

These minutes were approved at the 7/7/08 City Council meeting with no changes.

CITY OF WEST CHICAGO – 475 Main Street

CITY COUNCIL MINUTES

Regular Meeting

June 16, 2008

1. **Call to Order.** Mayor Michael B. Kwasman called the meeting to order at 7:00 pm.
2. **Pledge of Allegiance to the Flag.** Alderman Monroe led all in the pledge of allegiance.
3. **Invocation.** The City Clerk gave the invocation.
4. **Roll Call and Establishment of a Quorum.** Roll call found Aldermen James E. Beifuss, Jr., H. Ronald Monroe, James Smith, Russell Radkiewicz, Ruben Pineda, Alan Murphy, Gregory D. Bunch, Joey Gianforte, Nanette B. Connelly, Rebecca Stout, and Matt Fuesting present. Aldermen Lori J. Chassee, Sandy Dimas, and Nicholas Dzierzanowski were absent. The Mayor announced a quorum.

City Clerk Nancy M. Smith and City Treasurer Donald F. Earley were also present.

Also in attendance were City Attorney Patrick K. Bond, Public Works Director Rob Flatter, City Administrator Michael L. Guttman, Community Development Director Joanne Kalchbrenner, and Special Counsel Barbara Magel.

5. Public Participation.

A. Proclamation – HIV Testing Day, June 27, 2008. At the Mayor's request, the City Clerk read Proclamation No. 484, in which the Mayor proclaimed June 27, 2008, to be National HIV Testing Day and encouraged all residents of the City of West Chicago to participate with community leaders in HIV testing sites from June 17 through 27, 2008, as part of National HIV Testing Day.

B. Update on Residual Thorium Clean-up. Special Counsel Magel provided an update on what the EPA has accomplished. Twenty-three of the 31 properties have now been completed. From survey scans, only five had elevated readings, which may not be related to thorium. One was a boulder at one of the sites. Of the hundreds of down hole borings, only three have slightly elevated readings. Two of those are on Tronox property. They are still working to get access to nine other properties. Basements of the 31 properties will also be scanned. If anyone else would like their basement scanned, they can contact the EPA. Fieldwork will continue through August. Ms. Magel said she would update the Council as she learns more. The Mayor thanked her for the update.

No one spoke during regular public participation.

6. Correspondence and Announcements.

Alderman Pineda said every winter he sponsors a successful *Bowling for Diabetes* fundraiser. He has now been asked to sponsor a *Golf for a Cure* fundraiser to be held at the St. Andrews Country Club on July 25, 2008, starting at 11:00 am. This fundraiser will help raise funds for juvenile diabetes research. Tickets will be \$100.00 per person and include lunch and dinner. There will be raffle prizes and a silent auction. Participants should call St. Andrews (630/231-3100) and register as a single or as a foursome. *The American Diabetes Association* will be out there helping. Alderman Pineda welcomed everyone to come out and show their support. This will be a great time for a great cause.

Upcoming Meetings. The Mayor announced the following meetings.

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| - June 17, 2008 | Plan Commission/Zoning Board of Appeals |
| - June 19, 2008 | Community Affairs Committee (cancelled) |
| - June 23, 2008 | Public Safety Committee |
| - June 24, 2008 | Historical Preservation Commission |
| - June 26, 2008 | Finance Committee (cancelled) |

7. Corporate Disbursement Report. Alderman Fuesting made a motion, seconded by Alderman Connelly, to approve the June 16, 2008, Corporate Disbursement Report in the amount of \$ 251,032.46. Voting Yea: Aldermen Beifuss, Monroe, Smith, Radkiewicz, Pineda, Bunch, Gianforte, Connelly, Stout, and Fuesting. Voting Nay: 0. Alderman Murphy abstained. Motion carried.

8. Consent Agenda – Consideration of an Omnibus Vote.

* **Development Committee:** Alderman Pineda read and explained the following items:

A. Ordinance 08-O-0047 – An Ordinance Granting a Special Use for Outside Storage – 1185 Carolina Drive – S.S. Schwarz Construction, Inc.

