



AUGUST 15, 2023
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 7:18 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:

Mayor Robert Straz

Ward 1 Donald Bylut & Jeffrey Key

City Clerk

Ward 2 Robert Basso & Jack Clifford

City Treasurer James Daemicke

Ward 3 Heather Begley & Brent Lewandowski

City Attorney Tom Brown

Ward 4 Michael McGrogan & Jerry McGovern

Absent: Alderman Bylut

IV. SPECIAL PRESENTATIONS

None

V. CONSENT AGENDA

A. Approval of City Council Meeting Minutes August 1, 2023.

B. Approval of Payroll and Voucher List for the period ending August 11, 2023.

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

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

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

Nays: (0) None

Absent: (1) Lewandowski

With seven (7) affirmative votes the motion carried.

VI. OPENING OF SEALED BIDS

None.

VII. REPORTS OF CITY OFFICIALS

A. Mayor: Reported that school is starting back up and to be mindful of children and the laws regarding school busses.

- The Mayor requested a motion to adopt an Ordinance for the approval of the business district plan and designation of the Palos Heights Business District No. 2 Harlem Avenue Corridor. Alderman Key moved to adopt the Ordinance seconded by Alderman McGovern.

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

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

Nays: (0) None

Absent: (1) Lewandowski

With seven (7) affirmative votes the motion carried.

- The Mayor requested a motion to adopt an Ordinance imposing a business district retailers' occupation tax and a business district service occupation tax in the Palos Heights Business District No.2 Harlem Avenue Corridor. Alderman Key moved to adopt the Ordinance seconded by Alderman Clifford.

Alderman Clifford motioned to refer this agenda item to the Finance Committee.

Discussion was had whether or not this Ordinance should be discussed in the Finance Committee. The Mayor and Alderman Key stated this was discussed at the Committee of the Whole meeting and Planning and Zoning Committee. Alderman Clifford questioned if the business owners were aware of the tax. Economic Development Coordinator Ken Busse spoke to major businesses that are within the district are in support of it. Coordinator Busse stated the tax can be lowered later on but business owners are aware it is for a full penny that will begin in January of 2024.

Alderman Clifford withdrew his motion to refer this agenda item to the Finance Committee.

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

Ayes: (7) Bylut, Begley, Basso, Key, McGrogan, McGovern

Nays: (1) Clifford

Absent: (1) Lewandowski

With seven (6) affirmative votes the motion carried.

- B. Clerk: No report
- C. Treasurer: Delivered Treasurer's Report for the period ending July 31, 2023.

General Fund:

Beginning cash balance \$5,684,593.23

Revenues \$882,455.71

Expenses \$999,444.98

Other \$2,822.86

Ending cash balance \$5,564,786.10

Total of All Funds:

Beginning cash balance \$26,775,320.65

Revenues \$1,791,816.61

Expenses \$1,727,389.43

Other \$4,232.93

Ending cash balance \$26,835,514.90

Alderman Bylut moved to approve the Treasurer's Report for the period ending July 31, 2023, 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*: No report.

B. Public Safety—*Chairperson Alderman Basso* – Emphasized the importance to protecting yourself from scammers. Provided statistics of the overall amount of scams occurring. Alderman McGovern advised residents to not use the word “yes” when answering the phone.

C. Municipal Grounds and Property—*Chairperson Alderman Begley*: No report

D. Planning and Zoning—*Chairperson Alderman McGovern*: No report

E. Recreation—*Chairperson Alderman Key*

- Alderman Key moved to approve payment #7 to JSD Landscaping in the amount of \$5,078.63 for permits, bidding/contract execution and grant administrative work completed on the Orchard Park Project, seconded by Alderman Clifford.

On roll call, the motion to approve payment was:

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

Nays: (0) None

Absent: (1) Lewandowski

With eight (7) affirmative votes the motion carried.

F. Roads and Construction—*Chairperson Alderman Clifford*

- Alderman Clifford moved to approve payment to Morris Engineering for engineering services for various projects throughout the City in the amount of \$34,328.50, seconded by Alderman McGovern.

On roll call, the motion to approve payment was:

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

Nays: (0) None

Absent: (1) Lewandowski

With eight (7) affirmative votes the motion carried.

G. License, Permits & Franchises—*Alderman McGrogan*

- Alderman McGrogan moved to approve the proposal for inventory and organization of the building plans and permit documents from Bradford Systems in the amount of \$13,910.00, seconded by Alderman Begley.

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

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

Nays: (0) None

Absent: (1) Lewandowski

With eight (7) affirmative votes the motion carried.

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

XI. REPORTS OF SPECIAL COMMITTEES

A. Business/Economic Development—*Chairperson Alderman Key*: No Report.

B. Ad Hoc Cable TV— *Chairperson Alderman McGovern*: No Report.

XII. OLD BUSINESS

XIII. NEW BUSINESS

The Mayor introduced his appointment of Shannon Harvey as the next City Clerk effective immediately.

Alderman Clifford moved to appoint City Clerk Shannon Harvey, seconded by Alderman Begley.

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

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

Nays: (0) None

Absent: (1) Lewandowski

With eight (7) affirmative votes the motion carried.

The swearing in of Shannon Harvey was completed by the Mayor. Clerk Harvey presented the City Council and audience with a speech.

XIV. CITIZENS ASKING QUESTIONS REGARDING THE EVENING'S BUSINESS

XV. ADJOURNMENT

At 7:50 p.m. the Mayor requested a motion to adjourn that passed unanimously.

Respectfully Submitted,

PALOS HEIGHTS DEPUTY CITY CLERK

Ashley Pala

Date