

City Council Meeting

Tuesday, Jan. 22, 2019 7:30 p.m.

Mayor Morley presiding.

Attendance: 1 press; City Mgr. Grabowski; Atty. Storino; Clerk Cyprian; ~4 City staff members; 13 Aldermen; Fire Chief Freeman, Police Chief Ruth, ~10 residents LWV observer (from video): B. Lipton

NOTE: Related documents can be accessed online at:

<http://www.boarddocs.com/il/coe/Board.nsf/Public> and a video recording of this meeting can be found at www.Youtube.com

1. Executive Session for the Purpose of Discussing: purchase or lease of real property for the use of the public body pursuant to the Open Meetings Act 5 ILCS 120/2(c)(5)

2. Call to Order

- Pledge of Allegiance - led by Field School Cub Scout Pack 26
- Roll Call – Ald Brennan attends electronically; Ald. Leader absent

3. Presentation

- Metro Ambulance Service - Michael Tillman, Vice President; Dave Hill. The EMS service reimburses the City \$224,714. Mayor Morley explains that this represents the difference between the funds allocated and the costs incurred in relation to the service in 2017-8.

4. Receipt of Written Communication from the Public None

5. Public Forum

- Rex Riby reviewed the new water report and agrees that we will need to raise water rates. A big challenge is the large water loss in the system, recorded as 19%. If the new meters are effective leakage should go down to 11-12% but this still will not reach the DuPage Water Commission 2019 goal of <10%. He recommends that water and sewage rates should cover operating expenses only, and that CIRC (capital investment recovery charge) be used to cover capital improvements such as water main repair/replacement. Right now residents are subsidizing commercial CIRC charges to the tune of more than 100% (avg. residential customer's CIRC is 10% of water bill; Elmhurst Hospital CIRC is 0.3% of their total bill). If the burden were equalized, residential water & sewer rates might stabilize or just increase a little.
- Barbara Lonergan, on behalf of Elmhurst Cool Cities Coalition, appreciates the work accomplished so far by City staff on the new electric utility contract, but ECCC urges that the mix of energy sources include much more renewable sources that ComEd proposes currently (30% coal, 30% gas, 35% nuclear, 3% wind). The City should raise awareness and provide educational resources for

residents on green energy (solar, wind, etc), and ongoing information sent out to the public should include renewable options. She urges Council to pull the energy aggregation item from tonight's agenda and postpone approval of the contract until a more sustainable energy source mix can be negotiated. If her request is deemed too late in the process to postpone approval, she asks that only a one-year contract be approved tonight in order to allow for renegotiation.

- Rod Riscow speaks for a second time to Council to urge it to allow beekeeping in the City. He reviews the benefits of residential beekeeping and thanks the PAS committee for their work on this issue.

6. Announcements

- Ald. Dunn reports that the Elmhurst-Yorkfield Food Pantry Trivia Night fundraiser was very successful and thanks all involved.
- Ald. Talluto invites the community to the IC student art exhibit at the Elmhurst Art Museum.
- Ald. Bram asks if the Federal Government shutdown has affected the scheduling of the public forums on the OHare Fly Quiet program. Ald. Dunn replies not yet, but there still might be some postponements. Ald. Bram announces the dates of the upcoming meetings including one in Elmhurst Thursday Feb. 7 at the Diplomat West.

7. Consent Agenda All items approved unanimously (13 – 0) except 7.16, 7.19, 7.20 (see**below)

- 7.1 Minutes of the Regular Meeting of the Elmhurst City Council on January 7, 2019
- 7.2 Accounts Payable January 17, 2019 - Total \$ 3,176,552.86
- 7.3 Referral - North Myrtle Street Parking Restrictions - Deuter and Sabatino (City Manager Grabowski)
- 7.4 Report - 2018 Watermain Improvements Project - Balancing Change Order (PWB)
- 7.5 Report - Emergency Watermain Repairs - Butterfield Road and Spring Road (PWB)
- 7.6 Report - Proposal for Professional Engineering Services - 2019 Sanitary Flow Meter Monitoring (PWB)
- 7.7 Report - Contract Amendment #2 to the Construction Agreement for the Water Reclamation Facility (WRF) Sludge Storage Pad Modifications (PWB) (see item # 11.1)
- 7.8 Report - One (1) 2019 F59 Commercial Strip Chassis with Utilimaster Body (PWB)
- 7.9 Report - One (1) Ford F250 with Service Body (PWB)
- 7.10 Report - Two (2) Ford 250 Chassis Cabs (PWB)

