



CITY OF HIGHWOOD

17 Highwood Avenue
Highwood, Illinois 60040
847.432.1924 / 0735 Fax
www.cityofhighwood.com

City Council Meeting MINUTES

April 1, 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; B. Balling, Interim City Administrator; J. Harding, Superintendent of Water; and M. Zimmermann and D. Blondin, City Attorneys.

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 March 18, 2008 Regular City Council Meeting. Alderman Bruni seconded the motion. Alderman Hospodarsky noted a correction needed in the minutes to correct his e-mail address. Upon a call of the roll the following voted:

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

The motion carried.

5. PUBLIC FORUM

- Meno Passini, Highwood resident, commented on the codification of the ordinances and that as a Zoning Board member and as having been an applicant, some of the ordinances are counterproductive and need to be reviewed. He also commented on the Landscaping license proposal and noted that Highland Park does not require private landscapers to have licenses and feels that this could deter homeowners from hiring lawn services. Additionally, Mr. Passini commented on the Business registration proposal and feels that business such as restaurants and dry cleaners are already paying fees for business licenses so the registration form should just be included with their application. Finally, he commented that he is glad to hear that the

Council is open to changing the Appearance Review Code (ARC).

6. **REPORTS**

- a. Mayor's Report
 1. Announcements –
 - a. Mike Poeta was congratulated for winning second in his weight class in the NCAA Division I National Wrestling Championship
 - b. Bill Balling was introduced and will serve as the interim City Administrator. His services will be twofold in that his firm will assist with the day-to-day functions during the transition as well as conducting an organizational analysis. The time frame is 90 days. Mr. Balling provided information on his background and indicated that he will be generally available and will be posting a schedule next week.
- b. City Administrator's Report
 1. Police Department Report – A new police officer (a lateral transfer) has been hired.
 2. Building Department Report – Superintendent of Water Harding indicated that the annual North Shore Estates rental inspections would begin this month. As a follow-up to the February 20, 2008 letter that was sent to North Shore Estates regarding code violations relating to the balconies, Mr. Harding reported that North Shore Estates has retained an architect and contractor to draw up plans. Once the plans are drawn up, he will bring them back to the Council. A question arose regarding whether or not an engineer should review the plans. City Attorney Mike Zimmerman indicated that according to Illinois law, an architect could sign off on plans as a structural engineer. Mr. Harding also noted that the ARC workshop is scheduled for April 16, 2008 @ 7:00 p.m. and that he is still working on obtaining a final quote for replacing the capacitors in the streetlights.
- c. Aldermen Reports
 1. Alderman Linari reported that the next Finance Committee meeting will be on April 7, 2008 @ 5:00 p.m. and the next Special Events Committee meeting will be on April 10, 2008 @ 5:00 p.m.
 2. Alderman Fiore updated the Council on the Police Chief search and indicated that they are on step 3 of a 6-step process and will be bringing possible candidates to a future Committee of the Whole meeting.
 3. Alderman Fiore indicated although the contract is continuing to be reviewed, that the Comprehensive Plan is on hold until the Police Chief and the City Administrator are in place.

7. **CONSENT AGENDA**

1. Alderman Hospodarsky, seconded by Alderman Linari, moved to approve the following items on the consent agenda:
 - a. **2008-O-10** – An Ordinance Amending the Traffic and Motor Vehicle Code of 1975 (Euclid Ave Stop Sign)
 - b. **2008-R-14** – A Resolution Approving Consulting Services Agreement with WRB, LLC

- c. **2008-O-11** – An Ordinance Amending Exhibit “A” of the City of Highwood Liquor Control Ordinance Regarding the Number of Permitted Class 2W Licenses

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. ACTIVE AGENDA

2008-O-12 – An Ordinance Granting a Variation From the City of Highwood Appearance Code (11 Highwood Avenue) - Alderman Linari, seconded by Alderman Bruni, moved to approve An Ordinance Granting a Variation From the City of Highwood Appearance Code (11 Highwood Avenue).

Upon a call of the roll the following voted:

Ayes: Pieri, Cahnmann, Linari, Bruni, Hospodarsky
Abstain: Murphy
Nays: Fiore
Absent: Pecaro

The motion carried.

9. OLD BUSINESS

- a. Sandwich Signs- Alderman Fiore expressed a concern regarding the reconsideration of sandwich signs. He noted that several businesses in the past installed new, permanent signs after being fined for use of sandwich signs. If the Council now agrees that sandwich signs are acceptable, he feels that the businesses that found a workaround in the past, be reimbursed for the signs. It was agreed that this would be discussed as part of the ARC workshop.

10. **ADJOURN** - Alderman Linari, seconded by Alderman Hospodarsky, motioned to adjourn the meeting. All Aldermen present voted aye. The meeting adjourned at 7:55 p.m.

Respectfully Submitted,

Susan Druktenis - City Clerk