

**CITY OF COUNTRY CLUB HILLS  
REGULAR MEETING  
OF THE CITY COUNCIL  
December 14, 2015**

1. A regular meeting of the City Council, City of Country Club Hills, County of Cook, State of Illinois, was held in the City Hall, 4200 W. 183rd Street at 7:00 p.m. The meeting was called to order by the Honorable James W. Ford, Mayor.

a. The Pledge of Allegiance was given by all those in attendance.

2. **THOSE ON ROLL CALL ANSWERING PRESENT WERE:**

Aldermen Lockett, Davis, Glispie, Evans and Spivey.

Also present were: City Clerk, Deborah McIlvain and City Treasurer, Argie Johnson-Martin.

2a. The invocation was given by Mayor Ford.

3. **Journal of Proceedings:**

A. **Approval of Minutes**

1. **Administrative Meeting - November 16, 2015**

2. **Regular City Council Meeting - November 23, 2015**

Alderman Lockett moved for Council approval of the minutes of the Administrative Meeting of November 16, 2015 and the minutes of the Regular City Council meeting of November 23, 2015. Second - Alderman Glispie. Discussion - none. Motion to approve the minutes of the Administrative Meeting of November 16, 2015 and the minutes of the regular City Council meeting of November 23, 2015 Carried Via Voice Vote.

4. **Communications and Reports by the Mayor:**

Mayor Ford stated that statements made by Mr. Graham regarding pension at the Administrative meeting were incorrect. He clarified that the full time firefighters in Country Club Hillis are in the pension and are not eligible for social security. Only the part-time firefighters pay into social security. He also thanked everyone for coming out to the meeting this evening.

5. **City Treasure's Report - October 31, 2015**

City Treasurer, Argie Johnson-Martin gave the qualified Treasurer's Report for the month ending

City Council Meeting  
Dec 14, 2015  
Page

October 31, 2015 citing revenues and expenditures and commenting on the state budget freeze and its effect on monetary receipts.

**6. City Clerk's Report**

City Clerk, Deborah McIlvain wished everyone a Merry Christmas and reminded all that the City's annual Food Drive was underway and donations are being accepted in the lobby of City Hall.

**7. Committee Reports**

**I. Finance: Alderman Davis, Chairman  
(Committee Meeting January 7, 2016 5:00 pm)**

**A. Approval of Vouchers -December 14, 2015**

Alderman Davis moved for Council approval of vouchers in the amount of \$1,314,925.94. Second - Alderman Lockett Discussion - It was explained that this included the A/P Disbursement Contracts, Expenses, Refunds, Payroll and payment for fire damage to a residence.

**ROLL CALL VOTE** 5 Ayes: Aldermen Lockett, Davis, Glispie, Evans and Spivey.

0 Nays

0 Absent:

**Motion Declared Carried and Hereby Made a Part of the Original Journal of proceedings this date.**

**B. Approval - An Ordinance Providing for the Levy, Assessment and Collection of the Taxes for the Fiscal Year Beginning May 1, 2015 and Ending April 30, 2016**

**C. Approval - A Resolution Directing the County Clerk to Reduce the Amount Added to the City's Levy for Loss and Cost**

Alderman Davis moved for Council approval of Ordinance No O-24-15, An Ordinance Providing for the Levy, Assessment and Collection of the Taxes for the Fiscal Year Beginning May 1, 2015 and Ending April 30, 2016 and of Resolution No. R-10-15, a Resolution Directing the County Clerk to Reduce the Amount Added for the City's Levy for Loss and Cost. Second - Alderman Lockett. Discussion - it was explained that there was no increase in the levy, that the dollar amount was approximately \$75,000 less and that this had been discussed

extensively at the committee meeting and at the Administrative Meeting. Alderman Davis also stated that the Council would be exploring additional ways to possibly reduce and/or abate taxes.

**ROLL CALL VOTE 5** Ayes: Aldermen Lockett, Davis, Glispie, Evans and Spivey.

0 Nays

0 Absent:

**Motion Declared Carried and Hereby Made a Part of the Original Journal of proceedings this date.**

**II. Law, Ordinance, Government Operations & Contract Compliance (TBA) Alderman Evans, Chairman**

**A. Approval - An Ordinance Amending Article 37 (“Residential Rental License”) of Chapter 13 (“Business Licensing Regulations”) of the Country Club Hills City Code to Amend the City’s Crime-Free Housing Regulations**

Alderman Evans moved for Council approval of Ordinance Amendment No OA-05-15 An Ordinance Amending Article 37 (“Residential Rental License”) of Chapter 13 (“Business Licensing Regulations”) of the Country Club Hills City Code to Amend the City’s Crime-Free Housing Regulations. Second - Alderman Lockett. It was explained that this had been discussed at the Administrative Meeting and was a necessary update to the City’s crime free housing program for the protection of tenants and their calls for assistance to the fire and police departments.

**ROLL CALL VOTE 5** Ayes: Aldermen Lockett, Davis, Glispie, Evans, and Spivey.

0 Nays

0 Absent:

**Motion Carried and Hereby Made a Per of the Original Journal of**

proceedings to date.