B. Ordinance 08-O-0049 – An Ordinance Granting a Deviation for Storm Sewer at 777 Discovery Drive – Northern Illinois University’s Proton Therapy Facility

C. Ordinance 08-O-0051 – An Ordinance of the City of West Chicago, DuPage County, Illinois, Extending a Temporary Moratorium on the Approval of New Banks and Financial Institutions in the B-1, B-2, and B-3 Zoning Districts

D. Ordinance 08-O-0052 – An Ordinance Granting a Lot Coverage Variance – 412 E. Washington Street

E. Resolution 08-R-0070 – A Resolution Approving a Development Plan and Final Plan – NIU Proton Therapy and Research Institute – DuPage National Technology Park

Alderman Pineda made a motion, seconded by Alderman Murphy, to adopt those items on the consent agenda. Voting Yea: Aldermen Beifuss, Monroe, Smith, Radkiewicz, Pineda, Murphy, Bunch, Gianforte, Connelly, Stout, and Fuesting. Voting Nay: 0. Motion carried.

* **Infrastructure Committee:** Alderman Beifuss read and explained the following items:

F. Resolution 08-R-0067 – A Resolution Authorizing the Mayor to Execute a Contract with Layne Western Company, Inc., for Professional Services Related to the Pulling, Inspection, Repair, Reinstallation, and Testing of the Well Assembly at the City’s Well Station No. 9 (for an amount not to exceed \$98,000.00)

G. Resolution 08-R-0068 – A Resolution Authorizing the Mayor to Execute a Contract with J. A. Johnson Paving for the 2008 Resurfacing Program (for an amount not to exceed \$215,470.20)

H. Authorize – The Purchase of Two (2) 2008 International Model 7400 6x4 Dump Trucks through the State of Illinois Joint Purchasing Contract from Prairie International Trucks, Inc., and Monroe Truck Equipment (for an amount not to exceed \$322,000.00)

I. Authorize – The Purchase of Two (2) 2008 International Model 7400 4x2 Dump Trucks through the State of Illinois Joint Purchasing Contract from Prairie International Trucks, Inc., and Monroe Truck Equipment (for an amount not to exceed \$290,000.00)

Alderman Beifuss made a motion, seconded by Alderman Connelly, to adopt those items on the consent agenda. Voting Yea: Aldermen Beifuss, Monroe, Smith, Radkiewicz, Pineda, Murphy, Bunch, Gianforte, Connelly, Stout, and Fuesting. Voting Nay: 0. Motion carried.

* **Public Safety Committee:** No report.

* **Community Affairs Committee:** No report

* **Finance Committee:** No report

* **Items Not Sent to Committee:** The Mayor read and explained the following items:

J. Approve – City Council Meeting Minutes of June 2, 2008

K. Ordinance 08-O-0046 – An Ordinance of the City of West Chicago, DuPage County, Illinois, Ascertaining the Prevailing Rate of Wages for Laborers for June 2008, Mechanics and other Workers Employed in Public Works for the City of West Chicago

L. Ordinance 08-O-0048 – An Ordinance of the City of West Chicago, DuPage County, Illinois, Authorizing the Acquisition of a Parcel Commonly Known as the “Wissing Parcel – 314 High Street” for the Downtown Redevelopment Plan and Project

M. Resolution 08-R-0069 – A Resolution Authorizing the Mayor to Execute an Intergovernmental Agreement to Participate in the Regional Answer to Canadian National (TRAC) Coalition (removed and voted upon separately)

N. Resolution 08-R-0075 – A Resolution Accepting a Plat of Easement and Authorizing the Mayor to Execute the Same Related to an Easement for a Sidewalk in Harper's Subdivision

O. Resolution 08-R-0076 – A Resolution Accepting a Plat of Easement and Authorizing the Mayor to Execute the Same Related to an Easement for a Watermain in Harper's Subdivision

P. Resolution 08-R-0077 – A Resolution Accepting a Plat of Easement and Authorizing the Mayor to Execute the Same Related to an Easement for Storm Water Drainage in Harper's Subdivision

Q. Approve – The Reappointment of Joe Kreidl, as an Alternate Member, to the Building Board of Appeals through April 30, 2009

R. Authorize – The Purchase of One (1) 2008 Ford Crown Victoria Police Pursuit Vehicle through the State of Illinois Joint Purchasing Contract from Landmark Ford (for an amount not to exceed \$24,237.00)

S. Resolution 08-R-0078 – A Resolution Authorizing the Acceptance of the Public Right-of-Way and Roadway Improvements as Constructed for the Blair Street Improvements Project

Alderman Bunch made a motion, seconded by Alderman Radkiewicz, to adopt those items on the consent agenda. Voting Yea: Aldermen Beifuss, Monroe, Smith, Radkiewicz, Pineda, Murphy, Bunch, Gianforte, Connelly, Stout, and Fuesting. Voting Nay: 0. Motion carried.

