



APRIL 20, 2021

**MINUTES OF THE REGULAR MEETING OF THE CITY COUNCIL
CITY OF PALOS HEIGHTS, COOK COUNTY, ILLINOIS**

I. CALL TO ORDER

The Mayor called to order the regular meeting of the City of Palos Heights City Council at 7:00 p.m. in the City Administrative Center, 7607 W. College Drive, Palos Heights, IL

II. INVOCATION & PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE

The Mayor led the invocation and Pledge of Allegiance.

III. ROLL CALL

Roll call indicated the following were present:

<i>Mayor</i>	Robert Straz	<i>Ward 1</i>	Donald Bylut & Jeffrey Key
<i>City Clerk</i>	Thomas Kantas	<i>Ward 2</i>	Jack Clifford & Robert Basso
<i>City Treasurer</i>	James Daemicke	<i>Ward 3</i>	Brent Lewandowski
<i>City Attorney</i>	Tom Brown	<i>Ward 4</i>	Michael McGrogan & Jerry McGovern

V. SPECIAL PRESENTATIONS

None

VI. CONSENT AGENDA

- A Approval of Minutes: City Council Meeting, March 16, 2021.
- B Approval of Payroll and Voucher List for the period ending April 16, 2021.

Alderman Clifford moved to approve the consent agenda seconded by Alderman

Bylut. On roll call, the motion to approve the Consent Agenda was:

Ayes: (7) Basso, Bylut, Clifford, Key, Lewandowski, McGovern
McGrogan

Nays: (0) None

With seven (7) affirmative votes the motion carried.

VII. OPENING OF SEALED BIDS

2021 Clean and CCTV Project

Visu-sewer	\$144,785.00
National Power Rodding	\$115,480.00
Hydrovision Technology	\$123,671.50
Sewer Tech	\$109,135.00
Sheridan Plumbing	\$171,334.00
Michels Corporation	\$209,983.00

- Alderman Bylut moved to refer the bids to committee for consideration seconded by Alderman Clifford. The motion carried by unanimous voice vote.

2021 Roads Resurfacing Project

M&J Construction	\$440,961.32
Lindahl Construction	\$469,946.12
D Construction	\$23,545.14 (Note: figure was incorrectly computed by bidder)
Gallagher Asphalt	\$466,023.89
K Five Construction	\$514,832.80

- Alderman Clifford moved to refer the bids to committee for consideration seconded by Alderman Bylut. The motion carried by unanimous voice vote.

VII. REPORTS OF CITY OFFICIALS

A. Mayor:

- The Mayor announced that City Hall will reopen to the public on May 3rd.
- The Mayor requested a motion to approve a Right of First Refusal between Edward Sieben and the City of Palos Heights for the property located at 7752 W. 123rd Place. Alderman Clifford moved to approve the agreement seconded by Alderman Lewandowski. The motion carried by unanimous voice vote.
- The Mayor requested a motion to approve structural engineering to install a “Welcome to Palos Heights” sign on the Metra bridge crossing Route 83. Alderman McGorgan moved to approve the sign installation seconded by Alderman Bylut.

On roll call, the motion to approve the installation was:

Ayes: (7) Basso, Bylut, Clifford, Key, Lewandowski, McGovern
McGorgan

Nays: (0) None

With seven (7) affirmative votes the motion carried.

B. Clerk: No report

C. Treasurer: Delivered Treasurer’s Report for the month ending March, 2021.

General Fund:

Beginning cash balance \$2,774,870

Revenues \$1,959,265

Expenses \$794,429

Other \$82,354

Ending cash balance \$3,857,351

Total of All Funds:

Beginning cash balance \$17,889,860

Revenues \$3,349,935

Expenses \$1,398,718

Other \$19,385

Ending cash balance \$19,860,462

Alderman Clifford moved to approve the Treasurer’s Report seconded by Alderman McGovern. The motion carried by unanimous voice vote.