- 7.11 Report - One (1) Ford F250 4X4 Pick-Up Truck with Snow Plow Package and Lift-Gate (PWB)
- 7.12 Report - One (1) ford F450 4X4 Dump Truck with Tailgate Spreader and Snow Plow Package (PWB)
- 7.13 Report - IDOT Funding Agreement - West Avenue Resurfacing Project (PWB)
- 7.14 Report - West Avenue Drainage Improvements - Professional Engineering Services (PWB)
- 7.15 Report - Temporary HVAC Chiller for Police Department (PWB)
- **7.16 Report - Beekeeping in Residential Areas (PAS)
- Ald. Levin explains that a few technical issues warrant this being pulled back into committee to resolve them.
- 7.17 Report - Case Number 18 P-20/Burger King Conditional Use Permit and Variations (DPZ)
- 7.18 Report - Case Number 18 P-23/Midas Muffler Conditional Uses and Variation - 570 West North Avenue (DPZ)
- **7.19 Report - Case Number 18 P-24/Shell Amended Conditional Use Permit and Variations (DPZ)
- Ald. Talluto feels it is a straightforward permit request; she will address any concerns. Ald. Bram explains that the 2 variations are both too great – one is a 90% reduction in setbacks. Ald. Talluto explains that this is a unique case based on the actual layout of the property boundaries, York St. and Diversey. This is a commercial zone with no residential properties.
 - Ald. Bram responds that he still feels the request is too steep but he appreciates the explanation.
 - Approved 12 – 1 (Bram).
- **7.20 O-04-2019 - An Ordinance Approving and Authorizing the Execution of the Redevelopment Agreement By and Between Hollis of Palos LLC, Elmhurst, Illinois and the City of Elmhurst, DuPage and Cook Counties, Illinois
- Ald. Bram explains that he pulled this because the amount of the incentive is too great.
 - Approved 9 - 4 (Deuter, Bram, Polomsky, Levin)

8. Committee Reports

- 8.1 Report - 2019 Water, Sewer and Capital Investment Recovery Rates Review (FCAAS)
- Ald. York explains that this is an important report for all water rate payers in Elmhurst and the committee members take their role seriously. It has been thoroughly reviewed and considered. Compared to other towns, we have a distinct situation. The proposed rate increase is lower that expected, including 2.8% increase in capital improvements, and making headway on reconciling the

low fund balances. A decision was made a few years ago to fund sewer and water main repair/replacement with operating funds, but this could be revisited in committee. The bottom line tonight is that they are recommending a 5.3% water rate increase overall.

- Ald. Mulliner notes that the new Hospital at the south end of town pays water to Elmhurst but sewer to Salt Creek. So that explains part of the differential.
- Ald. Bram, Dunn, and Talluto comment at length.
- Approved 12 – 1 (Bram)

8.2 Report - Electric Aggregation Program Renewal (FCAAS)

- Ald. York explains the history of this EAP renewal with MCsquared. Over the years the City has explored various programs, most recently the City recommended that residents go back to the conventional utility because their rates were lower. Now they were approached by MCsquared which will allow 100% renewable (wind) energy in about half of the households in Elmhurst at no extra cost. Residents could opt out.
- Ald. Deuter asks what are the additional incentives to the City listed in the agreement? Ald. York explains the City will get \$50,000.
- Ald. Dunn asks why 50% of residents, and not another fraction? Ald. York replies that households using more electricity would make it more cost-effective for MCsquared, so this would be the higher electricity consumers.
- Approved 12 – 1 (Dunn).

9. Reports and Recommendations of Appointed and Elected Officials

- Mayor Morley has 3 items: Electronics recycling this coming Saturday. The Youth Commission is presenting on risk behaviors on March 6 at the Library. He delivered the State of the City address this month; he thanks all the sponsors.
- City Manager Grabowski announces that the History Museum opened its new exhibit this past week.
- Ald. Dunn reports on today's Fly Quiet meeting. Ald. Bram urges everyone who may have some influence to continue to request nighttime curfews on flyovers of residential area.

10. Ordinances

O-03-2019 - An Ordinance Authorizing the Purchase of Property

- Approved 13 - 0

11. Resolutions

R-04-2019 - A Resolution Approving and Authorizing the Execution of Change Order No. 2 for the Water Reclamation Facility Storage Pad Extension Project (see item # 7.7)

- Approved 13 – 0

12. Other Business

- Other Business

13. Adjournment 8:40 pm