9. Reports by Committees. None

10. Unfinished Business. None

11. New Business. From Item 8.M.: **Resolution 08-R-0069** – A Resolution Authorizing the Mayor to Execute an Intergovernmental Agreement to Participate in the Regional Answer to Canadian National (TRAC) Coalition. Alderman Pineda made a motion, seconded by Alderman Stout, to approve Resolution 08-R-0069. During discussion, Alderman Pineda said he has been appointed to the Executive Committee of TRAC, which includes several communities' regional answer to the acquisition of the EJ&E by Canadian National (CN). Alderman Pineda read an update of what has occurred and said he will continue to bring updates to every City Council meeting. He described CN's proposal to route freight traffic around Chicago from Waukegan to Northern Indiana. The Surface Transportation Board (STB) must approve the purchase. The STB has a long history of favoring railroad industries. There are no guarantees that Chicago will have a long-term decrease in freight traffic, but there will be a fourfold increase in the suburbs. The expansion plan will significantly increase the impact on the communities. Other concerns are increased noise and the effect on the proposed STAR line, as well as the impact on flora and fauna. Alderman Pineda said TRAC is looking for groups to help oppose the purchase. Currently, many elected officials are working to slow down this process. Alderman Beifuss said it is very important that everyone support TRAC and he appreciated Alderman Pineda taking on a leadership role. He said people in the City do not know what a problem this will be for safety, convenience, and just quality of life. It is possible that there will be a twelve-fold increase in freight traffic through West Chicago. There are no separated grade crossings in West Chicago. Because of studies in the past, we know that downtown and Hawthorne Lane will be severely impacted. Everyone should keep the pressure on those people who make the decision that mitigating it will be a whole lot more than the \$40 million that CN recommended for the entire track. Alderman Pineda said one impact would be to cut the community in half. The mile long coal trains could expand to two miles or more. The trains go slow now, but will speed up to 55 mph and will also carry more hazardous waste. There are five at grade crossings in West Chicago and four are used by school children. There are no quiet zones in West Chicago so whistles would be heard all day.

Mayor Kwasman said he and the staff have been attending all the meetings with the TRAC group. West Chicago is putting \$10,000.00 toward defraying expenses. This is just for start up costs. The Mayor said this effort is more than what the City Council can do. Help is needed from the public. The public needs to write to their congressmen in opposition to the acquisition. Secondly, every taxing body in these districts needs to prepare a resolution against the acquisition of the CN. All the communities have to be more proactive. With this

resolution, we are showing that the City is involved, but there is a need to get everyone involved, including local organizations.

Voting Yea: Aldermen Beifuss, Monroe, Smith, Radkiewicz, Pineda, Murphy, Bunch, Gianforte, Connelly, Stout, and Fuesting. Voting Nay: 0. Motion carried.

12. Mayor's Comments. The Mayor asked the Council to bear with him this evening to help him through his grieving process. Last week both he and his wife, Crystal, lost an important member of their family: Lily, their soft-coated wheaten. She was more than just a pet. She was the Mayor's constant companion and could be seen at Railroad Days parades, walking in Reed Keppler Park, sharing ice cream cones at Tastee Freeze, and riding shotgun in the Mayor's convertible or Jeep. She has been part of the City politics over the years having interacted with some of the Council members and sitting in on meetings. The Mayor described a number of those encounters. She was also the un-official alderman of the 5th ward. She walked proudly on the streets of Forest Trails with Crystal and all the neighbors knew her. The Mayor said his whole family thanked all who sent cards and condolences.

13. Executive Session. There was no executive session.

14. Items to be Referred for Final Action from Executive Session. Not applicable.

15. Adjournment. At 7:36pm, Alderman Murphy made a motion, seconded by Alderman Connelly, to adjourn. Voting Yea: Aldermen Beifuss, Monroe, Smith, Radkiewicz, Pineda, Murphy, Bunch, Gianforte, Connelly, Stout, and Fuesting. Voting Nay: 0. Motion carried.

Respectfully submitted,

Nancy M. Smith
City Clerk