

**JOURNAL OF PROCEEDING
OF THE
MEETING, SEPTEMBER 24, 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 September 24, 2013.

PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE

ROLL CALL

Roll Call indicates the following:

Present: 11 Ald. Ostling, Pittman, Johnson,
Frausto, Thompson, Hawley, Vieyra,
Bilotto, Rita (7:05), Donahue, Carr.

Absent: 3 Ald. Johanson, Buckner, Stone

Present Also: Randy Heuser, City Clerk
ShawnTe Raines, City Attorney

JOURNAL OF PROCEEDING

Moved by Ald. Hawley, second by Ald. Carr the Journal of Proceedings for the Regular Meeting on September 10, 2013 is accepted with number of affirmative votes corrected on page 5.

Ayes: 10 Ald. Ostling, Pittman, Johnson,
Frausto, Thompson, Hawley,
Vieyra, Bilotto, Donahue, Carr.

Nays: 0

Absent: 4 Ald. Johanson, Buckner, Rita, Stone

Abstain: 0

There being Ten (10) Affirmative Votes, the Mayor declared the motion carried.

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

City Attorney Raines gave friendly reminder to citizens wishing to address the council about the purpose of city council meetings and the general procedures.

Allan Stevo of 2324 Union St emphasized the need for a \$38,000 computer software system to go to bid.

Ald. Hawey stated that it is a proprietary program and out of the three programs looked at it was the least expensive system overall.

Willie Scott 11917 Longwood Dr. asked for a response on the FOI request that was submitted last year.

Mayor stated he will reply to it before the next council meeting.

Mr. Scott expressed his concerns over the Recreation Center.

The Mayor stated a meeting is being set up with all interested parties. The City did a clean up two to three weeks ago and are going to evaluate and do an inventory of the building to see what needs to be done. Afterwards, all interested parties will be informed.

Kevin Murphy of 2317 Florence invited citizens to come by the Library for computer classes. They will be held every Thursday until Thanksgiving from 7:00pm to 8:30pm. The cost is \$5.00.

Carol DePace-Green of 2731 Orchard St expressed her concerns over browns field and JAWA projects. Ms. DePace-Green presented the council with an article from the Better Government Association regarding conflict of interest and no bid projects.

Ms. DePace Green asked to get the project going to reduce the exposure to the public and the residents that live there.

John Dunleavy of 13811 Western Ave asked for permission to discuss pending litigation regarding Mother of Sorrows.

The City Attorney stated that the alderman can hear what Mr. Dunleavy has to say but cannot respond to anything regarding pending litigation.

Mr. Dunleavy stated that they offered a settlement to drop the case. He asked the aldermen to keep in mind that all the Planning Commissioners voted in their favor and the jury will vote in their favor as well. They do not want to burden the City, but instead help.

REPORT OF CITY OFFICIALS

Mayor

Presentation from the Friends of the Cal-Sag Trail (FOCST) to the City for \$62,000 for our Trail Signage Grant Match.

Motion by Ald. Rita, second by Ald. Carr to approve the Professional Services contract of Mark G. Kilgallon.

Ayes: 11 Ald. Ostling, Pittman, Johnson,
Frausto, Thompson, Hawley,
Vieyra, Bilotto, Rita, Donahue, Carr.

Nays: 0

Absent: 3 Ald. Johanson, Buckner, Stone

Abstain: 0

There being Eleven (11) Affirmative Votes, the Mayor declared the motion carried.

BIDS

No Bids.

CITY CLERK

Motion by Ald. Johnson, second by Ald. Pittman to approve a request from Blue Island Untouchables to have a Homecoming Parade on Sunday, September 29, 2013 at 9:00 a.m.

Ayes: 11 Ald. Ostling, Pittman, Johnson,
Frausto, Thompson, Hawley, Vieyra,
Bilotto, Rita, Donahue, Carr.

Nays: 0

Absent: 3 Ald. Johanson, Buckner, Stone

Abstain: 0

There being Eleven (11) Affirmative Votes, the Mayor declared the motion carried.

Motion by Ald. Vieyra, second by Ald. Donahue to approve a request for “Day of the Dead Procession” on Saturday, November 2, 2013 from 11:00 a.m. to 2:00 p.m. benefiting “No Stomach for Cancer”.

Location: MetroSouth Park

Ayes: 11 Ald. Ostling, Pittman, Johnson,
Frausto, Thompson, Hawley, Vieyra,
Bilotto, Rita, Donahue, Carr.

