



CITY OF HIGHWOOD
MINUTES OF THE REGULAR MEETING OF THE CITY COUNCIL
CITY COUNCIL CHAMBERS - TUESDAY, DECEMBER 15, 2009

1. Call to Order

Mayor Pecaro called the meeting to order at 7:45 p.m.

2. Roll Call

Present: Mayor Pecaro; Aldermen Bruni, Cahnmann, Falberg, Fiore, Harpster, Linari, Murphy-Pieri, Sepulveda (participated electronically after receiving council approval)

Absent: --

Also present: M. Burke, City Clerk; P. Lenzini, City Treasurer; G. Jackson, City Manager; A. Marrin, Assistant City Manager; D. Blondin and J. Stein, City Attorneys

There being a quorum present, the Mayor announced the meeting to be in session.

Alderman Falberg made a motion seconded by Alderman Cahnmann to approve Alderman Sepulveda participating by telephone. Motion passed by unanimous voice vote.

3. Pledge of Allegiance

Everyone present rose to say the Pledge of Allegiance

4. Review of Minutes

4.1. Committee of the Whole minutes: November 17, 2009

Motion to accept the minutes as presented: Alderman Linari; Second: Alderman Harpster. Vote:

Yes: Aldermen Bruni, Cahnmann, Falberg, Fiore, Harpster, Linari, Murphy-Pieri, and Sepulveda

No: --

Absent: --

Abstain: --

Accepted by a vote of 8 yes, 0 no, 0 absent, 0 abstain

4.2. Regular meeting of the City Council: November 17, 2009

Motion to accept the minutes as presented with the stipulation that a DVD of the meeting be available at City Hall for anyone who wants to hear all the comments: Alderman Linari; Second: Alderman Harpster. Vote:

Yes: Aldermen Bruni, Cahnmann, Falberg, Fiore, Harpster, Linari, Murphy-Pieri, and Sepulveda

No: --

Absent: --

Abstain: --

Accepted by a vote of 8 yes, 0 no, 0 absent, 0 abstain

4.3. Committee of the Whole minutes: December 1, 2009

Motion to accept the minutes as presented: Alderman Linari; Second: Alderman Harpster. Vote:

Yes: Aldermen Bruni, Cahnmann, Falberg, Fiore, Harpster, Linari, Murphy-Pieri, and Sepulveda
No: --
Absent: --
Abstain: --
Accepted by a vote of 8 yes, 0 no, 0 absent, 0 abstain

- 4.4.** Regular meeting of the City Council: December 1, 2009
Motion to accept the minutes as presented: Alderman Linari; Second: Alderman Harpster. Vote:
Yes: Aldermen Bruni, Cahnmann, Falberg, Fiore, Harpster, Linari, Murphy-Pieri, and Sepulveda
No: --
Absent: --
Abstain: --
Accepted by a vote of 8 yes, 0 no, 0 absent, 0 abstain

- 4.5.** Executive Session of the Committee of the Whole:
June 2, 2009, September 1, 2009, October 27, 2009, November 3, 2009, November 17, 2009, and December 1, 2009 to be reviewed and voted on at first meeting in January.

5. Special Business

none

6. Appointments

none

7. Review and Approval of Bills

Motion by Alderman Fiore, seconded by Alderman Linari to accept the bills as presented except for the \$4,000 special payroll pending a response from the labor attorney concerning the payments .

Discussion:

Alderman Murphy-Pieri noted that for a number of line items, actual expenses exceeded budget (appropriation) by a significant amount. She questioned whether, under the Illinois Municipal Code, the council was responsible for managing to line item or to fund.

Lauterbach&Amen's bills are being held pending Ron Amen meeting with the Council as requested.

It was noted that there was a Fire Department bill from A. C. Buehler that dates back to 2008. The assumption is that he forgot to send the bill and caught it in a year end review.

Special Events bills:

Mutual Ace – hold

Signs Now – hold

Craftwood Lumber – pay \$1,100 only

Greco – pay \$150 only.

All AAA bills are being held to determine exactly what each one is for and when it was incurred.

Department heads are to sign each bill appropriately charged to their departments before the bill is forwarded to committee. Committee members should all receive a summary of the bills to be reviewed and a copy of

each bill several days before the meeting at which they will be reviewed.

Vote:

Yes: Aldermen Bruni, Cahnmann, Falberg, Fiore, Harpster, Linari, Murphy-Pieri (except for the \$3,720 bill from Raysa&Zimmerman), and Sepulveda

No: --

Absent: --

Abstain: --

Motion to approve the bills as presented with the exception noted passed by a vote of 7 Yes, 1 qualified Yes, 0 No, 0 Absent or Abstain.

8. Public Input regarding items not on agenda

Mr. Jackson thanked audience member Tom Mann on behalf of all city officials for the Presentation Of The Colors at the Highwood For The Holidays celebration. Mr. Mann was applauded by all present.

9. Mayor's Report

none

10. Committee Reports.

10.1. Finance - Alderman Linari, Chair

There will be a special meeting of the City Council on Monday, December 21 at 6 p.m. to consider the Tax Levy Ordinance.

10.2. Long Term Planning – Alderman Harpster, Chair

The committee met on Tuesday, December 8 at 5 p.m. Alderman Harpster noted that the committee needed further direction from the Mayor about the status of the Sprinkler Ordinance. The Mayor told Alderman Harpster that it had been to Legislative and was now with the long-term planning committee for a recommendation to the council.

Alderman Harpster also reported that the question of sandwich signs had been referred to the ARC for their input.