D. City Attorney: No Report

VIII. COMMUNICATIONS

None

IX. CITIZENS ADDRESSING THE CITY COUNCIL

None

X. REPORTS OF STANDING COMMITTEES

A. Finance—*Chairperson Alderman McGrogan:*

- Alderman McGrogan moved to approve an Auditor Engagement agreement with Mueller & Co LLP for Fiscal Years 2020-2022 seconded by Alderman Bylut.

On roll call, the motion to approve the agreement was:

Ayes: (7) Basso, Bylut, Clifford, Key, Lewandowski, McGovern
McGrogan

Nays: (0) None

With seven (7) affirmative votes the motion carried.

- Alderman McGrogan moved to approve a Resolution amending the 2021 Health and Dependent Care FSA seconded by Alderman McGovern.

On roll call, the motion to approve the resolution was:

Ayes: (7) Basso, Bylut, Clifford, Key, Lewandowski, McGovern
McGrogan

Nays: (0) None

With seven (7) affirmative votes the motion carried.

- Alderman McGrogan moved to approve a Resolution amending the 2021 FSA Agreement seconded by Alderman McGovern.

On roll call, the motion to approve the resolution was:

Ayes: (7) Basso, Bylut, Clifford, Key, Lewandowski, McGovern
McGrogan

Nays: (0) None

With seven (7) affirmative votes the motion carried.

- Alderman McGrogan stated that the City spent 1.4 million dollars to operate the City during the last month and that he will offer supplemental fiscal reports during the year to better inform residents on the scope of activity necessary to operate the city.

B. Public Safety—*Chairperson Alderman McGovern*: Reported on a traffic accident involving an officer who is recovering well.

C. Municipal Grounds and Property—*Chairperson Alderman Basso*:

- Alderman Basso moved to approve new carpet tile installation in the front area of City Hall and the office of the Mayor’s Assistant in the amount of \$9,297.00 with Apostrophe Design Inc. seconded by Alderman Clifford.

On roll call, the motion to approve the resolution was:

Ayes: (7) Basso, Bylut, Clifford, Key, Lewandowski, McGovern
McGrogan

Nays: (0) None

With seven (7) affirmative votes the motion carried.

- Alderman Basso reported that Republic Waste collected over 5,000 tons of trash in Palos Heights 16.75% of which is recyclable material about twice that of other communities. Alderman Basso requested that the City have input on the General Iron relocation and any added layer of sludge storage on the Canal.

D. Planning and Zoning—*Chairperson Alderman Clifford*:

- Alderman Clifford moved to direct the City Attorney to draft an Ordinance to allow a Front Yard Fence to extend twenty-nine (29) feet beyond the front building line facing 119th Street (IL Rte 83) with a 4 foot step back from the west property line between the front building line and the northern property line for the single-family home located at 11900 S. Richard Avenue seconded by Alderman Key. Jennifer Jensen addressed the City Council regarding the necessity of the request. The motion carried by unanimous voice vote.
- Alderman Clifford moved to waive the rules to adopt the Ordinance seconded by Alderman Key. The motion carried by unanimous voice vote.
- Alderman Clifford moved to adopt an Ordinance to allow a Front Yard Fence to extend twenty-nine (29) feet beyond the front building line facing 119th Street (IL Rte 83) with a 4 foot step back from the west property line between the front building line and the northern property line for the

single-family home located at 11900 S. Richard Avenue seconded by Alderman Key.

On roll call, the motion to adopt the ordinance was:

Ayes: (7) Basso, Bylut, Clifford, Key, Lewandowski, McGovern
McGrogan

Nays: (0) None

With seven (7) affirmative votes the motion carried.

E. Recreation—*Chairperson Alderman Key:*

- Alderman Key moved to approve Campfire Concepts payment #3 in the amount of \$4,250.00 for work on the Strategic Plan, Marketing Plan, and Branding Style Guide for the Parks and Recreation Department seconded by Alderman Clifford.

On roll call, the motion to approve the payment was:

Ayes: (7) Basso, Bylut, Clifford, Key, Lewandowski, McGovern
McGrogan

Nays: (0) None

With seven (7) affirmative votes the motion carried.

