

**JOURNAL OF PROCEEDING
OF THE
REGULAR MEETING, AUGUST 27, 2013**

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 August 27, 2013.

PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE

ROLL CALL

Roll Call indicates the following:

Present: 13 Ald. Stone, Carr, Ostling, Johnson, Frausto,
Thompson, Johanson, Buckner, Hawley,
Vieyra, Bilotto, Rita, Donahue.

Absent: 0

Present Also: Randy Heuser, City Clerk
Cary Horvath, City Attorney
Carmine Bilotto, City Treasurer

JOURNAL OF PROCEEDING

Moved by Ald. Carr, second by Ald. Buckner the Journal of Proceedings for the Regular Meeting on August 13, 2013 is accepted as printed.

Ald. Johanson stated on one of the votes he was marked as absent and should have been an abstention. Correction was made.

JOURNAL OF PROCEEDING

Moved by Ald. Rita, second by Ald. Donahue the Journal of Proceedings for the Special Meeting on August 20, 2013 is accepted as printed.

Ayes: 13 Ald. Stone, Carr, Ostling, Johnson, Frausto,
Thompson, Johanson, Buckner, Hawley,
Vieyra, Bilotto, Rita, Donahue.

Nays: 0

Absent: 0

Abstain: 0

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

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

Rev. Reinhardt at 2508 Walnut Street introduced Tom Sheppard who is a part of the Environmental Task Force and is involved with the blessing of the waters at the Water Reclamation. They received a grant and are here requesting permission from the City to install handicapped ramps.

Mayor Vargas asked if there was a deadline.

Mr. Sheppard stated yes, September 17th and he passed out ligature regarding the grant.

Rachael Orozco of 11957 Longwood Drive stressed that she feels Blue Island is a wounded animal and everybody is running scared and the future of our families are on the line. She stated we want to fix it that in the Mayor's campaign he stated he could pull this City together and to forget the past. Ms. Orozco personally feels that a wall has been built around the Mayor making him unavailable to the citizens of Blue Island and that the City Council is being dictated to. The City Council represents the voters who care about the City. Compassion and respect went out of the window. She stated the funniest thing about history is, and the Mayor said to put it behind us, is if you don't study it, if you don't learn it, it will repeat itself. The City Council should be treated with more respect.

Donna Lee of 2957 W. 142nd Place asked what the status of Deer Pointe is and feels that First Midwest should be held accountable for keeping their vacant lots clean. Ms. Lee is at Council year after years complaining about the empty lots and feels Blue Island should hold them accountable. Her taxes went up again and she is contently e-mailing Mark regarding this. She had gone to one Bremen Township Council meeting and they came out the next day. Ms. Lee is asking the Mayor to step up.

Mayor Vargas stated he will meet with her and her husband.

David Prater of 2804 W. 142nd Place stated he sent the Mayor a letter and never received a response back from him.

The Mayor stated that he was not able to attend the meeting but Ald. Frausto and Ald. Johnson was there.

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Mr. Prater stated that he has been calling the Mayor's Office and does not get a call back and he also needs the letter he submitted to him put in the minutes. He also would like to know what the Mayor's plans are with Deer Point and if he has no plans to give him his blessing and he will take care of it.

Mayor Vargas state he talked to Mark Miller and there are potential developers interested.

Mr. Prater stated there are too many people saying differently things; the Mayor needs to be held accountable for the things you say.

Ald. Johnson stated that in the future it would be respectful that he and Ald. Frausto, the 6th Ward Aldermen, be a part of any meetings regarding Deer Point.

Ald. Carr stated that she had talked to Ray Ann Zylman and she wanted to express her thanks to Ald. Janko who helped pass the ordinance for the traffic to be controlled around the schools.

Alan Stevo of 2324 Union Street asked what the basis is for the Delgado lawsuit.

Mr. Horvath stated the lawsuit concerning the violation of Mr. Delgado's civil rights, claiming excessive force was used in his arrest. The lawsuit was settled and a public announcement was made at the time of the settlement.

Mr. Stevo asked if the Mayor will be attending the next JAWA meeting.

Mayor Vargas stated he would do his best to attend it.

Mr. Stevo asked what the basis of the Flores vs. the City's lawsuit.

The Mayor stated that is still pending.

Mr. Stevo asked if Marisol Barrera lives in Blue Island.