Nays: 0

Absent: 3 Ald. Johanson, Buckner, Stone

Abstain: 0

There being Eleven (11) Affirmative Votes, the Mayor declared the motion carried.

Motion by Ald. Ostling, second by Ald. Carr to approve a request for a Block Party at 120th – 120th Place of Irving on September 28th between the hours of 4:00 p.m. and 10:00 p.m.

Ayes: 11 Ald. Ostling, Pittman, Johnson,
Frausto, Thompson, Hawley, Vieyra,
Bilotto, Rita, Donahue, Carr.

Nays: 0

Absent: 3 Ald. Johanson, Buckner, Stone

Abstain: 0

There being Eleven (11) Affirmative Votes, the Mayor declared the motion carried.

CITY TREASURER

No Report.

CITY ATTORNEY

ORDINANCE NO. 13-239

AN ORDINANCE RESCINDING HANDICAPPED PARKING RESTRICTIONS ON A PORTION OF A CERTAIN STREET WITHIN THE CITY OF BLUE ISLAND, COUNTY OF COOK, STATE OF ILLINOIS.

Location: 2208 W. 123rd Street.

ORDINANCE NO. 13-240

AN ORDINANCE APPROVING A PLAT OF SUBDIVISION FOR THE JOHN LEWIS SUBDIVISION FOR THE PROPERTY LEGALLY DESCRIBED IN THE PLAT ATTACHED TO THIS ORDINANCE.

Location: 2904 W. 141st Place.

ORDINANCE NO. 13-241

AN ORDINANCE REQUIRING VEHICULAR TRAFFIC TO STOP AT CERTAIN LOCATIONS WITHIN THE CITY OF BLUE ISLAND, COUNTY OF COOK, STATE OF ILLINOIS, AND PROVIDING PENALTIES FOR THE VIOLATION THEREOF.

Locations: Wood & Oak, Market & Seeley.

ORDINANCE NO. 13-242

AN ORDINANCE REGULATING THE DIRECTION OF VEHICULAR TRAFFIC ON A CERTAIN STREET LOCATED IN THE CITY OF BLUE ISLAND, COUNTY OF COOK, STATE OF ILLINOIS AND PROVIDING PENALTIES FOR THE VIOLATION THEREOF.

Location: Chicago Street between Broadway and Market Streets.

ORDINANCE NO. 13-243

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

Location: east side of Chicago Street between Broadway and Market Streets.

Motion by Ald. Vieyra, second by Ald. Bilotto to call the ordinances to the floor.

Ayes: 11 Ald. Ostling, Pittman, Johnson,
Frausto, Thompson, Hawley,
Vieyra, Bilotto, Rita, Donahue, Carr.

Nays: 0

Absent: 3 Ald. Johanson, Buckner, Stone

Abstain: 0

There being Eleven (11) Affirmative Votes, the Mayor declared the motion carried.

COMMITTEE REPORTS

Community Development – Ald. Hawley, Chairman

Rancho Grand Nutrition #2, 12255 Western Ave – Approved pending final inspections and signage approval.

Gina's on Olde Western, 13312-16 Olde Western Ave – Approved pending Building, Fire, and Health inspections (only for frozen food preparation and catering) and signage approval.

All Insured Agency, 12841 Western Ave – Approved pending final inspections and signage approval.

Blue Island Nutrition #2, 14001 Olde Western Ave – Approved pending final health inspection and any signage would need to be approved.

Mr. Dyke, 2307 121st St – requested a variance for his fence for his corner lot – Approved

Get a Plate, 1859 W. 127th – Ms. Cecilia Horn represented. She wanted to know what her next steps are. – Tabled

Building Department Report for August 2013 –

- Building Permits Issued 92
- Apartment Inspections 28

• Residential Inspections	25
• Commercial Inspections	20
• Letter of Conditions	28
• Demand Notices	-
• Court Summons Issued	4
• Complaints Checked	50
• Not Approved for Occupancy	6
• Code Violation door tags	5
• Notice of Christmas Decorations	-
• Stop Work Notices	-
• Housing Court Fines Issued	\$1950.00
• Vacant Properties Registered	10
• Vacant Properties Inspected	4

Nick Crite passed out his revision for the Business Application. Members were asked to review it for comment at the next meeting. The information booklet is being reviewed. Issues with timing, etc. were discussed.

Next Meeting – Thursday, October 10, 2013, 7:00 pm – East Annex.

Motion by Ald. Vieyra, second by Ald. Ostling to approve Halloween hours to be from 3:00pm – 7:00 pm.

