

**MINUTES OF THE REGULAR MEETING OF THE
CITY COUNCIL OF THE CITY OF ELMHURST, ILLINOIS
HELD ON MONDAY, AUGUST 18, 2008
209 NORTH YORK STREET
ELMHURST, ILLINOIS**

EXECUTIVE SESSION 7:00 P.M. – DISCUSSION OF MINUTES OF MEETINGS LAWFULLY CLOSED FOR SEMI ANNUAL REVIEW AND LITIGATION

1. Executive session was called to order at 7:05 p.m. by Mayor Marcucci for the purpose of Discussion of Minutes of Meetings Lawfully Closed for Semi Annual Review and discussing Litigation.

Present: Diane Gutenkauf, Norman Leader, Pat Shea, Michael Bram, John Gow, Moira Moriarty, Chris Nybo, George Szczepaniak, Donna Lomnicki

Absent: Michael J. Regan, Susan Rose, Stephen Hipskind (arrived at 7:14 p.m.), Steve Morley, Mark A. Mulliner (arrived at 7:09 p.m.)

Also in attendance: City Treasurer Pigoni, Assistant City Attorney Spiroff, City Manager Borchert

Alderman Gow moved to convene into executive session for the purpose of Discussion of Minutes of Meetings Lawfully Closed for Semi Annual Review and discussing Litigation. Alderman Gutenkauf seconded. Roll call vote:

Ayes: Gow, Gutenkauf, Leader, Shea, Bram, Moriarty, Nybo, Szczepaniak, Morley, Lomnicki

Nays: None

9 yeas, 0 nays, 5 absent
Motion duly carried

Alderman Moriarty moved to adjourn executive session. Alderman Szczepaniak seconded. Voice vote. Motion carried. Executive session adjourned at 7:34 p.m.

CALL TO ORDER/ PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE/ROLL CALL

Attendance: 14

2. The Regular Meeting of the Elmhurst City Council was called to order by Mayor Marcucci at 7:40 p.m.

Present: Diane Gutenkauf, Norman Leader, Pat Shea, Michael Bram, John Gow, Stephen Hipskind, Moira Moriarty, Chris Nybo, George Szczepaniak, Donna Lomnicki, Mark A. Mulliner

Absent: Michael J. Regan, Susan J. Rose, Steve Morley

Also in Attendance: City Treasurer Pigoni, Assistant City Attorney Spiroff, City Manager Borchert, PZED Director Said, Zoning Administrator Werner, Economic Development Manager Corner

RECEIPT OF WRITTEN COMMUNICATIONS AND PETITIONS FROM THE PUBLIC

3. Mr. Daniel Cusack, 0S579 Kirk, submitted letters and a petition regarding the on-going construction of the Elmhurst Memorial Hospital new campus and its affects on the West Yorkfield neighborhood.

PUBLIC FORUM

4. Dave McCafferty
444 S. Poplar Ave.
Elmhurst, IL 60126

Spoke regarding the increase of home rule sales tax. He commented on the revenue sources of the City. He stated an increase in property taxes will increase property values. He asked Council to consider other fiscal alternatives.

Daniel Cusack
0S579 Kirk Ave.
Elmhurst, IL 60126

Spoke in behalf of the resident's disappointment that Elmhurst Memorial Hospital was not being the good neighbor they promised to be during construction of the new hospital. He asked Council to make sure the contractor is working within the City codes.

Darlene Heslop
200 N. Michigan Ave.
#227
Elmhurst, IL 60126

Spoke regarding the proposed home rule sales tax increase stating if property taxes are increased instead of sales tax, won't businesses increase their prices to pay for the tax increase.

Todd Benson
391 River Glen Ave.
Elmhurst, IL 60126

Spoke regarding the home rule sales tax increase stating this can't be shouldered on the back of businesses.

Marilyn Ritter
656 Parkside Ave.
Elmhurst, IL 60126

Spoke regarding the frequent blackouts with ComEd. She stated they are continually losing power and asked the City Council for help.