Mayor Vargas stated she currently lives in Tinley Park and will be moving into Blue Island.

Mr. Stevo asked why Pamela Frasor is still getting paid.

Ald. Rita stated that this was discussed at the last Finance Committee meeting and an ordinance was provided to the Committee. Ordinance No. 2287, on page 5, paragraph 5,

explaining that it is legal to pay Pam Frasor and that Mr. Stevo was an Alderman at the time and sign it as well and will provide him with the copy of it.

Mr. Stevo feels she should not get paid. He asked the Mayor how many people were interviewed for 5th Ward Alderman and if it was solely his decision.

Mayor Vargas stated there were 3 candidates and it was his recommendation, but Council would have to approve and vote on it.

Carol DiPace-Green of 2731 Orchard Street stressed her concerns with the City's Payroll and Accounts Payable stating instead of having a reduction they are going in the opposite direction.

Ald. Frausto asked if the CSX project on Broadway will be completed tomorrow and the street will be opened up because they pushed the dates up.

Mayor Vargas stated he was upset also but regarding the gas leak that occurred set them back.

Ald. Frausto thanked the new Public Works Superintendent Frank Berrini for putting the painting for the Broadway underpass in the works for this coming Sunday. Superintendent Berrini has arranged for volunteers to come do the work and he will be providing pizza's for them from his restaurant.

Rachael Orozco stated that Blue Island has been receiving grant money and would like to know who is in charge of that money and feels the citizens should know how that money is being spent and it should be in writing in where it is going and a record should be kept of it.

REPORT OF CITY OFFICIALS

Mayor

Mayor Vargas's recommendation for the appointment to fill the vacancy of 5th Ward Alderman is Ken Pittman.

Motion by Ald. Rita, second by Ald. Donahue to approve recommendation.

Ayes: 8 Ald. Carr, Thompson, Johanson, Hawley, Bilotto, Rita, Donahue and Mayor Vargas.

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Nays: 6 Ald. Stone, Ostling, Johnson, Frausto,
Buckner, Vieyra.

Absent: 0

Abstain: 0

There being Eight (8) Affirmative Votes, the Mayor declared the motion carried.

Mr. Pittman introduced himself and stated that he is very active in the community and that he loves Blue Island and he is here to stay.

Mayor Vargas sworn in Mr. Ken Pittman at the podium, then Mr. Pittman took his chair as the 5th Ward Alderman.

Mayor Vargas gave recognition to the people who worked on the SCBA and FEMA Radio Grants. Director John Rita asked the following people up to the podium:

Betty Nagel
Joe DiNova
Jim Klinker
Mark Luety
Terry Vrshek

Director John Rita announced on behalf of Mayor Domingo Vargas, City Clerk Randy Heuser, Treasurer Carmine Bilotto and the entire Blue Island City Council thanked each person on their assistance and expertise in researching and writing the grant. Director Rita gave the details of the grant.

Director John Rita asked the following people up to the podium:

Mr. Ron Shropshire, President of Great Lakes Bank
Jacquelyn Callham, Vice President of Great Lakes Bank
Mr. Greg Lochow, Chamber of Commerce Director
Mr. Tony Massuto, Owner of Double Play
Mr. Mark Luety, Fire Chief
Alderman Carr

Director Rita thanked everybody for their part in having a fund raiser for the radio grant which they raised more money and were able to purchase 2 more radios. Mayor Vargas was presented a check for \$12,000.00.

Director Rita on behalf of the Blue Island Fire Department gratefully thanks Great Lakes Bank of Choice, Ron Shropshire, President and Jacquelyn Callham, Vice President, for initiating the matching funds for the Fema Radio Grant.

Director Rita also acknowledges and thanked Alderman Candace Carr with all her help with the Fema Radio Grant Fund Raiser and we are all privileged in having her head of the Public Health & Safety Committee.

Alderman Carr stated she was at an awe in how the Community came out to help and raised over what their goal was.

Joe DiNova along with Jim Klinker presented Chief Vrshek with an award plaque for repairing Olde Bess and also thanked Harvey Pallets for helping.

Mayor Vargas invited Augustino Korkis up to the podium to give a presentation regarding G-Pass.

Mr. Augustino Korkis approached the podium and introduced himself and stated the he invented G-Pass Technology Solutions and stated he will be around the City attending meetings and will have a power point presentation at the next City Council Meeting.

