

**CITY OF COUNTRY CLUB HILLS
REGULAR MEETING
OF THE CITY COUNCIL
Monday, September 8, 2008**

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 Dwight W. Welch, Mayor.

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

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

Aldermen Watts, Hutson, Lee, Battie, Comein, Lockett, Martin, Williams and Ford constituting a quorum of the City Council.

Also present were: Deborah McIlvain, City Clerk; Michael Gleason, City Treasurer, and Henrietta Turner, City Manager.

Absent was: Alderman Singleton.

2a. Invocation - The invocation was given by Alderman Thomas Comein.

3. **Journal of Proceedings:**

A. Approval of Minutes - Regular City Council Meeting, August 25, 2008

Alderman Watts moved for Council approval of the minutes of the Regular City Council meeting of August 25, 2008. Second - Alderman Comein. Discussion - none. Motion to approve the minutes of the Regular City Council Meeting of August 25, 2008 Carried Via Voice Vote.

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

A. Business of the Month - Chatham Pancake House of Country Club Hills - Leslie Noel, Proprietor

Leslie Noel, proprietor of Chatham Pancake House of Country Club Hills, was introduced. He thanked the Mayor, City Council and City staff for their assistance in remodeling his new establishment. He stated that he is a resident of Country Club Hills and that this is his second restaurant. He gave the location, hours of operation and telephone number. Mayor Welch

explained that TIF funds had been used to assist Mr. Noel and that there is the possibility of a banquet facility adjacent to his location. Mayor Welch stated that a brunch for commissioners and volunteers will be held at the Chatham Pancake House.

B. Presentation - City Attorney, John Murphey -Prime Group Update

City Attorney, John Murphey explained that the TIF process and negotiations are moving ahead. Necessary documents are being drafted to establish a TIF agreement for the infrastructure and related expenses, including a new water tower. The TIF agreement will be presented to the full Council for approval.

Mayor Welch introduced Linda Zidrich, Chairman of the Blood and Organ Donor Commission. Linda explained that the City's blood drive will be held on Saturday, September 20, 2008 from 7:30 am to 12:00 pm at City Hall. The commission will be sending a box to a soldier overseas for each blood donation made. Interested donors may contact City Hall. Ms. Zidrich concluded by stating that the Blood Commission had been in existence for 18 years and had contributed over 3,000 units of blood.

Mayor Welch stated that there was a printing error on the water bills and the due date is actually September 20, 2008.

Mayor Welch stated that the City's EAV had increased 11% (29 million dollars) despite the slower economy.

Mayor Welch stated that casino negotiations could not take place publically; however, bids are due on October 14, 2008 and despite the downturn in gaming, the Country Club Hills site should be viewed as favorable.

Mayor Welch stated that the Back to School Parade was a huge success and he thanked the Youth Commission and everyone who helped make the day a success. He stated that \$1.00 will be charged for food at next year's event and that parade participants will be fed first.

Mayor Welch stated that the City's snow removal plan will be going out to bid.

Mayor Welch Stated that he is proud of the job being done by the City's Police and Fire Departments. He stated that approximately 10 of the currently employed CSO's will be selected for firearm training and fire hose training. A heated discussion ensued. Mayor Welch reiterated that the CSO's will not be carrying firearms, but will be trained in firearm use in the event of an emergency.

Mayor Welch stated that enrollment in School District 160 is down from 1500 last year, possibly

due to the residency verification procedures initiated by the School District this school year. He stated that the school year opening has gone very well because of the cooperation of parents, students, staff, and City personnel.

Mayor Welch reminded everyone that the opening of the Premier Estates Park will be held on Saturday, September 20, 2008 at noon.

5. City Clerk's Report

City Clerk, Deborah McIlvain, reminded everyone that voters' registration is being accepted until October 7, 2008.

6. Committee Reports

I. Finance: Alderman Watts, Chairman

A. Approval of Vouchers

Alderman Watts moved for the approval of vouchers in the amount of \$869,768.91. Second - Alderman Comein. Discussion - Alderman Ford requested clarification on Sam's Club.

ROLL CALL VOTE 6 Ayes: Aldermen Watts, Battie, Comein, Martin, Williams and Ford.

3 Nays Aldermen Hutson, Lee, and Lockett

(Alderman Hutson cast a no vote for Mr. Fence, Alderman Lee, cast a no vote for Petty Cash, and Alderman Lockett cast a no vote for St. John' Police Department, Petty Cash, Planning Resources, Steven Shobat, Atty., and Mad Bomber Fireworks.)

1 Absent Alderman Singleton

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

II. Law, Ordinance and Government: Alderman Ford, Chairman

Alderman Ford stated that a draft of the towing ordinance had been submitted to staff and the City Attorney for review. Mayor Welch requested that the ordinance for residential rentals be

brought forward soon. Alderman Lockett suggested modeling the ordinance to reflect the laws in Riverdale. Mayor Welch stated that Country Club Hills is unlike Riverdale in that we have a lower percentage of rental properties. Alderman Lee requested that the committee hold their next meeting in the evening so that she would be able to attend.

III. Public Works and Utilities Alderman Battie, Chairman

No Report.

IV. Economic Development Alderman Hutson, Chairman

No Report.

V. Planning, Zoning and Development Alderman Lockett Chairman

Alderman Lockett commented on the significance of the TIF agreement for Prime Group.

VI. Insurance and Risk Management Alderman Comein, Chairman

No Report

VII. Community and Park Activities Alderman Singleton, Chairman

No Report.

VIII. Contract Compliance Alderman Martin, Chairman

No Report

IX. Special Committee - Schools & Education Alderman Williams, Chairman

Alderman Williams stated that all area school districts are on target to achieve AYP this school year.

7. Aldermen's Reports

Mayor Welch stated that the City is waiting for the MWRD permits to finalize completion of the infrastructure for the new fire station. He stated that the new 100' aerial truck has been delivered.

Alderman Ford stated that he was not comfortable with the idea of CSO's carrying firearms and Alderman Martin attempted to clarify matters of law regarding firearm certification. A heated

discussion ensued.

Alderman Lockett thanked the residents for attending Youth Day. He reminded residents to protect their homes and cars and to bring their refuse cans back in.

Alderman Lee thanked the residents who attended the Youth Day festivities and gave special thanks to Linda Zidrich and her husband George for their efforts throughout the day.

Alderman Watts reminded everyone to attend the Premier Estates Park opening on Saturday, September 20 from noon to 4 pm. He also reminded everyone about the Monarch Place Block Party on September 20, 2008 from 10 am to 8 pm.

Alderman Hutson stated that all CSO's should be able to recognize elected officials when they are conducting business at City Hall. Mayor Welch explained that everyone has been asked to use the Ravisloe entrance should be used for safety reasons during City events.

Alderman Comein stated that the Knights of Columbus annual Tootsie Roll Drive will be held in the area on September 19 and 20.

Alderman Martin stated that his comments had been in support of the Mayor's plan for CSO firearm training. Alderman Martin also wished a successful academic year to all returning students.

Alderman Williams stated his support for the Mayor's plan for CSO firearm training. He also stated that it is the City's goal to provide an environment that fosters families staying and growing here in the City.

8. ADJOURNMENT:

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

Meeting adjourned at 8:02 pm.

Deborah M. McIlvain, City Clerk

Meeting taped by the Cable Commission