



**MINUTES OF THE REGULAR MEETING OF THE  
HIGHWOOD CITY COUNCIL  
COUNCIL CHAMBERS, HIGHWOOD CITY HALL  
MAY 4, 2010**

**1. CALL TO ORDER**

Mayor Pecaro called the regular meeting of the Highwood City Council to order at 7:40 p.m.

**2. Roll Call**

Present: Mayor Pecaro; Aldermen Bruni, Cahnmann, Falberg, Fiore, Harpster, Murphy-Pieri, and Sepulveda

Absent: Alderman Linari

Also present: M. Burke, City Clerk; T. Lenzini, City Treasurer, A. Marrin, Assistant City Manager; J. Ponsi, Superintendent of Public Works; J. Harding, Director of Community Development & Water Distribution; S. Hannon, Finance Director

Not attending: L. Rossi, Chief of Police,

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

**Motion to allow participation by phone** of Alderman Linari who had made a timely request and was absent due to illness.

Motion: Alderman Fiore; second: Alderman Bruni Passed unanimously by voice vote.

Alderman Linari joined the meeting

**3. Pledge of Allegiance**

Everyone present rose to say the pledge of allegiance

**4. Review of Minutes**

**4.1.** Committee of the Whole minutes: April 20, 2010

**4.2.** Regular meeting of the City Council: April 20, 2010

**4.3.** Special meeting of the City Council: April 26, 2010

Regarding the minutes of the April 26 meeting: Ms. Hannon noted that the Mayor had said he would review the Lolli bill

Alderman Falberg made a motion, seconded by Alderman Sepulveda, to approve the minutes April 20 COW and regular City Council meeting minutes as submitted and the April 26 Special Session minutes as corrected.

Vote:

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

No: --

Motion to accept the minutes of the COW and the regular meetings on April 20 and the April 26 special meeting minutes as corrected passed by a vote of 8 Yes, 0 No.

**4.4.** Executive Session of the COW: February 16

**4.5.** Executive Session of the Special City Council meeting: April 26, 2010

Alderman Falberg asked to table the Executive Session minutes and to review them in Executive Session. Mayor Pecaro said that the agenda for May 20 would include going into Executive Session for that review.

- 4.6. Regular meeting of the City Council: July 7, 2009
- 4.7. Regular meeting of the City Council: July 21, 2009
- 4.8. Regular meeting of the City Council: August 4, 2009

Clerk Burke explained that the minutes of the July 7, July 21, and August 4, 2009 minutes had previously been approved but that she had found an error in ordinance/resolution numbering that the revised minutes corrected.

Alderman Cahnmann made a motion, seconded by Alderman Sepulveda, to approve the minutes as corrected.

Vote:

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

No: --

Motion to accept the minutes of the regular meetings on July 7, July 21, and August 4, 2009 as corrected passes by a vote of 8 Yes, 0 No.

## 5. Special Business

None

## 6. Appointments

Mayor Pecaro made two appointments:

- Alderman Bruni to the Emergency Telephone System (formerly 911) Board with the term to be set by the Council. It was noted that Alderman Bruni is now the only member of that Board. Police Chief Rossi and Deputy Fire Chief Pieri have not yet been formally appointed.
- Dennis Baker to the Police Pension Fund Board, replacing Mr. Mosconi, for the remainder of the 2009-2011 term. The Mayor noted that Mr. Baker also sits on the Fire Pension Fund Board

Alderman Falberg made a motion, seconded by Alderman Murphy-Pieri, to approve the Mayor's appointments.

Vote:

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

No: --

Abstain: Alderman Bruni

The motion carries by a vote of 7 Yes, 0 No, 1 Abstain. Alderman Bruni's appointment to the ETSB Board and Mr. Baker's to the Police Pension Fund Board were ratified with Alderman Bruni's term of office to be set by the Council.

## 7. Presentation and Approval of Bills

2<sup>nd</sup> meeting of month

## 8. Public Input regarding items not on agenda

Library Board and Staff, Lisa Cervac, Board President, presenting. Ms. Cervac reviewed the progress the Library has made in transforming itself into a vital part of the community. She also spoke about the support the Library has gotten from local businesses in the way of much needed in-kind donations. Ms Cervac told the Council that the 2<sup>nd</sup> edition of the Library's cookbook will be coming out soon and thanked Trustee Judy Broderick for bringing this cookbook to fruition. She also thanked the U. S. Bank for stepping forward in underwriting the cookbook. A bank manager was escorted to the podium by his children to present a check for \$6,000 to Ms. Cervac.