Clerk Heuser stated that he has been working with Augustino with G-Pass and he has come up with a solution to save the City a ton of money in regards to water bills, city stickers and also for businesses with sales tax reporting directly to State, so eventually the City would be wireless. They are looking for a trial community to be doing this and since the City is so behind in technology that he and Augustino have come up with a solution they think will work for the City.

Ald. Stone asked about the elderly and if they can still come into the City Hall Office and pay.

Clerk Heuser stated they absolutely can.

Clerk Heuser stated that Mayor Vargas sent Augustino to him because he has a little bit of technical background and wanted to make sure that the big players were on board and we could get Dell to come in to give the devices in house and the data center would be on board with this. The City would be wireless so the City would own the air space so when Com Ed and Nicor could do their readings they would have to pay us.

Ald. Frausto also has a technology background and will be joining them in the meetings.

BIDS

No Bids.

CITY CLERK

Motion by Ald. Stone, second by Ald. Rita to approve a request for a block party for South End Alano Klub at 2508 Collins on September 1, 2013 between the hours of 8:00 am and 7:00 pm.

Ayes: 14 Ald. Stone, Carr, Ostling, Pittman, Johnson, Frausto, Thompson, Johanson, Buckner, Hawley, Vieyra, Bilotto, Rita, Donahue.

Nays: 0

Absent: 0

Abstain: 0

There being Fourteen (14) Affirmative Votes, the Mayor declared the motion carried.

Motion by Ald. Rita, second by Ald. Stone to approve a request for a fun fair at Evangelical Community Church on September 7th between the hours of 11:00 am and 3:00 pm.

Ayes: 14 Ald. Stone, Carr, Ostling, Pittman, Johnson, Frausto, Thompson, Johanson, Buckner, Hawley, Vieyra, Bilotto, Rita, Donahue.

Nays: 0

Absent: 0

Abstain: 0

There being Fourteen (14) Affirmative Votes, the Mayor declared the motion carried.

CITY TREASURER

No Report.

CITY ATTORNEY

No Business.

Attorney Horvath stated that last Friday he had sent a letter requesting your support with the appointment with his firm to represent the City as the City Attorney. That letter was written with self-interest and was also written because his firm wants to continue to help the City achieve the excellence that its residents are entitled to. Attorney Horvath and Mr. Odelson have a combined 50 years representing the City we are familiar with the structure of the City, the legal issues that are confronting the City and try to work diligently to solve those problems when we are asked to intervene in behalf of the City and represent it legally. Attorney Horvath is asking to consider them when they are asked to appoint the City Attorney.

COMMITTEE REPORTS

Community Development – Ald. Hawley, Chairman

Fun and Cocktails at 1859 Burr Oak Avenue -- did not pass the plumbing inspection and license was suspended.

Get a Plate at 1859 Burr Oak Avenue – tabled until next meeting.

Blue Island Mobile Zone at 12822 Western Avenue – approved pending final inspections and signage approval.

Med Natural, Inc. at 12301 Western Avenue – approved pending final inspections and signage approval.

Blue Island Nutrition #2 at 13340 Olde Western Avenue – tabled until next meeting.

Insure-Rite at 12606 Western Avenue – approved pending final inspections and signage approval.

MacKenzie Place at 12759 Lincoln Street -- approved pending approval of Liquor License and all final Building and Fire Inspections and Zoning approval.

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Pablo's at 12852 Western Avenue – moving existing business one door north to the vacant building, approved pending all final inspections.

La Finka at 1964 Vermont Street – approved pending final building and health inspections and signage approval.

Mr. and Mrs. Vicente Castillo were present for a fence variance – approved.

Dream Bags at 13636 Western Avenue – not approved.

Daisy's Hair Studio at 12130 Western Avenue – approved.

Building Department Report for July 2013 –

• Building Permits Issued	95
• Apartment Inspections	33
• Residential Inspections	35
• Commercial Inspections	29
• Letter of Conditions	15
• Demand Notices	0
• Court Summons Issued	10
• Complaints Checked	45
• Not Approved for Occupancy	3
• Code Violation Door Tags	50
• Notice of Christmas Decorations	0
• Stop Work Notices	5
• Housing Court Fines Issued	\$3,200.00
• Vacant Properties Registered	10
• Vacant Properties Inspected	5

Next Meeting – Wednesday, September 11, 2013, 7:00 pm – East Annex.

