

**CITY OF COUNTRY CLUB HILLS
REGULAR MEETING
OF THE CITY COUNCIL
July 24 2017**

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 7:04 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; City Treasurer Argie Johnson-Martin and City Attorney John Murphey.

Judge Stuttley served as parliamentarian.

2a. Invocation - the Invocation was given by Pastor Blackmon.

3. **Journal of Proceedings**

A. Approval of Minutes -

1. Regular City Council Meeting - July 10, 2017

Alderman Lockett moved for Council approval of the minutes of the Regular City Council Meeting of July 10, 2017. Second - Alderman Glispie. Discussion - none. Motion to approve the minutes of the regular City Council Meeting of July 10, 2017 Carried Via Voice Vote.

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

Mayor Ford stated that he, and 18 area Mayors, had attended the Cook County Board meeting and successfully voiced their concerns regarding a proposed change to the Class 8 requirements for suburban properties. The Board reverted to the former Class 8 regulations and the Mayor stated that this was a good outcome for the South Suburban area.

A. Consideration- Morton to Deny Octapharma Application

It was explained that the Zoning board of Appeals had held a public hearing and had denied the Octapharma Application for a zoning amendment and special use. Alderman Lockett moved to deny the Octapharma Application. Second - Alderman Evans. Motion Carried Via Voice Vote. Alderman Glispie requested a Roll Call Vote. Roll Call Vote as follows:

ROLL CALL VOTE 4 Ayes: Aldermen Lockett, Davis, Evans and Spivey.

1 Nays Alderman Glispie

0 Absent:

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

5. City Collectors Report

City Collector Deborah McIlvain, Gave the Collectors Report for the month ending June 30, 2017 citing the dollar amount of revenue received in each fund.

6. City Clerk's Report

City Clerk Deborah McIlvain, reminded everyone of the City wide garage sale to be held on August 5, 2017.

7. Committee Reports

**I. Finance: Alderman Lockett, Chairman
(Committee Meeting August 10, 20 12:00 pm)**

A. Approval of Vouchers - July 24, 2017

Alderman Lockett moved for Council approval of vouchers in the amount of \$717,762.17. 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.

B. Approval - An Ordinance Declaring Certain City Owned Equipment Surplus and Authorizing Its Disposition

Alderman Lockett moved for Council approval of Ordinance No. O-13-17, An Ordinance Declaring Certain City Owned Equipment . Second - Alderman Glispie. Discussion - It was explained that these vehicles would be donated to the Village of Robbins.

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 Glispie, Chairman

No Report

III. Public Works and Utilities (Committee Meeting TBA) Alderman Davis, Chairman

A. Approval - an Ordinance Authorizing a Water Tower Lease Agreement with Verizon Wireless for Property Located at 17005 Crawford

Alderman Davis moved for Council approval of Ordinance No. O-14-17, an Ordinance Authorizing a Water Tower Lease Agreement with Verizon Wireless for Property Located at 1700 Crawford. Second - Alderman Lockett. Discussion - This would provide for a Water Tower Lease Agreement with Verizon Wireless for approximately 360 square feet of ground area for a term of 5 years with annual rent of \$30,000 per year and rent increases with extensions of the lease agreement. This item was discussed at the Administrative Meeting and was recommended for approval by the Council.

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 Placement of Stop Signs on the Northeast Corner and the Southwest Corner of 177th/Sycamore and a Yield Sign on the South-west Corner of 179th Street and Thomas Lane Within the City of Country Club Hills

Alderman Davis moved for Council approval of Ordinance No. O-15-17, An Ordinance Providing for the Placement of Stop Signs on the Northeast Corner and the Southwest Corner of 177th/Sycamore and a Yield Sign on the South-west Corner of 179th Street and Thomas Lane Within the City of Country Club Hills. Second - Alderman Lockett. Discussion - it was explained that a traffic study had been conducted and that this item had been discussed at the Administrative Meeting.

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.

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

No Report

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

Alderman Evans announced that a committee meeting was scheduled for August 10, 2017 at 6:30 pm.

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, reiterated her suggestion for an Economic Development Director and requested that someone reply to her request during the aldermanic reports portion of the meeting.
- Dwyer Williams, Country Club Hills, requested clarification regarding the Law and Ordinance Committee meeting's time. He suggested that the area mayors form a coalition to discuss the property tax issue in the Southern suburbs and ended by stating that he thought there should be an informative flyer in every water bill.
- Darlene Moore, Country Club Hills, stated that all residents were in need of tax relief and commented on the high percentage of property taxes that go to the schools. Mayor Ford suggested that she attend the school board meetings as the City was not responsible for that portion of the property tax bill.
- Ballard Powell, Country Club Hills commented on the property tax issues and on the Chicago Tribune article discussing the issue. He stated that everyone should appeal their property taxes each year and that comps should include vacant and foreclosed properties.

Mayor Ford stated that the 19 area mayors are in the process of addressing the property tax issues that affect the South Suburbs.

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

9. Aldermen's Reports

- Alderman Spivey announced that he will be hosting a basketball event at Wulf Park on August 12. He stated that the Economic Development Commission does a great job, that the City could most likely use an Economic Development Director and that it may be something that is looked at in the future.
- Alderman Evans stated that she agreed with Mr. Powell regarding the property tax appeal process and suggested pre-filing with the Board of Review on the website. She stated that she felt the high property taxes in the South Suburbs were the result to the gentrification of areas in the City of Chicago. She urged Ms. Moore to attend the school board meetings. She concluded by stating that there is a relationship between economic development, undervalued properties and high property taxes.
- Alderman Glispie announced that the fall branch pick up dates are October 9 and October 16, reminded residents not to store garbage cans in front of their homes and that additional information was available by contacting him or City Hall.
- Alderman Lockett announced the City wide garage sale on August 5 from 8 am to 3 pm, announced Hillcrest Baptist Church's annual revival August 21, 22, and 23, commented that most of the City's plazas are full but that additional businesses are needed. He suggested a possible large industrial distribution hub

such as FedEx or Amazon.

- Alderman Davis stated that he is open to the idea of an Economic Development Director but will act as needed as taxes and funding are issues and that this item should be addressed during budget preparation time. He thanked the Mayor, city staff, the Fire and Police Department, Country Club Hills Food and Liquor and the Chicago White Sox for their support of his Ward 5 picnic.

Mayor Ford stated the City had not raised the City's portion of property taxes in 6 years and encouraged residents to attend the board meetings of the other taxing bodies that affect their property taxes.

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

Meeting adjourned at 7:40 pm.

Respectfully submitted
Deborah M. McIlvain, City Clerk