10.3. Special Events and Public Outreach -Alderman Falberg, Chair; Alderman Murphy-Pieri, Co-Chair

Alderman Falberg reported on Highwood For The Holidays. He thanked everyone who participated noting that they only had three weeks to put it all together. He said they did very well in terms of fund raising having realized \$13,863 in cash contributions and very significant in-kind donations.

300 gift certificates were handed out. The cost of these was just covered by contributions. Next year, requests for contributions will go out earlier.

Tree decoration donations: tags are going on the trees tomorrow noting the sponsor of each one.

Bertucci's was singled out for having contributed all the pasta entrees. Significant donations were also received from Pastificio, Il Mulino, Bent Fork, Modenese Society, Sunset Foods, Coca-Cola, Once Upon A Bagel (Mean Weiner), and Einstein's. Thank you letters that are suitable for framing are currently being prepared for each of these businesses acknowledging their generosity. Lenore Cervac was also thanked for her donation of sausage from Poeta's.

The contributions of Oak Terrace school and especially the cub scouts was recognized.

Aldermen Falberg and Murphy-Pieri each said that the event could not have happened without all the work done by Assistant City Manager Anne Marrin. Ms. Marrin received a round of applause from everyone present.

They both also noted that the Public Works Department also went well beyond their job requirements to make this event a success. They also received a round of applause.

Next year, the event will be held in front of City Hall, not in Everts Park. However, Highwood now has a functioning ice rink in Everts Park courtesy of U.S. Bank.

Publicity: Alderman Falberg reported that there was a nice layout in the Great Lakes News Bulletin. The event was also written up in the Home section of the Chicago Tribune.

10.4. Parks and Recreation – Alderman Fiore, Chair
None

10.5. Public Safety – Alderman Cahnmann, Chair
None

10.6. Legislative – Alderman Murphy-Pieri, Chair
No meeting due to lack of a quorum

11. City Manager's Report

None

12. Treasurer's Report

The Treasurer reported that Highwood is three quarters of the way through the current fiscal year. She said that the overall YTD numbers are looking pretty good and noted that Property Taxes for this fiscal year are virtually all in. She thanked the Aldermen for their input and review of invoices for payment as part of their committee meetings. Alderman Murphy-Pieri asked the City Manger if budgeted revenue was still expected on the 2-H agreement (answer: no), rental inspections (answer: no additional revenue was expected until fy 10-11), and fire alarm inspections (answer: to be researched). City Manager Jackson noted that there was a \$169,000 decline in revenues from budget to projected actual.

13. Clerk's Report

Will report at the first meeting in January.

14. Action Items

14.1. A Motion To Approve Payment to Raysa & Zimmerman, LLC for Property Maintenance Code Billing.

Alderman Murphy-Pieri made and Alderman Cahnmann seconded a motion to deny payment to Raysa & Zimmerman, LLC for property maintenance code billing.

Discussion: There was a discussion about exactly what Raysa & Zimmerman had been requested to do over the period of time this ordinance was under discussion.

The PMC Ordinance that was adopted was drafted by Paul Diambri. It was pointed out that Raysa & Zimmerman billed Highwood \$6,945.50 to review it. It was also noted that Raysa & Zimmerman had already been paid over \$4,400 to draft this same ordinance in 2007. At that time, the local

amendments were not included in the new PMC Ordinance that Raysa&Zimmerman wrote. Alderman Falberg stated that this omission has resulted in litigation for Highwood, a statement challenged by Mr. Blondin.

Mr. Blondin also pointed out that B&F had responsibility for all the prior amendments and that they did not review B&F's work on the Code.

Alderman Falberg said that he did not feel that Highwood's attorneys are advocating on its behalf. Alderman Linari said that she disagreed with that assessment.

The Clerk was directed to review applicable minutes for what Raysa & Zimmerman had been asked to do by the council and report back at the next regular meeting of the council.

Alderman Cahnmann made and Alderman Linari seconded a motion to table consideration of this invoice until the January 5, 2010 regular meeting of the city council

Vote:

Yes: Aldermen Bruni, Cahnmann, Harpster, Linari, Murphy-Pieri, and Sepulveda

No: Aldermen Falberg and Fiore

Absent: --

Abstain: --

Motion to table consideration of this invoice until the January 5, 2010 regular meeting of the city council passed by a vote of: 6 yes, 2 no, 0 absent, 0 abstain

14.2. 2009-O-45 An Ordinance Amending The Highwood City Code Regarding Social Hosting And Underage Drinking

A motion was made by Alderman Cahnmann and seconded by Alderman Linari to adopt an ordinance amending the Highwood city code regarding social hosting and underage drinking.

This ordinance is designed to curtail gatherings of underage persons where they would be given alcohol or drugs. The ordinance makes the parents liable for any damages resulting from such a gathering.

Discussion: After some discussion about Highwood's unique to the North Shore of Lake County %'age of renters, it was unanimously agreed that "such person" will be substituted for "the owner" in Section 6-1-1 "Reasonable Steps".

Vote:

Yes: Aldermen Bruni, Cahnmann, Falberg, Fiore, Harpster, Linari, Murphy-Pieri, and Sepulveda

No: --

Absent: --

Abstain: --

Motion to approve an ordinance amending the Highwood city code regarding social hosting and underage drinking passed by a vote of: 8 yes, 0 no, 0 absent, 0 abstain

15. UNFINISHED BUSINESS

None

16. NEW BUSINESS

None

17. Executive Session

none

18. Any Action Necessary Coming Out of Executive Session to discuss

n/a

15. ADJOURNMENT

There being no further business, a motion to adjourn was made by Alderman Bruni, was seconded by Alderman Falberg, and was passed unanimously by voice vote. The meeting was adjourned at 9:02 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,

Marcia Burke, City Clerk

Reviewed and Accepted by the City Council on _____, 2010