Ald. Ostling asked if Fun & Cocktails is operating.

Ald. Hawley stated they did pass their plumbing inspection so they are now operating.

Ald. Ostling is asking that they do come back to the Community Development meeting on September 11th.

Ald. Frausto stated that there was an issue for Dream Bags employees with unfair labor practices and wages not paid.

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Ald. Johnson would also like to know when that meeting will take place with Dream Bags.

Ald. Rita commented on Fun & Cocktails, that the residents had contacted her with issues on the drinking and fighting in the streets and that the police still patrol there.

Finance Committee – Ald. Rita, Chairman

PAYROLL

Motion by Ald. Rita, second by Ald. Johnson to approve Payroll for August 16, 2013 – Net Amount of \$232,297.96 and Gross Amount of \$356,874.10.

Ayes: 13 Ald. Stone, Carr, Ostling, Johnson, Frausto, Thompson, Johanson, Buckner, Hawley, Vieyra, Bilotto, Rita, Donahue.

Nays: 0

Absent: 0

Abstain: 1 Ald. Pittman.

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

ACCOUNTS PAYABLE

Motion by Ald. Rita, second by Ald. Donahue to approve Accounts Payable for August 21, 2013 for \$571,764.52.

Ayes: 13 Ald. Stone, Carr, Ostling, Johnson, Frausto, Thompson, Johanson, Buckner, Hawley, Vieyra, Bilotto, Rita, Donahue.

Nays: 0

Absent: 0

Abstain: 1 Ald. Pittman.

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

Motion by Ald. Rita, second by Ald. Carr to approve contract with Hudson Energy Electric.

Ayes: 14 Ald. Stone, Carr, Ostling, Pittman, Johnson, Frausto, Thompson, Johanson, Buckner, Hawley, Vieyra, Bilotto, Rita, Donahue.

Nays: 0

Absent: 0

Abstain: 0

There being Fourteen (14) Affirmative Votes, the Mayor declared the motion carried.

Motion by Ald. Rita, second by Ald. Donahue to approve contract with Paradigm Computer.

On the Question: Ald. Johanson asked Ald. Rita if the hourly rate was also lower.

Ald. Rita stated yes.

Ald. Frausto asked if there has to be a vote to move forward with giving them a contract.

Attorney Horvath stated yes.

Ald. Frausto thanked Ald. Rita for making him aware of the contract which he reviewed and there is about a \$10,000 savings per year for the same services and would like clarification on the 2- days.

Ald. Rita stated she did not know what 2-days a week they would be.

Mr. Paul Haulic, President of Paradigm Technology Group stated that it is based on 16 hours a week, any day or any time.

Ald. Frausto asked if it was over the 16 hours a week there would be an additional charge to the City.

Mr. Haulic stated that is correct but not if we attend meetings there will be no charge.

Ald. Frausto stressed his concerns that if this is approve, that transferring all account would be a fluent transition.

Ald. Rita stated that she had contacted Finance Director Matt Anastasia and he assured her that he would follow through with Director Sullivan.

Ald. Johnson asked Ald. Rita if she had the figure of what the total savings would be.

Ald. Rita stated she will get back to him with that.

Treasurer Bilotto stated when he first reviewed this and the difference was about \$13,000 but the main difference was the hourly rate from \$135 to \$85 for any additional services.

Ald. Johnson asked that the extra money from the savings ear marked for anything.

Treasurer Bilotto stated that any savings that the City gets would go in the general funds; the City is millions in debt.

Ald. Johnson asked about grants that were ear marked for City things.

Treasurer Bilotto stated those grants from Brownfield was done in the 119th Street area and still in the process.

Ayes: 14 Ald. Stone, Carr, Ostling, Pittman, Johnson, Frausto, Thompson, Johanson, Buckner, Hawley, Vieyra, Bilotto, Rita, Donahue.

Nays: 0

Absent: 0

Abstain: 0

There being Fourteen (14) Affirmative Votes, the Mayor declared the motion carried.

Motion by Ald. Rita, second by Ald. Buckner to approve Mesirow Financial for Fire Vehicle Insurance.

