the City Council they are presented with a plaque and it is his honor as Mayor to present them.

Mayor Peloquin presented Ald. Natalino with a plaque honoring and thanking him for serving the 1st Ward.

Mayor Peloquin presented Ald. Spizzirri with a plaque honoring and thanking her for serving the 2nd Ward.

Mayor Peloquin presented Marcia Rauch, mother of Ald. Patoska with a plaque honoring and thanking him for serving the 3rd Ward.

Mayor Peloquin presented Ald. Ruthenberg with a plaque honoring and thanking him for serving the 4th Ward and for being a good friend for over 50 years.

Mayor Peloquin stated that this all happened across the street in Krueger Funeral Home parking lot with Andy Botte, Pam and himself talking in the rain about what they thought would be good for Blue Island. They began a career working together and bringing people in and Pam was instrumental in that.

Mayor Peloquin presented City Clerk Pam Frasor with a plaque honoring and thanking her for many years of service and dedication to the City.

Mayor Peloquin is requesting permission from Council to go sine die for all the Committees and its structures.

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

Upon a vote, the Mayor declared the motion carried.

Mayor Peloquin is requesting permission from Council to appoint Ald. Janko as Mayor Pro-tem so he can conduct the meeting in May for the swearing in of new Mayor and Alderman.

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

Ayes: 12 Ald. Frausto, Vargas, Natalino,
Buckner, Vieyra, Spizzirri, Rita,
Ruthenberg, Stone, Ostling, Janko,
Johnson.

Nays: 0

Absent: 2 Ald. Thompson, Patoska.

Abstain: 0

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

Mayor Peloquin announced at the next meeting Mayor Pro-tem Janko will call the meeting to order, Deputy Clerk Linda will enter the roll call; then the certification from County with the election results will be voted in and then there will be a swearing in ceremony. The Mayor stated that's what he thought would occur but he would not be there.

Mayor Peloquin stated he could not tell the people of Blue Island how much he appreciated the opportunity to have served as Mayor of so many years. The Mayor stated he used to have dark hair when he started, now he doesn't.

He gave a personal thank you for the people who have been with him for a long, long time. He had mentioned Pam Frasor earlier who has been with him; Carey Horvath as the Attorney, the people of Blue Island will never realize how much he has done for the City and how much he saved the City in the fact that he did the job for what he did it for and that was all over a bowl of chili at Cliff's. He brought on Mike Anastasia to do the TIF's then it went from one thing to another to another, he did all kinds of jobs. The Mayor thanked Mike for his dedication to the City.

The Mayor thanked City Attorney Terry Sullivan who is like family to him. It goes beyond what we do in the office, it is a great relationship and he is proud to say he is his friend and he has been a great advocate for the City.

Mayor Peloquin went on to say how they had built a Golf Course on a land fill and thanked Jerry Vidovic and the Vidovic Family because for the first 5 or 6 years when we could not get people to play he brought people to the Golf Course. The Golf Course will now finish its 20th year and next year the bond issue to the Golf Course will be paid off. With the homes that have been built and for what it has done the Golf Course is something that we have dreamt about, we initiated it and a lot of people didn't think it would happen. Dickie Decker and Roger told him point blank that he would never build a Golf Course on a land fill then he was the first one to buy a golf cart and drive over there and thanked Jerry Vidovic again for all he has done.

Mayor Peloquin thanked the Hickey Family for allowing him to do this; his partners for allowing him to do this; his family and kids. He went on to say you can never understand how important it is to have a wife support you and be your best friend and he has the best.

Mayor Peloquin spoke of the accomplishments they have done. When he talks about the Union contracts when they came into the

City there was no health insurance, no liability insurance, first for union contracts, this building was purchased they had no funding for it and they built things from that. They never looked back – they always looked forward and always looked to the positive and they always tried to find ways to make things happen for the betterment of Blue Island.

When you look at all the things that they have accomplished –

- They fought and got 41 additional parking spaces on Western Avenue with IDOT.
- They developed probably 200 plus tax delinquent pieces of land that now have businesses or homes on it.
- They developed areas in the City in the idea of what could be the future here for economic growth.
- The projects on the Cal Sag.
- Worked with all kinds of State, County and Federal Officials.
- The purchase of the VFW hall.
- A 911 Center that dispatches for a number of towns.

You've taken it past the point of what Blue Island is to a regional approach, you've taken it to the point where we are now looking to help develop jobs everywhere with in that area.

When you talk about the streets and infrastructures, Tom Nagel with Robinson Engineering has been with the City from before he became Mayor. One of his strongest advocates was Don DiSantis early on. We are at the point now where 45% of the streets and sewers are finished and there is an opportunity coming with the Golf Course bond being done to look at finishing the City's sewer and street repairs and water in a very short period of time. It's all right there for everyone.

Mayor Peloquin can't thank enough the staff employees in every department. The City of Blue Island has some great people working for it. They don't work for a lot of money but they do their best and they do everything they can to make this City a better place. He has been the benefit of that as Mayor and the City has been the benefit of that as it has worked out.

You won't find many towns that would pick-up in front of your house like we do here.

The California Gardens – when we started that, a day like today with all the rain you would be rowing down in boats. We finished that by putting streets and sewers in.

Some of Mayor Peloquin's proudest moments are when they elected the first Spanish Alderman, Carly Jackson was the first African American elected Alderman and you couldn't have found a better man and a better individual to do that. The Mayor thanked Carly.

Mayor Peloquin stated you have the opportunity in the future if you all work together. The business community has been great for him with Elaine Lentz running the Chamber and they would bump heads all the time, Main Street with Fran Blouin and the programs for the businesses. They have always tried programs and worked with the people and that is what you're going to have in the future.

The Park District and the City has begun a program to develop the river front from Kedzie to Ashland. You will be able to get the 94 slips at Fay's Point which will allow the City to control the Marina and do the rowing events that we did for a short period. This could be the catalyst to bring in thousands of people on the weekend and to make this a national center for rowing. It could be the catalyst for all other economic growth tying into the hospital and what they are planning on doing. The Mayor stressed there is the opportunity if you work together and put petty differences aside and just put the City first to create the City that we all want to see.

It's a tremendous opportunity, it's a tremendous challenge, but it's right there before you and you can do it if you want.

Mayor Peloquin cannot explain how gratifying it is to have all the people here tonight and he knows some of them just want to make sure he's leaving. He has made so many friends and he does not want them to think that they will not continue to be friends. He will be there to help everybody on the City Council, any of the Department Heads or anyone in regards to making our City a better place.

Mayor Peloquin asked the Aldermen in his Ward to make the motion to adjourn this City Council Meeting and the 28-years of his tenure of being Mayor.

ADJOURNMENT

Motion by Ald. Stone, second by Ald. Ruthenberg to adjourn.
Upon a vote, the Mayor declared the motion carried.

Mayor Peloquin announced that is the end of the meeting and God Bless America.

The next regular meeting of the City Council is scheduled for May 14, 2013 at 7:00 p.m.



Pam Frasor, City Clerk

**APPROVED BY ME THIS
2ND DAY OF MAY, 2013.**



Donald E. Peloquin, Mayor