Michael Gold
670 S. Parkside Ave.
Elmhurst, IL 60126

Spoke regarding the frequent power outages in his area. He asked Council to contact ComEd to meet with the residents and get the problem resolved.

Brian Buonamici
659 Prospect Ave.
Elmhurst, IL 60126

Spoke regarding the frequent power outage problem. He asked Council for help with ComEd to get the problem resolved.

CONSENT AGENDA

5. The following items on the Consent Agenda were presented:
 - a. MINUTES OF REGULAR MEETING HELD ON MONDAY, AUGUST 4, 2008 (City Clerk Spencer): Approve as published
 - b. MINUTES OF THE EXECUTIVE SESSION HELD ON MONDAY, AUGUST 4, 2008 (City Clerk Spencer): Receive and place on file
 - c. ACCOUNTS PAYABLE – AUGUST 18, 2008 TOTAL \$ 2,023,830.84
 - d. REQUEST FOR DISMANTLING MEDIAN ISLAND AT YORK AND VAN BUREN ST. – ALDERMAN GEORGE SZCZEPANIAK (City Manager Borchert): Refer to the Public Works and Buildings Committee

August 11, 2008

To: Mayor Marcucci and Members of the City Council
Re: Request for Dismantling Median Island at York and Van Buren St. - Alderman George Szczepaniak

It is respectfully requested that the attached memorandum from Alderman George Szczepaniak regarding dismantling the median island located at York and Van Buren Street be referred to the Public Works and Building Committee for their evaluation and recommendation back to the City Council.

Respectfully submitted,
/s/ Thomas P. Borchert
City Manager

- e. INVITATION FROM S.T.A.R.T. (SOLUTIONS TO AREA RAIL TRAFFIC) (City Manager Borchert): Refer to the Development, Planning and Zoning Committee

August 14, 2008

To: Mayor Marcucci and Members of the City Council
Re: Invitation from S.T.A.R.T. (Solutions to Area Rail Traffic)

It is respectfully requested that the attached invitation from S.T.A.R.T. to become a member of their organization be referred to the Development, Planning and Zoning Committee for their review and subsequent recommendation to the City Council.

Respectfully submitted,
/s/ Thomas P. Borchert
City Manager

- f. O-26-2008 – AN ORDINANCE VACATING A PORTION OF THE PUBLIC ALLEY LOCATED BETWEEN COMMONWEALTH LANE AND AVERY STREET

Ordinance O-26-2008 was presented for passage.

- g. O-27-2008 – AN ORDINANCE PROPOSING THE ESTABLISHMENT OF A SPECIAL SERVICE AREA IN THE CITY OF ELMHURST AND PROVIDING FOR A PUBLIC HEARING AND OTHER PROCEDURES IN CONNECTION THEREWITH (WILLOW ROAD)

Ordinance O-27-2008 was presented for passage.

- h. MCO-19-2008 – AN ORDINANCE AMENDING CHAPTER 14 OF THE ELMHURST MUNICIPAL CODE (STORMWATER AND FLOOD PLAINS) AND ADOPTING THE UPDATED FLOOD INSURANCE RATE MAPS AND FLOOD INSURANCE STUDY PREPARED BY THE FEDERAL EMERGENCY MANAGEMENT AGENCY

Ordinance MCO-19-2008 was presented for passage.

- i. MCO-20-2008 – AN ORDINANCE ESTABLISHING REQUIREMENTS FOR THE REGULATION OF FILM PRODUCTION

Ordinance MCO-20-2008 was presented for passage.

- j. ZO-14-2008 – AN ORDINANCE APPROVING A SITE DEVELOPMENT PLAN FOR THE PROPERTY COMMONLY KNOWN AS 241 AND 247 NORTH YORK STREET (ANGELO'S RISTORANTE)

Ordinance ZO-14-2008 was presented for passage.