Ayes: 14 Ald. Stone, Carr, Ostling, Pittman, Johnson, Frausto, Thompson, Johanson, Buckner, Hawley, Vieyra, Bilotto, Rita, Donahue.

Nays: 0

Absent: 0

Abstain: 0

There being Fourteen (14) Affirmative Votes, the Mayor declared the motion carried.

Next Meeting – Tuesday, September 3, 2013, 7:15 pm – East Annex

Public Health & Safety Committee – Ald. Carr, Chairman

No Report.

Next Meeting – Wednesday, September 4, 2013, 7:00 pm – East Annex.

Municipal Services Committee – Ald. Johanson, Chairman

No Citizens attended the meeting.

Ald. Johanson publically thanked Ald. Stone for helping him with the Committee meeting minutes.

Golf Course Report –

Director of Golf Betty Harmeyer asked that Golf Course Pro Jerry Vidovic be able to provide the report on the Meadows Golf Course. A copy of the July 2013 collections and Day's receipts was provided. The month of July 2013 was reported to have been the second best financial month ever. Mr. Vidovic indicated that several focal point items were being undertaken at the Meadows to beautify the areas near the club house. The first tee will be redone, a wall will be rebuilt and then a beautification project will move forward the triangular area north of the first tee.

The bunkers at hole #3 and hole #5 have been completed.

Golf Outings Season is well underway and will stay strong through October 13th. Several questions arose about the status of a number of equipment requests that had been addressed at the June Municipal Services Committee Meeting. Chairman Johanson and Treasurer Bilotto advised that once the committee receives and approves requests of this nature they go to the Finance Committee for review. Treasurer Bilotto believes that he had seen several of the requests in process and would follow-up to see that the Finance Committee gets them for review/consideration.

Ald. Donahue was interested about the status of adding the state approved video gaming machines at the Meadows Club House. A delay has occurred as a result of the

State Gaming Board changing the Meadows status to a non-profit organization at the last minute. Mike Pappas of Fair Share is working with Mr. Vidovic to try to resolve this issue as quickly as is possible.

Water Department Report –

Superintendent of Water, Mr. Robert Houlf reported that Highway Technologies from whom the city rented/leased lighted barricades and such has gone out of business. A search for a new provider is underway.

M.E. Simpson Company has been engaged since 2011 to provide a thorough testing of the City's fire hydrant system. In 2011 the entire north & south hydrants were tested, the north hydrant system was tested again in 2012 and the south hydrant system is slated to be tested this fall.

Some thoughts are that the city could save the cost of this outside firm by doing the hydrant testing ourselves.

It was noted that M.E. Simpson Company utilizes higher tech devices that our water department would have available to them. Also, the outside firm produces for us a very detailed analysis that documents the readiness of our fire hydrant network.

As the discussion continued, it became apparent that the services obtained from M.E. Simpson Company as compared with city personnel at best were an "apple" to "apple stems" scenario. The committee consensus is that having the more thorough, documented testing is preferable to an in-house approach.

Superintendent Houlf will seek pricing from other firms to assure that the M.E. Simpson Company pricing is competitive and will advise. Treasurer Bilotto and committee members were interested in learning whether or not hydrant testing is required by Federal, State or County laws.

Superintendent Houlf reported that two critical Pilot Valves will be sent out for rebuilding at a total cost of \$1,890.00. The valves, one a single action and the other a double action are the valves that connect to the City of Chicago water supply system. Having these rebuilt valves on-hand is very prudent.

Superintendent Houlf shared that the IDOT Project on 127th came up with a "glitch" in that exactly where a light pole standard is to be erected near Eisenhower High School; the city has an important water main in the way. IDOT and Robinson Engineering have engaged Alsterda Construction to remedy the issue at no charge to Blue Island. Valero Oil Company that presently obtains drinking water from Alsip has inquired as to Blue Island allowing them to access drinking water from our water supply on Kedzie. Discussion will continue and should Blue Island accept Valero's request, the Alsip drinking water lines would have to be capped off to assure that no cross-contamination issues would arise. Valero would be responsible for all costs incurred

to hook to our water supply and also would be billed for their water service and use according to the rate structures in place.

The water department personnel are playing catch-up on several repairs due to the back hoe being out of service for about three weeks. Bids are being received to make repairs to sewer problems on York Street between Western & Greenwood. Several areas such as Union & Honore which have been dug by the water department will have fresh blacktop rolled by the public personnel to finalize the repairs.

