

These minutes were approved at the 11/17/08 City Council meeting with no changes.

CITY OF WEST CHICAGO – 475 Main Street  
CITY COUNCIL MINUTES  
Regular Meeting  
November 3, 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 Murphy 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, Sandy Dimas, Alan Murphy, Gregory D. Bunch, Joey Gianforte, Nanette B. Connelly, Rebecca Stout, Nicholas Dzierzanowski, and Matt Fuesting present. Alderman Lori J. Chassee was 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, City Administrator Michael L. Guttman, and Administrative Services Director Linda Martin.

5. **Public Participation.** The following persons spoke during public participation:

- 1) Boy Scouts Devin Wojtanek and Ryan Wojtanek, Troop 99, unincorporated West Chicago, said they were working on their citizenship in the community merit badge. Attending a City Council meeting is one of the requirements. Their father, Guy Wojtanek accompanied them.
- 2) Don Smith, 308 E. Grand Lake Boulevard, West Chicago, invited everyone to the Veterans Day observance to be held November 11, 2008, at the VFW Post in West Chicago, starting at 10:30 am. He said more citizen participation is needed at veteran events. He also invited everyone to attend the Holiday Celebration for the Community to be held at the American Legion Hall on December 6, 2008. He said the veterans want the community involved.

**A. Proclamation No. 491 – School Board Members Day.** At the Mayor's request, the City Clerk read Proclamation No. 491, in which the Mayor proclaimed November 15, 2008, as "School Board Members Day" as a way to honor those citizens who devote so much of their time and energy for the education of our children. The Mayor thanked District 25 for bringing this to the City's attention and he thanked School Boards 33 and 94 for the great job they do. He said school board members make a difference and have an impact in the community and affect the quality of life in West Chicago.

**B. Update on CN Acquisition of EJ&E.** Alderman Pineda said the last TRAC meeting was held on October 17, 2008, so there is not a lot of new information to report. He said the Mayor gave an update at the last Council meeting. He said the bad news is that Federal regulators are asking the Surface Transportation Board (STB) to make a determination quickly. However, the STB is sticking to their requirement of having an environmental report. Alderman Pineda said he hopes the process takes a long time since after December 31, 2008, U.S. Steel can take the purchase off the table. CN profits went up by 14% because of the news of the EJ&E purchase. The CEO of CN says he thinks of the EJ&E every night on his knees. Alderman Pineda urged letters and e-mails to the congressmen and senators that are listening. This is first time STB has seen so many people involved. The Mayor said the people are also talking to a higher power.

6. **Correspondence and Announcements.**

City Clerk Smith reminded everyone that this Saturday the Friends of the City Museum would be sponsoring the "Roaring 20's" event at the American Legion. The Museum staff has researched, and will teach, 1920's dances. Everyone is invited to attend.

**Upcoming Meetings.** The Mayor announced the following meetings.

- November 5, 2008                      Infrastructure Committee
- November 10, 2008                    Development Committee

7. **Corporate Disbursement Report.** Alderman Connelly made a motion, seconded by Alderman Bunch, to approve the November 3, 2008, Corporate Disbursement Report in the amount of \$ 1,070,789.72. Voting Yea: Aldermen Beifuss, Monroe, Smith, Radkiewicz, Pineda, Dimas, Bunch, Gianforte, Connelly, Stout, Dzierzanowski, and Fuesting. Voting Nay: 0. Alderman Murphy abstained. Motion carried.

**8. Consent Agenda – Consideration of an Omnibus Vote.**

\* **Development Committee:** No report

\* **Infrastructure Committee:** Alderman Dzierzanowski said the Infrastructure Committee is actually meeting on Thursday, November 6, 2008.

\* **Public Safety Committee:** Alderman Radkiewicz read and explained the following item:

**A. Ordinance 08-O-0082** – An Ordinance Amending Chapter 7, Article II, Section 7-16 and Chapter 4, Article I, Section 4-1 of the Code of Ordinances of the City of West Chicago to Allow for Fine Reductions for First Time Violation(s) of the Property Maintenance and Building Codes.

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

\* **Community Affairs Committee:** No report

\* **Finance Committee:** City Treasurer Early read and explained the following item:

**B. Ordinance 08-O-0083** – An Ordinance Amending the Annual Budget for the City of West Chicago, DuPage County, Illinois, for the Fiscal Year Commencing May 1, 2008, and Ending December 31, 2008, Passed and Adopted by Ordinance No. 08-O-0018 and Amended by Ordinance NO. 08-O-0033.

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

Treasurer Earley also reported on the favorable results of the audit performed by Lautenbach & Amen, which included the comment that the City is fiscally sound and operating well. Treasurer Earley thanked the Mayor, City Council, and Department of Administrative Services headed by Linda Martin for their aid for a successful year and for the rest of the fiscal year. He said he is looking for the coming year to be as successful.

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

**C. Approve** – City Council Meeting Minutes of October 20, 2008. Alderman Connelly made a motion, seconded by Alderman Gianforte to approve the October 20, 2008, minutes. Voting Yea: Aldermen Beifuss, Monroe, Smith, Radkiewicz, Dimas, Murphy, Bunch, Gianforte, Connelly, Stout, Dzierzanowski, and Fuesting. Voting Nay: 0. Alderman Pineda abstained. Motion carried.

**D. Ordinance 08-O-0085** – An Ordinance Authorizing the Transfer of Personal Property by the City of West Chicago

**E. Ordinance 08-O-0087** – An Ordinance Granting a Waiver to the Mandatory Sanitary Sewer Connection for Property Located Within the City Limits – East Side of Prince Crossing Road, North of Main Street

**F. Waive** – The Letter of Credit Requirement for the West Chicago Fire Protection District – Construction of the New Fire Station.

Alderman Pineda made a motion, seconded by Alderman Stout, to adopt Items 8.D, 8.E, and 8.F. on the consent agenda. Voting Yea: Aldermen Beifuss, Monroe, Smith, Radkiewicz, Pineda, Dimas, Murphy, Bunch, Gianforte, Connelly, Stout, Dzierzanowski, and Fuesting. Voting Nay: 0. Motion carried. The Mayor thanked the Winfield Fire Department for their assistance.

**9. Reports by Committees.** None

**10. Unfinished Business.** None

**11. New Business.** None

**12. Mayor's Comments.** The Mayor said the Aldermen put together their wish lists. This is an idea that is being test marketed. It puts the Aldermen into their wards and brings everyone together so all know what is going on. The Mayor asked City Administrator Guttman to give a report on the wish list and actions taken. Mr. Guttman said there were general issues and specific issues. General areas included property maintenance, sidewalk maintenance, and road maintenance. Some streets need complete reconstruction and potholes have been repaired. Several issues dealt with the downtown, and most of those are taken care of. The Mayor thanked all the Aldermen for this report. It is something that worked and shows the City works and showed the Alderman out there looking at their neighborhoods and working with constituents. The Mayor said he was proud of them. He also thanked the staff for the quick repairs on this wish list.

The Mayor said tomorrow history will be in the making with the election of a new president. He urged West Chicago to go out and vote. He urged them not to be negative, but be part of the vote. The results will not be known until the vote is counted. He hoped that West Chicago has the biggest vote count in DuPage County.

**13. Executive Session.** There was no executive session

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

**15. Adjournment.** At 7:30 pm, Alderman Pineda made a motion, seconded by Alderman Murphy, to adjourn. Motion was carried by voice vote.

Respectfully submitted,

Nancy M. Smith  
City Clerk