

**JUNE 16, 2020**  
**MINUTES OF THE REGULAR MEETING OF THE CITY COUNCIL**  
**CITY OF PALOS HEIGHTS, COOK COUNTY, ILLINOIS**

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**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>	Robert Basso & Jack Clifford
<i>City Treasurer</i>	James Daemicke	<i>Ward 3</i>	Dolores Kramarski & 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 June 2, 2020.
- B. Approval of Payroll and Voucher List for the period ending June 12, 2020.

Alderman Kramarski moved to approve the consent agenda seconded by Alderman McGovern.

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

Ayes: (8) Basso, Bylut, Clifford, Key, Kramarski, Lewandowski, McGovern, McGrogan.

Nays: (0) None

With eight (8) affirmative votes the motion carried.

**VII. OPENING OF SEALED BIDS**

None

**VII. REPORTS OF CITY OFFICIALS**

A. Mayor:

- Announced that the first Farmer's Market will begin tomorrow. The City's local business incentive program is ongoing and progressing well. To date, 752 residents have taken part in the program. 81.8% of the residents in Palos Heights have reported to the census. The pool and playgrounds are closed pursuant to the Governor's Executive Order which prohibits opening until Phase 4 begins in late June. The City will begin to prepare the pool if circumstances permit. Opening these facilities in contravention of the Governor's Order would subject the City to liability. Recent demonstrations taking place in the City were conducted peacefully and were managed well by the City.
- The Mayor submitted for adoption an Ordinance Updating the City Code Regarding Committee Rules of Procedure. The proposed Ordinance specifies that votes in committee that are tied shall be submitted to the entire City Council for consideration without recommendation. Alderman McGrogan moved to adopt the ordinance seconded by Alderman Key.

Alderman McGovern stated that Robert's Rules does allow tie votes in committee to move forward for consideration by the City Council. He stated that U.S. Supreme Court decisions without a majority results in the underlying decision remaining in effect.

The City Attorney stated that the City has never given final authority under Robert's Rules to the committee. Robert's Rules provides that standing committees are not given final authority then those matters should be referred to the City Council for Considerations.

Alderman Bylut stated that committee decisions are recommendations for consideration by the City Council. Committee members should have the opportunity to raise the merits of particular ordinances before the entire Council.

Alderman Kramarski stated the Council needs to establish consistent rules of procedure and agrees with the position set forth by Alderman McGovern.

Alderman McGrogan stated that the Council should approve the Ordinance and allow consideration of the committee work by the entire Council. Tied votes should be subject to debate by the entire Council/

The Mayor stated that the committee structure is intended to provide recommendation to the entire Council.

The City Attorney stated that if tie votes in committee do not proceed to the City Council for consideration, crucial issues such as budgetary matters, would not move forward stifling management of the government. The City Attorney stated that the ordinance is a more democratic measure of allowing full debate and consideration of contested issues.

Alderman Bylut stated that in tied situations the opposing parties would have the opportunity to debate the issue before the City Council.

The City Attorney stated that a resident seeking relief from the City should not be barred from that request proceeding to the City Council because of a tie vote in committee.

Alderman Key stated that positions in committee could shift when the matter comes before the City Council and the ordinance would allow for fuller debate. Alderman Key stated that two committee votes should not bar matters from consideration by the entire Council.

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

Ayes: (5) Bylut, Key, Lewandowski, McGrogan, Mayor Straz

Nays: (4) McGovern, Basso, Clifford, Kramarski

With five (5) affirmative votes the motion carried.

B. Clerk: No Report

C. Treasurer:

Delivered Treasurer's Report for the month ending May 31, 2020 as follows:

General Fund:

Beginning cash balance \$4,459,976.39

Revenues \$620,426.63

Expenses \$768,625.85

Other \$4,172.06

Ending cash balance \$4,307,605.11

Total of All Funds:

Beginning cash balance \$19,353,225.24

Revenues \$1,415,518.25

Expenses \$1,351,170.52

Other \$1,214.59

Ending cash balance \$19,418,787.56

Alderman McGovern moved to approve the Treasurer's Report seconded by Alderman Bylut. 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*: Reported that City finances are sound despite the precarious nature of the economy.
- B. Public Safety—*Chairperson Alderman McGovern*: Thanked donors to the Police Department and Hospital workers confronting COVID.
- C. Municipal Grounds and Property—*Chairperson Alderman Basso*: Reported that chipper service is a day or two behind but ongoing.
- D. Planning and Zoning—*Chairperson Alderman Clifford*: Announced that on June 29th the ZBA and PUD will meet to consider requested zoning and redevelopment petitions at 6 and 7 respectively.
- E. Recreation—*Chairperson Alderman Key*:
  - Alderman Key moved to approve agreement with Kids Around the World, Inc. to donate old playground equipment from Palmer Park seconded by Alderman Clifford.

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

Ayes: (8) Basso, Bylut, Clifford, Key, Kramarski, Lewandowski,  
McGovern, McGrogan.

Nays: (0) None

With eight (8) affirmative votes the motion carried.

- Alderman Key moved to approve the Recreation Center’s updated hours of operation for reopening in Phase 4 of the Restore Illinois plan seconded by Alderman Clifford.

On roll call, the motion to approve the updated hours was:

Ayes: (8) Basso, Bylut, Clifford, Key, Kramarski, Lewandowski, McGovern, McGrogan.

Nays: (0) None

With eight (8) affirmative votes the motion carried.

- Alderman Key moved to reactivate Fitness Membership charges effective August 6, 2020 if Phase 4 of the Restore Illinois plan has occurred seconded by Alderman Clifford.

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

Ayes: (8) Basso, Bylut, Clifford, Key, Kramarski, Lewandowski, McGovern, McGrogan.

Nays: (0) None

With eight (8) affirmative votes the motion carried.

- Reported that the speculation about other municipalities planning to reopen parks and other facilities remain subject to the Governor's Executive Order. The moment the facilities are allowed to reopen the City will take action.
- F. Roads and Construction—*Chairperson Alderman Kramarski*: Reported that the Phase II resurfacing at 123rd Street from Harlem to 76th Avenue entities will meet to discuss the project.
- G. License, Permits & Franchises—*Chairperson Alderman Lewandowski*: No Report
- H. Water and Sewer—*Chairperson Alderman Bylut*: No Report

## XI. REPORTS OF SPECIAL COMMITTEES

- A. Business/Economic Development: Alderman Key reported that the most recent meeting planning about a Fall event is under consideration subject to the status of COVID. Alderman Key urged residents to continue to support local businesses during this climate.
- B. Ad Hoc Cable TV: Alderman McGovern - Reported that scheduled programming has been canceled because of COVID but restarting programming is now under consideration during the month of June. Channel 4 will consider implementing remote programming to facilitate this process.

## XII. OLD BUSINESS

None

**XIII. NEW BUSINESS**

Alderman McGrogan inquired regarding the status of the Dominick's property. The Mayor stated that meetings to address the issue are scheduled.

Alderman Bylut inquired is committees could meet in person in the City Council chambers.

**XIV. CITIZENS ASKING QUESTIONS REGARDING THE EVENING'S BUSINESS**

None

**XV. CLOSED SESSION**

None

**XVI. ADJOURNMENT**

At 7:50 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      7.7.20  
Thomas Kantas      Date