- Alderman Key moved to approve Upland Design payment #1 in the amount of \$4,140.00 for work on the Master Plan Park Planning for Orchard Park seconded by Alderman Bylut.

On roll call, the motion to approve the payment was:

Ayes: (7) Basso, Bylut, Clifford, Key, Lewandowski, McGovern
McGrogan

Nays: (0) None

With seven (7) affirmative votes the motion carried.

- Alderman Key moved to approve the agreement between the Parks & Recreation Department and Experimental Station for participation in the Link Up Illinois Link Match Grant Program seconded by Alderman

Clifford. The motion carried by unanimous voice vote.

- Alderman Key moved to enter into a 48-month copier lease in the amount of \$175.75/month with Choice Office Equipment seconded by Alderman Bylut.

On roll call, the motion to approve the lease was:

Ayes: (7) Basso, Bylut, Clifford, Key, Lewandowski, McGovern
McGrogan

Nays: (0) None

With seven (7) affirmative votes the motion carried.

- Alderman Key moved to amend the agreement with Tivity Health and the Silver Sneakers program for the purpose of removing associated partner programs of Tivity Health seconded by Alderman Bylut.

On roll call, the motion to approve the agreement was:

Ayes: (7) Basso, Bylut, Clifford, Key, Lewandowski, McGovern
McGrogan

Nays: (0) None

With seven (7) affirmative votes the motion carried.

- Alderman Key moved to approve Zenere Landscape proposal in the amount of \$8,100.00 for spring and fall clean up at parks, the swimming pool, and recreation center. This includes monthly maintenance visits to the Recreation Center, Walsh-Westgate Park and the Veterans play lot, and mid-summer pruning at the pool seconded by Alderman Bylut.

On roll call, the motion to approve the proposal was:

Ayes: (7) Basso, Bylut, Clifford, Key, Lewandowski, McGovern
McGrogan

Nays: (0) None

With seven (7) affirmative votes the motion carried.

F. Roads and Construction—*Chairperson Alderman Kramarski:*

- Alderman Clifford moved to approve a Settlement Agreement and Release between The Ohio Casualty Insurance Company and IDOT regarding the failing retaining wall on Southwest Highway south of the Cal-Sag Channel seconded by Alderman McGovern.

On roll call, the motion to approve the settlement agreement was:

Ayes: (7) Basso, Bylut, Clifford, Key, Lewandowski, McGovern
McGrogan

Nays: (0) None

With seven (7) affirmative votes the motion carried.

G. License, Permits & Franchises—*Chairperson Alderman Lewandowski:*

- Alderman Lewandowski moved to approve a permanent sign request for Dunkin' Donuts at 11849 Southwest Highway seconded by Alderman McGovern.
 - a. Alderman McGovern inquired on the dimensions of the sign. Alderman Lewandowski stated that variance applies only to the height of the sign - the two "D." The allowed signage ordinance allows for 36 inches in height. The current width of the proposed sign is within the ordinance. The total height requested is 42 inches which is six inches larger than the ordinance allows. Alderman McGrogan suggested that the motion provide that the variance only exceeds 6 inches beyond that of the current ordinance.
 - b. In response the discussion Alderman Lewandowski moved to amend the motion to state that the sign variance requested by the petitioner not exceed 6 inches higher than the limitation in the code.
 - c. Alderman Basso stated that the maximum height allowed in the code is 24 inches and that the current request of 42 inches far exceeds that height. Alderman McGrogan stated that the building commissioner indicated that the maximum height is 36 inches. Alderman Clifford stated that Dunkin Donuts has restyled their signage to include the two Ds.
 - d. Alderman Bylut stated that the motion as amended allows a sign

variance not to exceed 6 inches higher than the code.

- e. Alderman Lewandowski moved to amend the motion to state that the sign not to exceed 42 inches at the designated location. Alderman Bylut stated his request that the motion state the sign not exceed 6 inches beyond the code.
- f. Alderman Lewandowski reiterated that the motion as amended calls for the sign not to exceed 42 inches. Alderman McGovern second the motion as amended.

