



## CITY OF HIGHWOOD

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Highwood, Illinois 60040  
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### Committee of the Whole Meeting

#### MINUTES

March 17, 2009 Committee of the Whole Meeting  
6:00 p.m.

#### 1. CALL TO ORDER

Mayor Donofrio called the Committee of the Whole Meeting to order at 6:00 p.m.

#### 2. ROLL CALL

Present: Mayor Donofrio, Aldermen Pieri, Linari, Cahnmann, Fiore, Pecaro, Bruni, Murphy and Hospodarsky.

Absent: None

Also present: S. Druktenis, City Clerk; R. Stefani, City Treasurer; G. Jackson, City Manager; Anne Marrin, Assistant City Manager; J. Harding, Director of Community Development and Water Distribution; and D. Blondin and J. Stein, City Attorneys.

#### 3. REVIEW OF COUNCIL MINUTES

- a. March 3, 2009, Committee of the Whole Meeting Minutes
- b. March 3, 2009, Regular Council Meeting Minutes – a correction to the date was noted for section 10.b (from April 5 to March 5)
- c. February 17, 2009, Executive Session Minutes
- d. February 3, 2009, Executive Session Minutes
- e. January 20, 2009, Executive Session Minutes
- f. January 6, 2009 Executive Session Minutes – This will include the amendment

It was noted that the Executive Session Minutes would be approved but not released.

#### 4. APPOINTMENTS

- a. Sonja Fedderman- Appointment to the Zoning Board of Appeals
- b. Dino Pagliai – Appointment to the Zoning Board of Appeals

A request was made for the applicants to attend a future Council meeting. It was noted that there are two applicants for one opening. A question was raised as to whether or not the opening was posted (i.e., website, library, bulletin board, Cable station, etc.) The answer was no since this is not traditionally done; however, it was noted that it might be a good idea to encourage more participation. A question was also raised as to the availability of a list of all the committee members and their terms. City Manager Jackson indicated that he is in the process of compiling the list.

#### 5. NEW BUSINESS

- a. Signage Variation at 502 Sheridan-Sanctuary Yoga Studio – ARC recommends approval. The variation is needed for signage on two facades. This item will be on the next meeting's agenda for consideration.
  - b. Illinois Elevator Safety Program Agreement and an Ordinance Enacting Elevator Regulations – It is a State mandate for any Municipality that has elevators to have a safety program in place. Highwood already has one and simply needs to register with the State.
  - c. Fair Housing Month Resolution –It was suggested that a proclamation designating April as Fair Housing Month be passed and examples of other municipalities' proclamations were provided in the Council's packets.
  - d. Resolution to Establish a Planning Consortium to Develop a Local Land Resource Management Plan – Discussion on this item was tabled.
- 6. REVIEW OF PREVIOUSLY DISCUSSED ITEMS ON THIS EVENINGS COUNCIL AGENDA FOR REGULAR MEETING.**
- a. Ordinance to Prohibit Parking on Euclid Court.
  - b. Amendment to Ordinance 2003-0-64 Section 1-11(f) Regarding the Placement of Vehicle Stickers – to be placed on the left versus the right.
  - c. Resolution of Support for the Lake County Extension of Illinois Route 53 in Lake County – City Manager Jackson shared that the Sierra Club, Long Grove and Mundelein were opposition to the extension. On the other hand, he noted that the Route 53 extension would lessen burden on local roads, create a loop through Lake County, and job creation in Lake County.
- 7. UNFINISHED BUSINESS**
- a. Discussion of Recommendation by the Judiciary Committee to Enact a Safe Building Ordinance – It was noted that provisions were added for an appeal process, the deadline to achieve compliance is 2011, existing high density structures are define as exceeding three stories or 20 or more units. Since the cost of retrofitting varies, the appeal process would allow property owners to present their specific case. A concern was expressed that a bill in Illinois legislation may preempt this ordinance. City Attorney Blondin indicated that he felt that the ordinance is defensible; however, may need to be litigated. Discussion ensued. There was some concern expressed regarding expecting developers to incur the added cost of retrofitting a sprinkler system given the economic slowdown. Another concern expressed was that the City does not know if we have the infrastructure to support the sprinkler systems. It was suggested that Director of Public Works, Jeff Ponsi and/or an engineer be consulted. It was also suggested that the Highwood Towers proposal be reviewed to see if how the infrastructure and the sprinkler system were addressed. Questions were raised regarding the experiences the other municipality with a similar ordinance (Hodgkins) has had and how it is enforced (ask Chief Lovejoy to talk to their Fire Chief). Mayor Donofrio recommended that the Judiciary Committee review the Council's comments and questions and review further. City Attorney Blondin indicated that he would look into the Brady bill.

- b. Change of April 7, 2009, City Council Meeting Due to Election Day – The decision was to move the meeting to the following week (April 14). It was noted that the Mayor's Proclamation for Fair Housing Month would not need to wait until this meeting for Council approval.

