

Elmhurst City Council Meeting

January 6, 2014
7:30 pm – 8:00 pm

12 present; 2 Absent- Leader,
Polomsky
Public: 7; Staff: 1; Police/Fire:2;
Press: 1
Observer: N. Talluto

Mayor Morley called the meeting to order.

The Council observed a period of silence to observe the passing of Connie Weatherford, a great friend of Elmhurst.

Public Forum

- Claude Pagash, 566 W. Gladys, wished the council a Happy New Year. He then asked the council to vote no on the Findzall contract. He asked for explanation on the professional services contract for the Hahn project and why it is needed. He shared that he felt the budget was hurried throughout the entire process and thanked the two Alderman who voted against it for that reason.
- Tamara Brenner, 137 N. Caroline, discussed her FOIA request on the Addison St. Parking Garage that was denied in the Fall. She filed a request to the IL State Attorney General. She received the letter as did the city showing that the state felt that the city wrongfully denied the request for information. She has diminished trust in the city's actions and behaviors. She suggests that more documents could easily be made available to the public to prevent future FOIA requests and be more transparent.
- Andrea Alvaraez, 182 N. York, of the Citizen Advocacy Center shared information about the purpose of the FOIA access. Elmhurst is improving with BoardDocs, however, when more substantive or controversial issues are requested the City seems to delay. Ms. Alvarez suggests this is an issue. Ms. Alvarez went on to itemize several FOIA requests by the Citizens Advocacy Center related to the Addison Street parking garage and the City's inconsistent handling of these requests.
- Kathleen Sullivan, 133 Pine St., wished the council a Happy New Year. She thanked the city and emergency services for the great job of cleaning the streets of snow and keeping everyone safe. She noted that if we had a warming spell that flooding would be an issue. She suggests that there still has not been anything done on flooding and storm water. She asks the council for action.

Announcements

- Ald. Dunn noted that Superior Ambulance at 395 W. Lake St. will be holding a voter registration drive on 1/22 from 11 – 1pm and on 2/7 from 3 – 5pm.
- Ald. Bram announced the 3rd Ward townhall meeting on 2/1/14 at the Library at 7pm.
- Refuse collection will be delayed by 1 day due to the inclement weather.

The **Consent Agenda** was passed (12 Ayes, 0 Nays) with the removal of the following items:
6.2, 6.6.

A. 6.2 – Report – Report – Findzall community marketing contract renewal.

- a. Ald. Levin requested that the report be pulled back to committee to make a correction based on Ald. Levin's concerns raised during the executive session.
 - b. No vote required to pull a report back to committee.
- B. 6.6 – R-02-2013-A resolution authorizing the execution of a consulting agreement between Findzall Community Marketing and the City of Elmhurst, IL.
- a. Ald. Gutenkauf pulled the report because she does not feel it is in the best interest of the City and wanted to vote against it.
 - b. Ald. Bram suggested that we should not extend this contract anymore as the council has extended it too much already.
 - c. Report passes (10 Ayes, 2 Nays Bram, Gutenkauf, 2 Absent)

Reports and Recommendations of Appointed and Elected Officials

- Mayor Morley thanked the City Services team for the great job of clearing the snow during the storm. He also noted that District 205 schools will be closed tomorrow.
- City Manager Grabowski also thanked all for their great efforts on snow and safety. He noted that the services are moved to 2 – 12 hour shifts during storms. Also, the public hearing for Addison Parking Garage will be on 1/23 for Zoning and Planning Commission.
- Ald. Bram clarified that the referral for David B. Hahn is NOT related to the Hahn street development; rather it is for social worker services for city emergency services employees to use if needed as part of their job. He asked that the meeting minutes for the North Corridor planning meeting be posted to the website for the project. He also asked for additional meetings for the public.

Other Business

- None

Adjournment

Meeting was adjourned at 8:00 pm.