



## CITY OF HIGHWOOD

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### City Council Meeting MINUTES

#### **March 4, 2008 Regular City Council Meeting**

City Hall Council Chambers  
17 Highwood Avenue  
Highwood, IL 60040

#### **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, Bruni, Fiore, Murphy and Hospodarsky.

Absent: Alderman Pecaro.

Also present: S. Druktenis, City Clerk; M. Lasday, City Administrator; R. Stefani, City Treasurer; J. Harding, Superintendent of Water; and D. Blondin, City Attorney

#### **3. PLEDGE TO THE FLAG**

All in attendance recited the Pledge of Allegiance.

#### **4. APPROVAL OF MINUTES**

Alderman Linari moved for an approval of the minutes from the February 19, 2008 Regular City Council Meeting and the February 25, 2008 Special City Council Meeting. Alderman Hospodarsky seconded the motion. Alderman Hospodarsky requested an amendment to the February 25, 2008 Special City Council Meeting Minutes to more accurately reflect his comments regarding the Highwood Towers vote. Alderman Murphy suggested tabling the approval of the February 25, 2008 minutes until the Ordinance for the Highwood Towers can be reviewed. As an alternative, it was suggested that, if appropriate, the minutes could be commented on at a future date. Upon a call of the roll the following voted:

Ayes: Pieri, Linari, Cahnmann (February 19, 2008 minutes),  
Bruni, Fiore, Murphy (February 19, 2008 minutes),  
Hospodarsky  
Abstain: None  
Nays: Cahnmann (February 25, 2008 minutes), Murphy  
(February 25, 2008 minutes)  
Absent: Pecaro

The motion carried.

#### **5. PUBLIC FORUM**

- Joe Passini, 216 Burchell Ave., commented that now that the Highwood Towers proposal has been approved, he hopes that the Council can focus on the Comprehensive Plan. He recognized the Mayor and several Aldermen for their work on the Highwood Towers proposal. He also noted that the Comprehensive Plan would allow the city to prosper. He felt that the Mayor is a gentleman and should be congratulated on the manner in which he conducts himself.

## 6. REPORTS

### a. Mayor's Report

1. Appointments – Mayor Donofrio will recommend the following appointments at the March 19, 2008 meeting.
  - a. Eric Falberg to the Police/Fire Commission
  - b. William Cora to the Zoning Board of Appeals
  - c. Steve Bachner will remain on the parking committee

### b. City Administrator's Report

1. Building Department Report – A letter was sent to North Shore Estates on February 20, 2008 regarding code violations with their balconies. Additional properties are being reviewed for the same issues. If code violations are found, the property owner has 30 days to provide the City with detailed plans to rectify the problem.
2. Code Enforcement Report – Complaints regarding possible overcrowding were investigated; one was unfounded and one duplex had evidence of overcrowding in both dwellings. The property on Sheridan Road with no heat was given a notice to appear in court. Also, additional properties were determined to have occupancy violations, unsanitary conditions and/or deterioration. The staff continues to perform the 2008 safety inspections.

### c. Aldermen Reports

1. Alderman Fiore reported that he and Alderman Linari have completed the review of the Police Chief applications and will be prepared to discuss their recommendation next week. He estimates that within a month to a month and a half they should have a final recommendation.
2. Alderman Fiore noted that the Long Term Planning Committee will meet to develop a recommendation for the committee members that will work on the Comprehensive Plan.
3. Alderman Fiore noted that the Pavilion is planning a renovation and will hold a meeting on March 12, 7:00 at the Pavilion for the developer to discuss the plans. The meeting is open to the public.
4. Alderman Hospodarsky noted that a Fun Fair will be held on March 9, 2008 at Oak Terrace School from noon to 4:00 p.m. The public is welcome and proceeds from the fundraiser will benefit the school.

## 7. CONSENT AGENDA

1. Alderman Linari, seconded by Alderman Pieri, moved to remove the following item from the consent agenda and to table it until the March 18, 2008 City Council Meeting:
  - Resolution Approving Agreement with Houseal Lavigne For Update of Highwood Comprehensive Plan

Upon a call of the roll the following voted:

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

The motion carried.

2. Alderman Hospodarsky, seconded by Alderman Bruni, moved to approve the following items on the consent agenda:
  - a. **2008-R-6** – A Resolution Approving City of Highwood Annual Service Agreement – Water Storage Tank/Clarifier Cathodic Protection System with Corpro Waterworks
  - b. **2008-R-7** – A Resolution to enter into an agreement with Stormwater Management regarding permit procedures
  - c. **2008-O-8** – An Amended City of Highwood Ordinance Determining License Fess, Permit Fees and other costs
  - d. **2008-R-8** – A Resolution Approving Proposal From Baxter and Woodman Related to Design Services – Salt Storage Building
  - e. **2008-R-9** – A Resolution Approving Cost Sharing Proposal with the City of Highland Park (Western Avenue)
  - f. **2008-R-10** – A Resolution Proclaiming the City's Appreciation to Congressman Mark Kirk, Senator Richard Durbin and Senator Barack Obama and Authorization to Receive Funds from the Fiscal Year 2008 United States Environmental Protection Agency STAG grant

Upon a call of the roll the following voted:

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

The motion carried.

## 8. **OLD BUSINESS**

- a. ARC appeal by Designer Rug and Imports located at 11 Highwood Ave for window signage – The ARC has denied the petitioner's request; however, the petitioner is requesting that the City Council overrule the decision and allow him to have the window signage even though he has awnings with signage (variations needed are 1)

multiple signage per facade, 2) language that is not permitted, 3) orientation and location). Following discussion, including input from an ARC member who is in favor of allowing the variations, the Council requested additional information on 1) has all the petitioner's prior fines been paid and 2) how many other businesses have signs on both their awnings and windows? City Administrator Lasday will research and provide the answers to these questions to the Council and the discussion will continue at the March 19, 2008 Committee of the Whole meeting.

- b. Alderman Linari thanked the Public Works department for their exemplary snow removal services.
9. **ADJOURN** - Alderman Hospodarsky, seconded by Alderman Fiore, motioned to adjourn the meeting. All Aldermen present voted aye. The meeting adjourned at 8:10 p.m.

Respectfully Submitted,

Susan Druktenis - City Clerk