Ald. Johnson reported concerns with the dips and waviness of California and 139th Street. It is thought that heavy truck traffic attributed to a development near those streets may have caused the problem and that since the developer went bankrupt a reimbursement effort would be fruitless.

Ald. Johnson requested that the department heads provided a listing of employees that are about to celebrate work anniversaries with the city, so that their contributions could be noted and special appreciations extended.

Public Works Report –

Superintendent of Public Works Frank Berrini shared several items that were accomplished with the week and that are underway throughout the city. With school about to begin, crosswalks are being painted, signs installed to address recent school area traffic flow changes. Additionally the public works team has been painting road guards, removing and trimming trees, painting curbs and removing weeds along more travelled streets.

Uptown painting is underway; grass cutting is up to date.

Ald. Stone asked about equipment which had been previously requested of the committee in June. New Superintendent of Public Works indicated he will review those request and may wish to revise or re-prioritize what the department needs.

During discussions, the paint sprayer system requested may not be what is really needed at this time and may be able to be deferred.

A heavier-duty mower capable of knocking down larger weeds, brush and growth certainly needs to be procured. The equipment requests once clearing the Municipal Services Committee are passed onto the Finance Committee for further review and approval.

Superintendent of Public Works Frank Berrini indicated that the Packard Avenue wall would be painted soon by an all-volunteer group.

Ald. Johnson shared concerns with the weed growth near Deer Pointe especially the portion that is in Posen. In the past Blue Island had addressed issues such as this with Posen Trustee Frank

Podbielniak, but this may not be an option since he left the Posen Board. Chairman Johanson indicated he would look at the area and see if a new contact in Posen can be established.

Ald. Stone inquired about the status of the signs at Veteran School at 123rd & Greenwood to reflect a recent ordinance change to try to address traffic congestion issues which arise on school days.

Director of Public Safety John Rita, Deputy Chief of Police Cornell, Ald. Johanson and Treasurer Bilotto had met District 130 Superintendent Lauk and District 130 Business Manager to seek solutions to traffic concerns at Veterans, Revere and Lincoln. Public Works Superintendent Berrini and Ald. Johanson will check on the Veterans signage status in the morning.

Project Updates –

Ald. Johanson reported that CSX Railroad has extended the closing of Broadway until August 28th, a month longer than had been expected. Also IDOT looks to be cleaning-up the project by Eisenhower High School and that all in all it looks like everything should be in good shape for school opening.

Treasurer Bilotto indicated that since he began attending the JAWA meetings more effort appears to be underway to try to validate and qualify the cost versus the long-term pricing benefit of the proposed undertaking. Everything from the contracts of key persons to where and under what terms the “water sourcing point” will be engaged is being questioned and reviewed.

Firm and definite facts and figures need to be made known to Blue Island and the other communities involved before a decision can be made to move forward.

Treasurer Bilotto and other community officials have visited Hammond, Indiana that is vying to be the “water sourcing point” over Whitting, Indiana. Frustration exists in that no specific language has been worked out with Hammond to determine if they could indeed meet the requirements of the JAWA group.

Stagnation and gridlock has set in and the newer members of the JAWA committee are trying to get the type of information needed to assess the merits to move on or drop out. At this point no communities have dropped from JAWA some other communities are said to be interested or considering to join but have not yet done so.

An agreement with Hammond needs to be hammered out and the details should be known shortly. The project has been in limbo but is thought to be at a point in October/November for the communities that comprise JAWA to have much more specific details, information, costing and pricing that would allow the various participating communities to decide to stay involved or to cut loose.

JAWA needs to present their pricing for water in a manner that can be weighed against the annual 15% increase in water pricing being realized from Chicago. After such a pricing comparison is in place then the communities will be in a more informed position to decide what to do with JAWA.

Ald. Johnson shared concerns of residents that had attended JAWA meetings and that many individuals were not pleased with information being shared or with a lack of responses to their questions and concerns. Treasurer Bilotto shared that certain contractual agreements with key personnel might not be legally shared with the public but hopes that other types of specifics will be more openly shared. He also wanted to make sure the Blue Island keep lines of good communications going with Chicago, our present water source and reminded everyone that several of the JAWA communities still owe substantial amounts of money to Chicago. Treasurer Bilotto agreed that communications between Chicago & Blue Island are important however the City of Chicago cannot charge different communities different rates for water in his understanding. He also advised the committee that a study of our current water service charges and water pricing is underway to assure that an appropriate method is being used to capture the true costs of our water delivery system is in place.