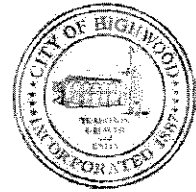
**8. PRESENTATION OF BILLS AD TREASURERS REPORT**

- a. The bills and report were reviewed. City Manager Jackson also noted some changes he is either researching or recommending changed (i.e., Red Center Grant "pass-through", 2% fund allocation, Fire by Design and Sam's Club). Additional items for City Manager Jackson to review include 1) bank charges, 2) what account did Bill Ballings fee come out of, and 3) can Simoneon's retainer costs be adjusted downward since his court cases as they relate to Highwood are down. Additional suggestions were 1) the Finance Committee to review Fort Motor leases and 2) consider ordering supplies from Amazon (an annual fee for free shipping).
9. **ADJOURN** – Alderman Fiore, seconded by Alderman Cahnmann, moved to adjourn the meeting. All Aldermen present voted aye. The motion carried. The meeting adjourned at 7:06 p.m.

Respectfully Submitted,

Susan Druktenis - City Clerk

Meeting of the City of Highwood City Council  
17 Highwood Avenue  
Highwood, Lake County, Illinois  
(847) 432-1924 phone  
(847) 432-0735 fax



**City Council Meeting  
MINUTES**

March 17, 2009 Regular City Council Meeting  
7:30 p.m.

1. CALL TO ORDER

Mayor Donofrio called the City Council Meeting to order at 7:30 p.m.

2. ROLL CALL

Present: Mayor Donofrio, Aldermen Pieri, Linari, Cahnmann, Fiore, Pecaro, Bruni, Murphy and Hospodarsky.

Absent: None

Also present: S. Druktenis, City Clerk; R. Stefani, City Treasurer; G. Jackson, City Manager; Anne Marrin, Assistant City Manager; J. Harding, Director of Community Development and Water Distribution; and D. Blondin and J. Stein, City Attorneys.

3. PLEDGE TO THE FLAG

All in attendance recited the Pledge of Allegiance.

4. APPROVAL OF MINUTES

- a. Alderman Linari moved for an approval of the minutes from the March 3, 2009 City Council Meeting and the March 3, 2009 Committee of the Whole Meeting pending the following correction: 1) in the City Council minutes, change date in item 10.b from April 5 to March 5. Alderman Pecaro seconded the motion. Upon a call of the roll the following voted:

Ayes: Linari, Cahnmann, Pecaro, Bruni, Fiore, Pieri, and Hospodarsky  
Abstain: Murphy  
Nays: None  
Absent: None

The motion carried.

- b. Alderman Linari moved for an approval of the executive session minutes from February 17, 2009, February 3, 2009, January 20, 2009, and January 6, 2009. It was noted that the executive session minutes are being approved but not released. Alderman Pieri seconded the motion. Upon a call of the roll the following voted:

Ayes: Linari, Cahnmann, Pecaro, Bruni, Fiore, Pieri, Murphy and Hospodarsky  
Abstain: None  
Nays: None  
Absent: None

The motion carried.

## 5. PUBLIC INPUT

- Bill Lolli, Highland Park Resident, commented on the discussion on the Fort Sheridan Golf Course during the Lake County Forest Preserves Committee of the Whole Meeting today. There was a great deal of discussion about a consortium between Highland Park, Lake Forest and Lake Bluff and Mr. Lolli was concerned that Highwood was left out. There were two Resolutions against the golf course from Lake Forest and Lake Bluff. Mr. Lolli expressed his displeasure at today's meeting but feels that the City should take action. He feels that Lake Bluff has no skin in the game so why are they brought in now (to be negative for the golf course?). He also feels that Lake Forest should be excluded. He felt that during the meeting, there were misstatement of facts and the Commissioners don't understand what happened. *City Manager Jackson noted that Anne Marrin, Assistant City Manager attend the meeting today as well. He thanked Mr. Lolli for his continued support of the golf course and the City of Highwood. He noted that he recently attended a meeting with the Consortium since he has developed a working relationship with Highland Park's City Manager. There should be a joint Resolution with all Communities. Mr. Jackson indicated that he has reached out to Anne Bassi, Senator Garret and Representative May as well as the Lake County Forest Preserve and the Army. He agreed with Mr. Lolli in that it is frustrating that Lake County Forest Preserve would remove a stakeholder from the table. Alderman Hospodarsky added that Highwood is more than a stakeholder and the we've been involved all along.*
- Dr. Kordell, 720 N. Sheridan Road, circulated his comments to the Council and asked that his remarks be placed in record (see attachment). He then read his remarks. He noted that he has had numerous discussions with the City Manager and City Attorney and that this is the fifth time he has addressed the Council and the issues have still not been resolved. He is looking for relief in the obligation to pay landscaping fees, a permit to build a permanent sign and interest on the \$10,000 construction bond. *Mayor Donofrio appointed Aldermen Cahnmann and Linari to research the issue and provide the Council with a recommendation at the next Council meeting. He also noted that the bond was not in an escrow account and that it had been placed in the general fund.*

