

City Council Meeting

Tuesday, Feb. 19, 2019 7:35 p.m.

Mayor Morley presiding.

Attendance: 1 press; City Mgr. Grabowski; Atty. Storino; Asst. Clerk Cyprian; Treasurer Libovicz; 2 City staff members; 13 Aldermen; Fire Chief Freeman; Police Chief Ruth; 13 residents

LWV observer: 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. Call to Order

Pledge of Allegiance; Roll Call – Ald. York absent

Presentation by Beth Marchetti of the DuPage Convention & Visitors Bureau on this past year's activities. Tourism continues to increase in DuPage.

2. Receipt of Written Communication from the Public none

3. Public Forum

- Ben Silver of the Citizen Advocacy Center spoke to the new plan to decrease retention of video recordings of government meetings from 5 years to 30 days (Consent Agenda item 5.3). These recordings serve a vital civic purpose of transparency and accountability.
- Lisa Gerhold Dirks, president of Elmhurst Cool Cities Coalition, points out that the synthetic lawncare products used by the City are not only carcinogenic but reduce beneficial wildlife and insect populations and get into the water supply. She asks that in the new contract (Consent Agenda item 5.20) the City require a list of each product specifically; where these are to be used; and encourage the substitute use of organic products; create a public awareness campaign; and notify residents when lawncare products are to be sprayed on City property.
- Gale Ronnau objects to the no-bid energy contract to be approved today (Item 8.1) which a) gives residents no cost savings; b) will not be purchasing any real renewable energy, just credits; c) between 40-60% of households will be included, with no opportunity for others to sign up; d) offers the option to choose renewable energy credits instead of a cash reimbursement which at least could be used for community awareness projects.
- Edgar Pal speaks in opposition to the plan to drastically reduce the time that video recordings of City meetings are to be retained. He asks why the City hasn't converted obsolete VHS and DVD tapes to more current formats. This policy risks the loss of backup videos. He asks that the video recording retention period be kept to be at least longer than the 4 years of an Alderman's term.

- Claude Pagacz has a problem with damage caused by the home construction going on next door to his property. He called the City Building Dept. and has not had a satisfactory response; he would like something to be done.

4. Announcements none.

5. Consent Agenda All items approved unanimously except those pulled by Ald. Dunn (5.13), Polomsky (5.20), Brennan (5.12) (see ** below)

5.1 Minutes of the Regular Meeting of the Elmhurst City Council on February 4, 2019

5.2 Minutes of the Executive Session of the City Council on February 4, 2019

5.3 Accounts Payable February 14, 2019 - Total \$ 2,252,725.10

5.4 Appointment to the Senior Citizens Commission - Anderson (Mayor Morley)

5.5 Report - Easement Agreement with Forest Preserve District of DuPage County Related to the St. Charles Road Bridge Improvements and Existing Watermain and Storm Sewer (PWB) (see item # 8.2)

5.6 Report - One (1) Bobcat Track Loader with Trailer (PWB)

5.7 Report - Three (3) Ford F350 4X4 Pick-up Trucks with Snow Plow Packages (PWB)

5.8 Report - Metra Station - Architectural Design and Phase II Engineering Services (PWB)

5.9 Report - Bid, Two Utility Police Interceptors (PAS)

5.10 Report - Elmhurst Running Club 4 on the 4th - 2019 Run (PAS)

5.11 Report - 2019 Spring Road Pet and Bike Parade (PAS)

**5.12 Report - My Civic Application (FCAAS)

- Ald. Brennan explains that he pulled this report because he wants to formally indicate his support. Ald. Talluto also is very excited to see this brought to Council. She believes this new IT initiative will bring the City a great deal of benefit.

Approved 13 – 0.

**5.13 Report - Videotape and DVD Retention Policy (FCAAS)

- Ald. Sabatino wishes to pull this back to his committee for further consideration before the recording retention policy is changed.

5.14 Report - DuPage Mayors and Managers Conference 2019 Legislative Action Program (FCAAS)

5.15 O-08-2019 - An Ordinance Approving and Authorizing the Execution of a Non-Exclusive License Agreement By and Between the Elmhurst St. Patrick's Day Committee and the City of Elmhurst, Cook and DuPage Counties, Illinois

5.16 ZO-08-2019 - An Ordinance Approving a Text Amendment to the City of Elmhurst Zoning Ordinance to Provide for Modified Shipping Containers