Linda Tolari, a resident of the 3<sup>rd</sup> Ward: Ms. Tolari asked the Mayor when the Ward meetings were going to be held. The Mayor announced that he will be holding meetings next week to give residents a report on his first year in office. He invited the aldermen to participate. The meetings,

which will all be from 7 p.m. to 8 p.m., will be on:

- Monday, May 10 2<sup>nd</sup> ward Buffo's
- Tuesday, May 11 1<sup>st</sup> ward Bertucci's
- Wednesday, May 12 3<sup>rd</sup> ward Library
- Thursday, May 13 4<sup>th</sup> ward The Alley

Shirley Cabbri, 336 North Avenue Ms. Cabbri voiced a personal complaint about a particular alderman. She also complained about the 2010-2011 city sticker design.

## 9. Mayor's Report

The Mayor thanked the Italian Women's Prosperity Club for letting him speak at their meeting last week.

## 10. City Manager's Report

None

## 11. Committee Reports.

- 11.1. **Finance** - Alderman Linari, Chair; Treasurer Lenzini reporting  
Treasurer Lenzini said that the committee was working on identifying possible revenue opportunities. Alderman Murphy-Pieri said that additional budget cuts may be needed. She suggested a council workshop to decide how and where to cut.

Mayor Pecaro noted that he had directed the City Manager and the Assistant City Manager to send out a memo telling all departments that there was to be absolutely no spending without a Purchase Order.

### Not Reporting

- Long Term Planning – Alderman Harpster, Chair
- Public Safety – Alderman Cahnmann, Chair
- Legislative – Alderman Murphy-Pieri, Chair
- Mayor's Committee on Special Events
- Parks and Recreation

## 12. Treasurer's Report

No report

## 13. Clerk's Report

Thanked the aldermen for their attention to the minutes.

## 14. Action Items

### Taken separately

- 14.1 Motion to approve Ordinance No. 10-O-14: An Ordinance Authorizing Employer Pick Up of Employee Contributions to the City of Highwood Firefighters' Pension Fund. (Treasurer Lenzini).
- 14.2 Motion to approve Ordinance No. 10-O-15: An Ordinance Authorizing Employer Pick Up of Employee Contributions to the City of Highwood Police Pension Fund. (Treasurer Lenzini).

Ms. Hannon explained that these ordinances were to make the employees contribution to their retirement plans before tax rather than after tax. There was no additional cost to the city.

Alderman Sepulveda made a motion, seconded by Alderman Cahnmann to adopt both ordinances.

Vote:

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

No: --

Motion to adopt Ordinances 10-O-14 and 10-O-15 to make all employee pension contributions before tax passed by a vote of 8 Yes and 0 No.

**14.3** Motion to approve Ordinance No. 10-O-\_\_\_\_\_. An Ordinance Revising Water and Sewer Charges.

Motion by Alderman Falberg; second by Alderman Harpster.

A representative from The Fort Sheridan Apartments told the council that her employers could see no justification for charging the complex anything other than residential rates.

Alderman Murphy-Pieri said that she strongly objected to Mr. Jackson's proposal and that the Council should reconsider the approach taken. Motion to table: Alderman Murphy-Pieri; Second: Alderman Falberg. Approved by voice vote. Tabled until revised proposal can be considered.

**14.4** Motion to approve Wall Signage for 495 Sheridan Road, "D's Coffee Shop."

Motion: Alderman Bruni                      Second: Alderman Sepulveda

Vote:

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

No: --

Motion to approve signage for D's Coffee Shop passed by a vote of 8 Yes, 0 No. Mr. Harding was directed to inform the owner immediately.

**14.5** Approval of a Contract with Curran Contracting for completion of Sheridan Road to Waukegan Avenue and Highwood Avenue. (Alderman Falberg).

Mr. Ponsi reviewed the rationale for completing the work on Sheridan at this time. He said that after a detailed physical review, the expected cost of the construction work has now decreased to no more than \$48,000. He also asked for \$7,000 to \$10,000 for streetscape.

Alderman Murphy-Pieri made a motion, seconded by Alderman Fiore, to approve the extension of the Curran Contracting contract to have them complete resurface the remaining part of Sheridan Road at a cost not to exceed \$58,000, of which up to \$10,000 is for streetscape

Vote:

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

No: --

The motion to complete the work on Sheridan Avenue at a cost not to exceed \$58,000 passed by a vote of 8 Yes; 0 No.

**14.6** New Health Insurance Proposal with VITI Insurance for May 1, 2010 to April 30, 2011. (Alderman Fiore)

The Mayor explained that this item concerns the one month extension of the current group health policy. No action is required from the Council. This item is informational only. No action needs to be taken at this time.