On roll, the motion - as amended - to allow the sign request was as follows:

Ayes: (3) Lewandowski, McGovern, McGrogan

Nays: (4) Basso, Key, Bylut, Clifford,

With (3) affirmative votes the motion failed.

- g. Alderman Clifford read aloud a letter regarding relations between businesses and local government.
- h. Alderman McGovern suggested that the council reconsider the motion to include language that the sign not exceed 6 inches to allow progress to continue with the opening of the store at the location and to save the time associated with reconsidering the request in committee.
- i. Alderman Lewandowski re-introduced the motion to include language that the sign not exceed 6 inches over the code at the designated location seconded by Alderman McGrogan

On roll, the motion - as amended and reintroduced to allow the sign request with the aforementioned limitation - was as follows:

Ayes: (6) Bylut, Clifford, Basso, Lewandowski, McGovern, McGrogan.

Nays: (1) Key

With (6) affirmative votes the motion carried.

H. Water and Sewer—*Chairperson Alderman Bylut*: No Report

XI. REPORTS OF SPECIAL COMMITTEES

A. Business/Economic Development: Alderman Key

- Alderman Key stated that the Dunkin Donuts project has been ongoing for two years and finds it disconcerting that the business did not address the precise allowable dimensions of the sign at an earlier time.
- Alderman Key announced that the Farmers Market will begin in the Municipal Parking Lot on Harlem on May 12th every Wednesday from 8 to 1.
- Alderman Key announced that the Adopt a Pot Program sponsored by the Beautification Committee will begin work in May and encouraged interested parties to sponsor a pot.

B. Ad Hoc Cable TV: Alderman McGovern: Reported that Channel 4 has produced more shows in March than ever before.

XII. OLD BUSINESS

- None

XIII. NEW BUSINESS

- Alderman Lewandowski inquired regarding compliance with respect to sexual harassment training mandated for government employees. The City attorney stated that the State of Illinois has a method of accessing the training online.
- Alderman Clifford extended well wishes to Alderman Kramarski on her years of service to the City.
- Alderman McGrogan asked if the Business and Economic Department could address consumer concerns with local business on an unspecified platform and that such publicity would impact the behavior of local businesses. Alderman Key stated that the committee advocates on behalf of local business generally and that social media has generated much attention in this area but that the committee may not be the appropriate avenue for such concerns and suggested that Mr. Busse convey some of the concerns.
- Alderman Key recalled an event 8 years ago during an event at the Police Department wherein Alderman Kramarski addressed the 18 month length of time forensic evidence is analyzed from the state crime laboratory. Alderman Kramarski then addressed this concern with the police department and that the delay in the return of examined evidence is a real concern and asked the police to remedy the issue. The City, on Alderman Kramarski's inquiry, took steps to utilize a private lab for the examination evidence with a faster rate of analysis. Alderman Key commended Alderman Kramarski regarding this effort and her many contributions to the City during her years of service particularly the

condition of the roads in the City.

- Alderman McGovern recognized Alderman Kramarski for her years of service to the City.
- Alderman Basso recognized Alderman Kramarski for her contributions to the City and thanked her for her years of service.
- Alderman McGrogan stated that much of the work done by the City Council involves the application of local, county and state imposed regulations to issues confronting the City. Alderman McGrogan recognized Alderman Kramarski for her many contributions and years of service to the City.
- Alderman Bylut stated that Alderman Kramarski's presence on the City Council will be missed.

XIV. CITIZENS ASKING QUESTIONS REGARDING THE EVENING'S BUSINESS

None

XV. CLOSED SESSION

None

XVI. ADJOURNMENT

At 8:00 p.m. the Mayor requested a motion to adjourn that passed unanimously.

Respectfully Submitted,
PALOS HEIGHTS CITY CLERK

Thomas Kantas - by Margaret Carey - Deputy City Clerk 5.5.21
Thomas Kantas Date