- 5.17 ZO-09-2019 - An Ordinance Approving a Text Amendment to the City of Elmhurst Zoning Ordinance to Provide for Low Tunnels and Cold Frames
- 5.18 R-12-2019 - A Resolution to Approve and Authorize the Execution of an Agreement Between the City of Elmhurst, Illinois and Christopher B. Burke Engineering, Ltd. for the Furnishing of Professional Engineering Services for the West Avenue Drainage Improvements Project
- 5.19 R-14-2019 - A Resolution Approving and Authorizing the Execution of a Professional Engineering Services Agreement with Robinson Engineering, LTD in Connection with the North Elevated Storage Tank Painting Project
- **5.20 R-15-2019 - A Resolution Approving and Authorizing the Issuance of a Notice of Award and Execution of a Contract for the 2019-2021 Contract Turf and Landscape Maintenance
- Ald. Polomsky explains that she pulled this item to revise the contract to indicate that all specific chemicals be listed before they are used.
 - Approved 13 – 0.
- 5.21 R-16-2019 - A Resolution Authorizing the Issuance of a Notice of Award and Execution of a Contract for the City of Elmhurst 2019-2021 Tree Removal and Tree Trimming
- 5.22 R-17-2019 - A Resolution to Approve and Authorize the Execution of the First Amendment to the Agreement Between the City of Elmhurst, Illinois and Clark Dietz, Inc. for the Furnishing of Professional Design Engineering Services for the 2019 Watermain Improvements Project

6. Committee Reports

- 6.1 Report - Additional 2019 Water, Sewer and Capital Investment Recovery Rates Review (FCAAS)
- Ald. Sabatino explains that it was determined that further revision of City user rates were needed, so the resulting revised report is being submitted for a vote today.
 - Ald. Dunn is concerned because this is a recent bond issue which was undertaken to fund stormwater remediation and not water main improvement; operating capital expenditure was not included in its original purpose. He will support this because he understands that Elmhurst has been behind in its maintenance schedule, but he hopes this is a one-time refocus and isn't repeated.
 - Ald. Talluto comments that this is to finance the 'catch-up' needed to upgrade the City's water mains.
 - Ald. Bram is on the fence whether to support these revisions; the water rate is still too high. It's a full dollar/1000 gal more than Glen Ellyn. The rates are not in line with the 2015 plan made by the consultants.

- Ald. Polomsky comments on the various strategies that different cities use to fund these services; Ald. Bram comments further.
 - Ald. Dunn notes that we are currently losing more than 15% of water due to poorly maintained infrastructure; as watermain improvements go forward the savings will increase. Ald Brennan notes that the infrastructure simply needs to be improved.
 - Approved 12 – 1 (Bram).
- 6.2 Report - General Obligation Bond Issue 2018 - Additional Projects (FCAAS)
- Ald. Sabatino explains that this will allow funding for water main improvements as just now discussed, and the issuance of new bonds if needed for capital improvements.
 - Ald. Bram asks if this moves forward it will mean that another bond initiative will be needed to complete the Jackson and York High Schools projects. The Mayor and Mgr. Grabowski reply yes. Ald. Bram is concerned about taking on new bonds.
 - Ald. Levin notes if the policy change is now to use the current bond funds to pay for improvements despite this was not originally intended, since the stormwater remediation has been put on hold for now. Ald. Bram re-states his concern that this may not be a one-time policy change.
 - Approved 12 – 1 (Bram).

7. Reports and Recommendations of Appointed and Elected Officials

- Mayor Morley notes that the St. Patrick's Day parade is set for March 9 at noon; on March 1 there is a program 'Gen Ys and Gen Zs in the Workplace' at Elmhurst College; he encourages all residents to sign up for the Water Smart program.
- Clerk Cyprian announces that early voting starts March 13 for the April 2 election.
- Ald. Dunn gives an update on today's Fly Quiet committee meeting: there was a presentation on alternatives for take-offs to minimize the noise impact. Night-time flights have been going up (7% take-offs; 40% landings over past 7 years). The City is putting together a letter to enumerate our concerns.
- Ald. Bram attended the Fly Quiet open houses – they were very interesting. He hopes the letter Ald. Dunn mentioned is circulated for all Aldermen to add comments before it goes out.

8. Ordinances

- 8.1 O-07-2019 - An Ordinance Authorizing the Execution of a Master Power Supply Agreement By and Between MC Squared Energy Services, LLC and the City of Elmhurst, DuPage and Cook Counties, Illinois
- Ald. Sabatino explains that this agreement is for 2 years; MC Squared provided good service the last time they were contracted by the City.

- Approved 13 – 0.

8.2 O-09-2019 - An Ordinance to Approve and Authorize Acceptance of a Certain Grant of an Easement Agreement with the Forest Preserve District of DuPage County to Permit the St. Charles Road Bridge Improvements By the Village of Villa Park and for the City of Elmhurst to Maintain Existing Watermain and Storm Sewer Lines, Located in the Salt Creek Greenway at St. Charles Road, in the City of Elmhurst, Illinois (PIN 06-03-415-008 (PART)) (see item #5.5)

- Approved 13 – 0 without discussion.

9. Other Business none.

10. Adjournment 8:55 pm