**III. Public Works and Utilities  
(Committee Meeting TBA)**

**Alderman Glispie,  
Chairman**

No Report

**IV. Economic Development, Planning, Zoning & Economic Development  
(TBA)**

Alderman Spivey announced a committee meeting for January 7, 2016 at 7 pm. He stated that Paul Stewart from the Outlet Mall developers will be at the meeting to provide an update.

**V. Insurance, Risk Management & Personnel      Alderman Lockett, Chairman  
(Committee Meeting TBA)**

**A. Approval - Resignation and Severance Agreement By and Between the City  
of Country Club Hills and Valeria Densmore**

Alderman Lockett moved for Council approval of Resignation and Severance Agreement By and Between the City of Country Club Hill and Valeria Densmore. Second - Alderman Glispie. Discussion - none.

**ROLL CALL VOTE**      5 Ayes:      Aldermen Lockett, Davis, Glispie, Evans  
and Spivey.

0 Nays

0 Absent:

**Motion Declared Carried and Hereby Made a Part of the Original Journal of  
proceedings this date.**

**VI. Special Committee Theater of the Whole**

No Report

City Council Meeting  
Dec 14, 2015  
Page

Alderman Lockett moved to open the floor to the public. Second - Alderman Davis.  
Motion Carried Via Voice Vote.

The following individuals addressed the Council:

- Leora Bell, Country Club Hills, told Alderman Spivey that he should not contradict himself. She continued that he should do the right thing, not babble and be respectful and honest about the theater issue. She stated to Mayor Ford that he had sanctioned the “babble”
- Tom Melton, Country Club Hills, requested clarification regarding the additional payroll disbursement approved with the vouchers.
- Hosea Gray, Country Club Hills, asked if vouchers were verified prior to being paid, disagreed with the \$5000 fee for project manager to Mr. Amu as he feels that Smooth Chicago should be managing the theater, inquired as the City’s position regarding the agreement with the Park District, questioned the lack of detail for the Park District’s monthly payment to the City, and inquired as to the logic of rebates to businesses.
- Harry William Jones, Jr., Country Club Hills asked for details regarding the resignation and severance agreement with Valeria Densmore.

Alderman Lockett moved that the floor be closed to the public. Second - Alderman Davis.  
Motion Carried Via Voice Vote.

## **9. Aldermen’s Reports**

- Alderman Davis stated that the additional payroll was for fire and police pension funds and group insurance. He announced that Cornerstone Church will be holding a Food Drive on December 29, 2015 from 10 am to noon. He invited residents to attend the tax appeal session on December 16, 2015 from 6:30 to 8:00 pm at City Hall. He concluded by wishing everyone a Happy Holiday.
- Alderman Lockett thanked everyone for their attendance and wished all a Happy Holiday. He thanked everyone for their assistance and contributions at the concert for the homeless at BelAir Church this past Saturday. He stated that Steven Amu oversees the theater project just as Baxter and Woodman or Robinson Engineering oversee projects and that all contracts go out to bid. He explained that the resignation/severance agreement was of standard form, reminded everyone to enjoy the weather and wished everyone a Merry Christmas and a Happy New Year.
- Alderman Glispie wished everyone a Happy Holiday and Merry Christmas.
- Alderman Evans stated that the 2014 audit is complete and that a hard copy would be available in January. She noted that the audit is unqualified. She stated that she supported the resignation/severance agreement as it was common and she had no problem with what had been offered. She explained that the tax rebates were given to businesses that were current on their property tax bills and that the City needed to support those businesses that are here in Country Club Hills. She stated that she is thankful for the opportunity to serve the residents and concluded by wishing everyone Happy Holidays.

City Council Meeting  
Dec 14, 2015  
Page

- Alderman Spivey thanked everyone for their attendance. He stated that the tree lighting ceremony was quite nice and thanked Mr. Ross. He stated that good things have been happening here in the City such as street repair, new signs in Heritage plaza and that the Council has worked together. He thanked everyone and wished all a Merry Christmas and a Happy New Year.
- Treasurer Johnson-Martin wished everyone Happy Holidays, stated that it had been an eventful year, that she appreciated everyone's input and support, and that she would continue to work for accountability.

Mayor Ford stated that he had met earlier in the day with the MWRD regarding the outlet Mall and that the issues are being resolved. He reminded everyone that the Rich Township tax appeal is December 16, 2016 from 6:30 to 8:00 pm where residents can receive tax appeal assistance.. He stated that the information regarding the monthly receipt from the Park District Board has been made available as requested.

Mayor Ford concluded by thanking the residents for their support and wishing all a Merry Christmas and Happy New Year.

A Motion to adjourn was made by Alderman Lockett. Second - Alderman Evans. Motion Carried Via Voice Vote and hereby made a part of the original journal of proceedings this date.

Meeting adjourned at 7:32

Respectfully submitted  
Deborah M. McIlvain, City Clerk