Building Commissioner Jason Berry interjected that Josh Ellis would be a useful source regarding water-related issues.

Ward Concerns/Issues & Appreciation –

Ald. Carr shared appreciation to Public Works noting that the street sweeper has been down throughout her ward.

Grove Street retaining wall was put out to bid for repairs.

Ald. Vieyra had concerns with the overgrowth of trees, weeds and shrubs on Canal Street near Lincoln School and Superintendent Berrini will look into it. Ald. Vieyra has requested ordinances for better clarification of Union Street signs by the MetroSouth Hospital.

A motion was made to get approval for a 4-way stop sign at the intersection of Seeley & Market Street.

Treasurer Bilotto shared about some traffic changes that may be helpful to the Lincoln School area an influenced by student arrival and departure patterns. Chicago Street should be made southbound only to Broadway now that Chatham Street is less active for school traffic due to the bridge being closed.

A motion was made for approval to change Chicago Street from two-way to one-way south to Broadway and no parking on east side of Chicago Street.

Discussion of a Vermont Street problem from Division to Hoyne was brought up for consideration. This will be discussed at next meeting.

Ald. Johnson asked about the status of Residential Parking Only Signs for a resident living near the Island Sports Bar & Grill. Some discussion arose as to the need since that home has off street parking spots. Ald. Johnson thought that the measure had been enacted as a means to reduce noise levels in front of the home. Ald. Johanson will check to see if an ordinance was passed and will report back to the committee.

Ald. Johnson also brought the concern of potholes at 139th & Harrison, which has been investigated and found to be Posen's responsibility. Ald. Johanson will look into it.

Ald. Donahue thanked Public Works for the tree trimming near St. Donatus for the feast and was informed that trimming is continuing throughout the city with the second ward being trimmed now.

A motion was made for approval to erect a 4-way stop sign at Oak & Wood Street. At this time in co-operation with the Village of Calumet Park the intersection is a 3-way stop.

A motion was made to rescind handicapped parking at 2208 W. 123rd Street.

Ald. Johanson advised that once City Clerk Heuser has all the city ordinances computerized on discs, that a citywide re-validating off all handicapped parking locations should be undertaken. The Blue Island ordinance should also be reviewed and compared to other municipalities.

Ald. Johanson mentioned a "SPIFF-UP" Blue Island concept that he will share with other committee members for input.

Ald. Johanson has recently received and is reviewing the Waste Management Contract that runs until 2017. Either party can request up to a five year extension within 180 days of the expiration date of the agreement.

Ald. Johanson is seeking approaches to provide additional toter refuge containers at additional cost to those residents whom have had difficulty properly disposing of their waste and recycle items. More effort will be placed on residents to eliminate alley eyesores and unhealthy disposal habits.

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Unfinished Business –

None.

New Business –

The Municipal Services Committee will continue to meet on the 3rd Monday of the month, but the starting time will now be at 6:30 pm.

Next Meeting – Monday, September 16, 2013, 6:30 pm – East Annex.

Ald. Vieyra would like her request for Canal Street noted.

Ald. Johnson would like his request for Deer Point noted

Judiciary Committee – Ald. Ostling, Chairman

No Report.

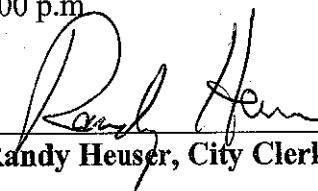
Next Meeting – Monday, September 9, 2013, 6:00 pm – East Annex.

ADJOURNMENT

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

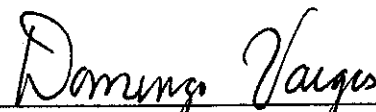
Upon a vote, the Mayor declared the motion carried.

The next regular meeting of the City Council is scheduled for September 10, 2013 at 7:00 p.m.



Randy Heuser, City Clerk

**APPROVED BY ME THIS
5TH DAY OF SEPTEMBER, 2013.**



Domingo Vargas, Mayor