Ayes: 11 Ald. Ostling, Pittman, Johnson,
Frausto, Thompson, Hawley,
Vieyra, Bilotto, Rita, Donahue, Carr.

Nays: 0

Absent: 3 Ald. Johanson, Buckner, Stone

Abstain: 0

There being Eleven (11) Affirmative Votes, the Mayor declared the motion carried.

Ald. Johnson directed a question towards Ald. Hawley. He inquired about a packet for new businesses informing them what they're getting into. Ald. Johnson asked if they had come together and started working on that.

Ald. Hawley answered that they have a rough draft. It will have the steps and the process to open a business and other requirements.

Ald. Johnson expressed his concerns about businesses sinking over \$100,000 into their idea because it was not formatted early enough for them to be able to understand what it takes to have a business in the City of Blue Island.

Ald. Hawley stated they are trying to address that in the booklet as well.

Finance Committee – Ald. Rita, Chairman

PAYROLL

Motion by Ald. Rita, second by Ald. Hawley to approve Payroll for September 13, 2013 for \$406,186.57.

Ayes: 11 Ald. Ostling, Pittman, Johnson,
Frausto, Thompson, Hawley, Vieyra,
Bilotto, Rita, Donahue, Carr.

Nays: 0

Absent: 3 Ald. Johanson, Buckner, Stone

Abstain: 0

There being Eleven (11) Affirmative Votes, the Mayor declared the motion carried.

ACCOUNTS PAYABLE

Motion by Ald. Rita, second by Ald. Donahue to approve Accounts Payable for September 18, 2013 for \$692,961.68.

Ayes: 11 Ald. Ostling, Pittman, Johnson,
Frausto, Thompson, Hawley, Vieyra,
Bilotto, Rita, Donahue, Carr.

Nays: 0

Absent: 3 Ald. Johanson, Buckner, Stone

Abstain: 0

There being Eleven (11) Affirmative Votes, the Mayor declared the motion carried.

Motion by Ald. Rita, second by Ald. Hawley to approve to enter into an agreement with N. Harris Computer Corporation for Smartfusion Accounting Software in the

amount of \$38,200.00 subject to attorney modification of the written agreement.

Ayes: 11 Ald. Ostling, Pittman, Johnson,
Frausto, Thompson, Hawley, Vieyra,
Bilotto, Rita, Donahue, Carr.

Nays: 0

Absent: 3 Ald. Johanson, Buckner, Stone

Abstain: 0

There being Eleven (11) Affirmative Votes, the Mayor declared the motion carried.

Next Meeting – Tuesday, October 1, 2013, 7:00 pm – East Annex

Public Health & Safety Committee – Ald. Carr, Chairman

Firefighter Staszewski presented the grievance regarding the Fire Prevention Officer.

Director Rita explained that the Fire Prevention Officer has not been filled due to a previous grievance which has not been resolved.

The alderman present agreed to take a few days to examine the materials presented.

Next Meeting – Wednesday, October 2, 2013 - 7:00 pm – East Annex.

Municipal Services Committee – Ald. Johanson, Chairman

Citizen Concerns:

Resident Ron Young shared specific concerns pertaining to the South Suburban Joint Action Water Agency, citing a couple of documents (06/29/11 & 07/01/11) that were obtained under the Freedom of Information Act. Mr. Young indicated that elected officials have the right to get more information that what he and other private citizens can and encouraged us to examine SSJAWA very closely.

Josh Ellis of the Metropolitan Planning Council was invited to share an overview of Lake Michigan Water Usage, insight into other Joint Action Water Agencies, the limitations that Illinois State Law places

on Chicago as to pricing of water. Without taking a position, Mr. Ellis did raise the point that the SSJAWA would have many middlemen involved...where we are a direct water customer of Chicago. Also, the SSJAWA water sourcing point being in Indiana would place Indiana Water Laws over the operation, in addition to Illinois State Laws.

Other JAWAs were established to go from well water to Lake Michigan Water and to assure communities a more reliable, better quality water source, not as a means to respond to Chicago price increases.

Meadows Golf Course:

Meadows Golf Course Supervisor Ms. Betty Harmeyer shared with the committee several ideas for modifications to the clubhouse that will make the interior more adaptable to attract additional rentals. Some of the remodeling would be to remove portions of the interior walls, add folding doors to create a larger room for rental. The deck area on the west could be expanded, a roof and enclosed walls added to make the deck area a three-season rental opportunity.

Several golf course improvements and equipment is needed. Landscaping improvements, golf cart pathway widening and asphaltting will be undertaken. Several credits from the golf course maintenance firm will be applied toward the landscaping changes and the course employees have already prepared the cart paths making them eight feet wide from the previous six feet.