6. CITY MANAGER'S REPORT -City Manager Jackson commented on the DVD that was provided to the Library and indicated that, as requested, he reviewed it. He noted that it was a four-minute portion of the meeting and could not say that the portion of his comments pertaining to the Library were, in fact, edited. He also noted that there was a Library Board Meeting that was very fruitful and provided clarification of the roles of the City and the reserve. To clarify, Alderman Cahnmann asked City Manager Jackson the following, "You don't remember anything that you said or anybody else said as far as the library was concerned that was not on that DVD?" to which City Manager Jackson responded, "Everything that I heard that I said, I said." Alderman Cahnmann then added, "Everything that you said on the library was on that DVD?" to which there was no response from Mr. Jackson.

## 7. CONSENT AGENDA

Alderman Linari, seconded by Alderman Pecaro, moved to approve the consent agenda that included the following items:

- a. **2009-O-11** – An Ordinance Amending the traffic and Motor Vehicle Code of 1975 to Prohibit Parking on Euclid Court and Adjoining Cul-de-sac.

- b. **2009-O-12** – An Ordinance Amending the Traffic and Motor Vehicle Code related to the Display of Vehicle Stickers.
- c. **2009-R-1** – A Resolution of Support for the Extension of Illinois Route 53 in Lake County.
- d. Move the April 7, 2009 City Council Meeting to April 14, 2009 Due to Election Day.

Upon a call of the roll the following voted:

Ayes: Linari, Cahnmann, Pecaro, Bruni, Fiore, Pieri, Murphy and  
Hospodarsky  
Abstain: None  
Nays: None  
Absent: None

The motion carried.

- 8. COMMUNICATIONS - City Manager Jackson discussed a letter that expressed concern over the lift station functionality. City Manager Jackson is 1) in the process of setting up a meeting with the Engineering Company, 2) is in discussion with the City Attorney regarding issues such as warranties and 3) will aggressively pursue looking into the issue. He was asked to also look into the number of Public Works man-hours that have been used to address the lift station problems.

- 9. APPROVAL OF BILLS – Alderman Pecaro, seconded by Alderman Linari, moved to approve the bills as presented by City Treasurer Stefani. Upon a call of the roll the following voted:

Ayes: Pieri, Linari, Cahnmann, Pecaro, Bruni, Fiore, Murphy and  
Hospodarsky  
Abstain: None  
Nays: None  
Absent: None

The motion carried.

- 10. TREASURER'S REPORT – Alderman Pecaro moved, seconded by Alderman Linari, to approve the Treasurer's report for the month of February 2009 as presented by City Treasurer Stefani. City Manager Jackson noted several items that were either going to be corrected or required further research (Red Center Grant "pass-through", 2% fund allocation, Fire by Design and Sam's Club). There were also a number of questions from the Council during the Committee of the Whole Meeting that Mr. Jackson will look into.

Upon a call of the roll the following voted:

Ayes: Pieri, Linari, Cahnmann, Pecaro, Bruni, Fiore, Murphy and  
Hospodarsky  
Abstain: None  
Nays: None  
Absent: None

The motion carried.

#### 11. ALDERMAN/COMMITTEE REPORTS

- a. Finance Committee – Alderman Pecaro noted that the last Finance Committee meeting was held on March 10<sup>th</sup> and thanked City Manager Jackson for the financial calendar and the chart of a 3-year comparison of taxes received. The next meeting is scheduled for March 13 @ 5:00 p.m.
  - b. Celebrate Highwood - Alderman Hospodarsky reported that the committee is comprised of representatives from the ARC, the Chamber, the Council and Staff and the goal is to help the businesses so we can all be successful. There have been great suggestions, including, signage, marketing, and a survey for businesses. Starting in April, there will be a website at [celebratethecityofhwd.com](http://celebratethecityofhwd.com). The next meeting is scheduled for Thursday, March 26.
  - c. Alderman Murphy asked if the Parking Committee is now considered part of the Traffic Committee. Since the answer is yes, she would like to have them look into the no parking restriction on Sheridan Ave after 8:00 p.m.
  - d. It was noted that there have been more complaints now that the codes are being enforced; particularly, as it relates to parking on the parkway and property maintenance issues (i.e., vehicles not in use). It was clarified that if there is a visible property maintenance issue, City staff can walk onto the property.
  - e. A question was raised to City Manager Jackson on how the Council might support a Bill (i.e., is it by Resolution)? City Manager Jackson indicated that there could be hundreds of bills that might affect the Council. He suggested that if a Bill “jumps off the page”, he would send an email to the Council Members. If it is vital that the City support a particular bill, he will ask the Council to pass a Resolution.
12. ADJOURN - Alderman Fiore, seconded by Alderman Pecaro, motioned to adjourn the meeting. All Aldermen voted aye.

Respectfully Submitted,

Susan Druktenis - City Clerk