- k. ZO-15-2008 – AN ORDINANCE GRANTING AN AMENDED CONDITIONAL USE PERMIT FOR THE CONSTRUCTION OF A CONTINUING CARE RETIREMENT COMMUNITY ON THE PROPERTY COMMONLY KNOWN AS 1050 AND 1150 SOUTH EUCLID AVENUE (PARK PLACE AT ELMHURST)

Ordinance ZO-15-2008 was presented for passage.

- l. R-16-2008 – A RESOLUTION APPROVING AND AUTHORIZING THE RELEASE OF CLOSED SESSION MINUTES FOR MEETINGS HELD BETWEEN OCTOBER 16, 2000 AND JUNE 16, 2008

Resolution R-16-2008 was presented for passage.

Alderman Mulliner moved to accept the contents of the Consent Agenda. Alderman Shea seconded. Voice vote unanimous, motion carried. Alderman Gutenkauf moved to approve the contents of the Consent Agenda. Alderman Gow seconded. Roll call vote:

Ayes: Gutenkauf, Gow, Leader, Shea, Bram, Hipskind, Moriarty, Nybo, Szczepaniak, Lomnicki, Mulliner

Nays: None

Results: 11 ayes, 0 nays, 3 absent
Motion duly carried

REPORTS AND RECOMENDATIONS OF APPOINTED AND ELECTED OFFICIALS

6. a. MAYOR MARCUCCI – SENATOR CAROLE PANKAU, STATE LEGISLATIVE UPDATE

Mayor Marcucci introduced State Senator Carole Pankau to the Council. He asked Senator Pankau to give an update to Council on what's "going on" in Springfield.

Senator Pankau thanked Mayor Marcucci and the City Council for inviting her. She reviewed the State Budget, highlighting the big cut in domestic violence and substance abuse funding, medicade and pensions. She spoke of the "in fighting" with State leadership and their lack of trust. As a result, Democrat Day at the IL State Fair did not have party leadership in attendance.

Senator Pankau announced that Emil Jones, President of the Illinois Senate, will retire at the end of his term.

She reported that as of yet, there is no solution to the I294/North Avenue issue. Senator Pankau said the construction is scheduled for 2010-2011, during which time it would be the best opportunity to make changes towards a solution to the traffic problem. She thanked City Manager Borchert, Mayor Marcucci and Alderman Rose for the productive meeting held to discuss this problem on July 24, 2008.

Mayor Marcucci asked Senator Pankau if she would answer questions from the City Council.

Alderman Shea asked Senator Pankau if she could do anything about the Lake St. and York Rd. crossover area known as the "scissors." She stated it is a high accident area.

Senator Pankau replied that she would look into the matter.

Alderman Bram stated he too was in attendance at the July meeting. He asked, for the short-term did she think improved signage would happen.

Senator Pankau replied no, nothing has been done.

Alderman Bram asked if a ramp would be put it.

Senator Pankau stated chances are as good as they have ever been for that to happen.

Alderman Szczepaniak spoke of the troubles in Springfield and little action taken. He stated his concerns on infrastructure and asked, "where's the leadership?"

Senator Pankau stated in terms of trust and leadership the State has none, the State of Illinois has a spending problem, not a revenue problem.

Alderman Gutenkauf asked Senator Pankau to comment on the cuts in the Cultural areas.

Senator Pankau stated under Shirley Madigan, \$15-\$17 million in matching federal money has been cut by one half. Cuts have also taken place in Attorney General Lisa Madigan's Office. These actions are viewed as being vindictive by the Governor.

Mayor Marcucci stated the health of our community depends on what goes on in Springfield. The City's share in Illinois sales tax and motor fuel tax could be cut, and every penny would need to be replaced.

Mayor Marcucci thanked Senator Pankau for coming and keeping the City Council informed.

b. 2008 CITIZEN SURVEY RESULTS OVERVIEW (City Manager Borchert)

City Manager Borchert presented a PowerPoint presentation highlighting the 2008 Citizen Survey results and the 2009-10 Budget Schedule. He thanked Assistant Finance Director Trosien, Finance staff and Administration office staff for their hard work putting the survey together.

