

Elmhurst City Council Meeting

**October 7, 2013
7:30 pm – 9:23 pm**

**11 present; Kennedy, Mulliner,
Wagner Absent**

Observer: N. Talluto

Mayor Morley called the meeting to order.

Public Forum

- Gilbert Fisher spoke about his wife getting a job. He is concerned that the city is increasing taxes but not providing basic services. His property tax increased over 300% in three years.
- Gene Evans, President of the Elmhurst Heritage Foundation invited the public to a Public Gala, 11/2, 6pm at Drury Lane to support a new museum exhibit.
- Bill Perry spoke about the holding tanks being proposed for new construction. He is concerned that these will not impact the storm water issue. He is a proponent of doing the right thing and implementing a permanent solution.
- Adam Hudson found out about a petition for his block's sidewalk. They voted against it as they did not want to spend more money. He completed a petition following the guidelines but it was rejected. He is unclear of the process and the exact numbers and requests the city provide more clear information.
- Claude Pagash was unhappy about the vote on the general obligation bonds in the prior meeting. Additionally he spoke about the TIF to support the improvement of the Addison Street area.
- Rose Showalter submitted written paperwork showing damage to her property from construction nearby. She is concerned with how the inspection went through allowing excavation so close to her property. She is also against the sidewalk.
- Tom Showalter also spoke about how close excavation was done to his home. How will this impact his driveway in the future?
- David Reginelli spoke about the flooding on Pine Street the recent weekend. He wants to know what the pragmatic approach to the problem. He asks that the search for the new public works manager include someone with water experience.
- Tamara Brenner requested how the cost of the parking garage was obtained. She wants the city to disclose the information. She does not agree with the consultants' recommendation based on the data in the report – parking is not needed. She wants the city's attorney should recuse himself or herself from the zoning commission process on this subject.
- Kathleen Sullivan spoke about the recent Pine Street flooding. She thinks water retention tanks could help. She urges the city to take action. The city needs to meet the basics not build other structures.
- Mike Killian came to ask about his question from months ago about downspouts going into the yards. He urges a sewer system that is adequate for the water flow.

Announcements

- Ald. York announced Bike Ride for Elected Officials on the South Side of Elmhurst.
- Ald. Dunn announced a Town Hall meeting on 10/10 at 7:30pm at Fire Station 1, basement.

The **Consent Agenda** was passed (11 Ayes, 0 Nays, 3 Absent).

Reports and Recommendations of Appointed and Elected Officials

- Mayor Morley had no new reports.
- City Manager Grabowski announced that committee meetings will be held on 10/15. The storm hit quickly with 1 – 2.5 inches. Leaves did cause issues in some areas and he thanked residents who helped to clear drains. The underpass did work properly and held water for 4 hours before draining away. Continued leaf clearing will be done as planned. Additionally, he announced the readiness of presenting the budget which will begin on 10/21. Congratulations to the finance department on another annual award on the city budget for 2013.
- Clerk Spencer informed residents about the 5K walk for the new Cancer Center in Elmhurst from the old hospital to the new hospital. Over \$150,000 was raised. Also, 10/29 event at Roberto's to continue in the fundraising.
- Ald. Bram echoed Clerk Spencers comments. He also wanted to address a number of issues raised during public forum.
 - a. Blocking petition on the sidewalks is actually to block the SSA that enables funding for the sidewalks. The SSA block requires both elector and property owner signatures. This particular petition was short signatures on both. The lead of the petition can resubmit with appropriate signatures.
 - b. Sewer grates installed on Howard Avenue was a temporary patch and will be completed with concrete before the winter.
 - c. New construction issue with the driveway and close excavation may require new thoughts on zoning and building regulations.
- City Manager Grabowski handed over the presentation to Tim Doren who worked on the parking demand analysis for Addison Street and Elmhurst.
 - a. He first described the overall analysis methodology.
 - b. Conclusions Include:
 - i. The Addison Street parking garage area has a parking deficit of 612 parking spaces during peak demand period of 1 – 2pm, weekdays.
 - ii. The total study area has a deficit of 408 spaces.
 - iii. After applying effective parking standards the Addison street parking garage must have 6 floors in order to meet the forecasted parking demands.
 - c. Questions from the council to the consultants proceeded.

Committee Reports

- 8.1 - The City Council approved the recommendation to not have a loading dock in the Addison development. (9 Ayes, 2 Nays – Bram, Gutenkauf, 3 Absent)
- 8.2 – The Committee requests that the report is pulled for further time to apply new information to the recommendation.

Other Business

- None

Adjournment

Meeting was adjourned at 9:23 pm.