The committee consensus was positive toward the modifications that Ms. Harmeyer proposed and understand that re-investment in the golf course paths and upgrading several pieces of equipment is necessary. These items will be presented to the Finance Committee. (Also, Josh Ellis of the Metropolitan Planning Council suggested that the city pursue grant money before repaving and striping the parking lot. Pavers would be an option and let surface waters drain into the ground, such has been done at the White Sox parking lots and other locations.)

Public Works:

Frank Berrini shared progress being made throughout the city. Tree trimming, painting, cement sidewalks, and pothole patching continue. An area north of the Meadows Club House was blacktop by the city to assist in creating a new parking pattern and additional parking spots.

Water Department:

Robert Houlf reported that a new firm (J.E.M. Traffic Control) to provide the lighted barricades to replace the previous firm that closed. Also, the fire hydrant flow testing that is needed every five years was priced around and the current firm is cost-competitive. Our own employment will be utilized to establish an ongoing maintenance program.

G-Pass Technologies Water Meter Test Project:

After several questions, concerns and discussion, the committee approved three-zero to go forward with a 50 Location Water Meter Test Project at no cost to the city to study the feasibility of connecting to their technology as a means to one day go to a paperless water bill payment approach.

Ward Requests/Concerns/Appreciation:

Alderman Vieyra expressed frustration with the street signs around Lincoln School. City Clerk Randy Heuser will be asked to locate ordinances, so that the committee may see what has passed and try to make the restrictions more uniform/reasonable.

Alderman Pittman provide a complete request form for Handicap Parking for the resident of 12240 Ann Street. The form will be provided to City Clerk Heuser, to Public Works, and Judiciary will be asked to act upon it. Motion was made, seconded, and approved by a three-zero vote.

Alderman Frausto presented the committee with a draft of an ordinance that would create a "Honorary Street Sign Naming". The item was discussed, several concerns were raised and it will be placed on the next agenda for action. It was suggested to Alderman Frausto that he may also want to provide the draft copy of the ordinance to the Judiciary Committee.

Alderman Johanson mentioned that per Alderman Stone's request, M&M Pallets was visited by the building inspector and high stacks of pallets were lowered. A concern is that automobile repairs may be going on there and this will need to be looked into.

Public Works has gained permission from MWRD to trim some shrubs on Canal Street that were brought to the committee's attention through a petition from the Street that had been requested by Alderman Vieyra & resident petition. The MWRD will not allow the area to be totally cleared, as it is wetlands.

Unfinished Business & Updates:

The committee unanimously approved to send on to the Finance Committee the need for a Fairway Mower, Maintenance Carts, Grinder for Blade Sharpening, and a Beverage Cart.

New Business:

An apartment owner on Irving Avenue has requested a special meeting with the committee to appeal a sewer repair notice that was issued to him in July. The dates of October 22nd & November 12th at 6:00PM will be offered.

Next Meeting – Monday, October 14, 2013, 6:30 pm – East Annex.

Judiciary Committee – Ald. Ostling, Chairman

No report.

Next Meeting – Monday, October 7, 2013, 6:00 pm – East Annex

Motion by Ald. Rita, second by Ald. Hawley to approve settlement agreement as per discussed in closed session at the prior City Council meeting.

Ayes: 11 Ald. Ostling, Pittman, Johnson,
Frausto, Thompson, Hawley, Vieyra,
Bilotto, Rita, Donahue, Carr.

Nays: 0

Absent: 3 Ald. Johanson, Buckner, Stone

Abstain: 0

There being Eleven (11) Affirmative Votes, the Mayor declared the motion carried.

Ald. Johnson wanted to know how they could go about asking the firemen and police department who do not live in town to move here.

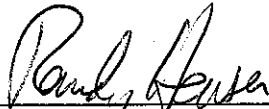
The Mayor stated he will look into it with the City Attorney and will address it for the next council meeting.

ADJOURNMENT

Motion by Ald. Bilotto, second by Ald. Vieyra to adjourn the meeting.

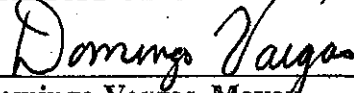
Upon a vote, the Mayor declared the motion carried.

The next regular meeting of the City Council is scheduled for
October 8, 2013 at 7:00 p.m.



Randy Heuser, City Clerk

**APPROVED BY ME THIS
4TH DAY OF OCTOBER, 2013.**



Domingo Vargas, Mayor