The City Manager reviewed the following survey information: Response Rates, Overall Quality of Your Neighborhood, Overall City of Elmhurst Operations, What three things do you like most about living in Elmhurst?, What three things do you like least about living in Elmhurst?, What do you think will be the three biggest problems Elmhurst will face in the next five years? and Street Maintenance and Condition.

City Manager Borchert concluded stating the 2008 survey should be used as a tool in developing the 2009-2010 Budget and shared with the School District, Park District, Public Library and City Centre all of whom provide, under their jurisdiction, various services mentioned in the survey. He stated results will be published in the Front Porch newsletter, posted on the City website and available at the Library. The City Manager stated the survey continues to track satisfaction with City services and should be considered by the Mayor and Council while preparing their budget goals message to the City Manager. City Manager Borchert reviewed the City of Elmhurst 2009-2010 Budget Schedule Time Line.

Mayor Marcucci thanked staff for the comprehensive survey results document. The Mayor reminded the public that the results are available on the website and at the Library.

Alderman Moriarty referred to the comment section of the survey results and stated there was a good suggestion to have a pot hole reporting system.

City Manager Borchert stated there will be a system in place as part of the new website which will be rolled out in September.

Alderman Nybo asked how is the comments section of the survey reviewed by staff and Council.

City Manager Borchert stated staff reviews the additional comments and Council may give suggestions on issues that they would like looked at more closely.

Alderman Szczepaniak asked if ComEd could be invited to come to a Public Works and Buildings Committee meeting to address the chronic power outage problem in southwest Elmhurst.

The City Manager stated yes. ComEd provides an annual report at which time they schedule a general meeting, as requested by residents at the southwest end of town, to respond to community questions and concerns.

Alderman Mulliner stated areas of the 7th Ward have had outage problems for several years.

City Manager Borchert stated upgrades due to the new hospital should improve the status of those areas. Tree trimming is also an issue being addressed that will help resolve this problem.

Discussion ensued regarding known areas where there are ComEd issues.

Mayor Marcucci commented on the responses, 43.8% of the 1,600 residents who received surveys responded. This is a very high response rate and the Mayor thanked those who participated for their well crafted responses, concern for their community and their useful observations.

c. COMPREHENSIVE PLAN UPDATE (City Manager Borchert – Phil Hanegraaf, HNTB Corporation)

City Manager Borchert thanked the Planning & Zoning Commission and the Planning, Zoning and Economic Development (PZED) staff for their work on the Comprehensive Plan and their suggestion to have Mr. Phil Hanegraaf present a review to Council. Mr. Borchert introduced Mr. Hanegraaf of HNTB Corporation.

Mr. Hanegraaf gave a PowerPoint presentation reviewing the following:

- Long Range Plan
- The Planning Process
- Community Input
- Community Themes
- Future Land Use – Nine Sub-Areas:
 - Employment District
 - North York & Grand Avenue Corridor
 - Lake Street Corridor
 - Graue Woods/Commercial Area
 - Elmhurst Hospital
 - Spring Road Business District
 - York/Valette Business District
 - South Riverside Drive Corridor
 - Yorkfield Area
- Transportation Framework
- Future Community Facilities Framework
- Future Urban Design Framework

Mayor Marcucci thanked Mr. Hanegraaf for the presentation.

Questions and comments were presented by Council to Mr. Hanegraaf regarding his presentation and future plans for the City of Elmhurst.

OTHER BUSINESS

7. Alderman Gutenkauf asked City Manager Borchert for the monthly departmental report for the Historical Museum. She stated the report has not been in her weekly packets.

City Manager Borchert stated that information will be provided to Council.

Alderman Bram asked the status of the Fire Suppression (sprinklers) for single family homes. He stated he hopes it's on the Development, Planning and Zoning Committee agenda.

ANNOUNCEMENTS

8. None.

ADJOURNMENT

9. Alderman Mulliner moved to adjourn the meeting. Aldermen Szczepaniak seconded. Voice Vote. Motion carried. Meeting adjourned 9:55 p.m.

Thomas D. Marcucci, Mayor

Patty Spencer, City Clerk