

**CITY OF COUNTRY CLUB HILLS
REGULAR MEETING
OF THE CITY COUNCIL
Monday, October 13, 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, Singleton Lockett, Martin, Williams and Ford constituting a quorum of the City Council.

Also present were: Michael Gleason, City Treasurer, and Henrietta Turner, City Manager.

2a. Invocation - The invocation was given by Rev. Martin Marren, St. Emeric Catholic Church.

3. **Journal of Proceedings:**

A. **Approval of Minutes - Regular City Council Meeting, September 22, 2008**

B. **Approval of Minutes - Administrative Meeting - October 6, 2008**

C. **Approval of Minutes - Special City Council Meeting - October 6, 2008**

Alderman Watts moved for Council approval of the minutes of the Regular City Council meeting of September 22, 2008, approval of the minutes of the Administrative Meeting of October 6, 2008, and approval of the minutes of the Special City Council Meeting of October 6, 2008.. Second - Alderman Comein. Discussion - none. Motion to approve the minutes of the Regular City Council Meeting of September 22, 2008, the Administrative Meeting of October 6, 2008 and of the Special City Council Meeting of October 6, 2008 Carried Via Voice Vote.

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

A. **Commission Appointment - Chairman - Environmental Commission - Jennifer Braun-Denton**

Alderman Watts moved for Council approval of the appointment of Jennifer Braun-Denton as Chairman of the Environmental Commission. Second - Alderman Comein. Discussion - none. Motion Carried Via Voice Vote.

B. Approval of Resolution Requesting the Illinois Attorney General to Investigate Sodium Chloride (Road Salt) Prices

Alderman Watts moved for Council approval of Resolution No. R-15-08, A Resolution Requesting the Illinois Attorney General to Investigate Sodium Chloride (Road Salt) Prices. Second - Alderman Comein. Discussion - It was explained that this resolution requests that the Illinois Attorney General take immediate steps to initiate an investigation into price manipulation and ant-competitive activities by salt companies in violation of the law.

ROLL CALL VOTE 10 Ayes: Aldermen Watts, Hutson, Lee Battie, Comein, Singleton, Lockett, Martin, Williams and Ford.

0 Nays

0 Absent

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

C. Approval of an Ordinance Authorizing a “Preliminary Economic Development Agreement Between the City of Country Club Hills and CCH Gaming Partners, LLC.”

Alderman Watts moved for Council approval of Ordinance No. O-15-08, an Ordinance Authorizing a “Preliminary Economic Development Agreement Between the City of Country Club Hills and CCH Gaming Partners, LLC.”. Second - Alderman Comein. Discussion - it was explained that this would provide the City’s support for the gaming license and delineate the possible revenues.

ROLL CALL VOTE 10 Ayes: Aldermen Watts, Hutson, Lee, Battie, Comein, Singleton, Lockett, Martin, Williams and Ford.

0 Nays

0 Absent

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

Mayor Welch stated that anyone present to voice their concerns regarding their property tax bills should meet with Donald Washington after the meeting (Mr. Washington was introduced.) Mayor Welch asked that those in the audience keep their comments to themselves as the floor was not open to the public at this time. He stated that he had written a letter addressing residents' possible property tax concerns and suggested that individuals check to make sure that all exemptions were applied and realize that differences in taxes may also be due to properties being refinanced or reverse mortgages.

Mayor Welch stated that he had received a letter from the Illinois State Police regarding flashing car lights as a gang initiation. He asked that residents be vigilant in assisting with crime prevention in their neighborhoods. He stated that a rental ordinance is on the agenda this evening which should assist in crime prevention and that the schools have had a good start this academic year.

Mayor Welch stated that he may possibly be traveling to Iraq. He asked that all of those volunteering in the mentoring program stand and be recognized for their efforts. He thanked all concerned.

Mayor Welch stated that the commercial businesses at 167th Street and Cicero (McDonald's, Sonic, Wal-mart, etc.) should do fine despite the current national economic situation.

Mayor Welch thanked the City Council for their support of the gaming agreement and the 10th casino license. Mark McComb, attorney for the project, thanked the Mayor, City Council and City staff for their support. Mayor Welch stated that the SEDA trust and the casino proposal should have a positive effect on the entire Southland region.

5. City Clerk's Report

City Clerk, Deborah Mellvain, reminded everyone of the early voting locations and deadlines for the upcoming Presidential Election.

6. Committee Reports

I. Finance: Alderman Watts, Chairman

A. Approval of Vouchers

Alderman Watts moved for the approval of vouchers in the amount of \$1,087,618.32.
Second - Alderman Comein. Discussion - none.

ROLL CALL VOTE 8 Ayes: Aldermen Watts, Lee, Battie, Comein,
Singleton, Martin, Williams and Ford.

2 Nays Aldermen Hutson and Lockett

Alderman Hutson cast a no vote for Mr. Fence. Alderman Lockett cast a no vote for CMM Group, Generis Entertainment, Great Frame Up, and Silver Dollar Photo Services.

0 Absent

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

B. Approval of an Ordinance Amending Ordinance No. O-15-07, “An Ordinance Authorizing a Line of Credit with Charter One Bank” By Extending the Maturity Date in Said Agreement Up to and Including January 12, 2009

Alderman Watts moved for Council approval of Ordinance No. O-14-08, an Ordinance Amending Ordinance No O-15-07, “An Ordinance Authorizing a Line of Credit with Charter One Bank” By Extending the Maturity Date in Said Agreement Up to and Including January 12, 2009. Second - Alderman Comein. Discussion - It was explained that this would allow for a later date of maturity on the line of credit.

ROLL CALL VOTE 8 Ayes: Aldermen Watts, Hutson, Battie, Comein,
Singleton, Martin, Williams and Ford.

0 Nays

2 Abstain: Aldermen Lee and Lockett.

0 Absent

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

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

A. Approval of An Ordinance Amending Chapter 13 “Business Licensing - and/or Permits and Regulations” by Adding New Article 37, “Residential Rental License “ Thereto

Alderman Ford moved for Council approval of OA-09-08, an Ordinance Amending Chapter 13 “Business Licensing - and/pr Permits and Regulations” by Adding New Article 37, “Residential Rental License “ Thereto. Second - Alderman Watts. Discussion - it was explained that this would provide for better regulation of landlords and make property owners more responsible for the acts of their tenants.

ROLL CALL VOTE 10 Ayes: Aldermen Watts, Hutson, Lee, Battie, Comein, Singleton, Lockett, Martin, Williams and Ford.

0 Nays

0 Absent

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

III. Public Works and Utilities Alderman Battie, Chairman

Alderman Battie gave the water and sewer report for the month of September, 2008. Mayor Welch stated that the City is continuing to ask that the Village of Oak Lawn be more accountable for the water system revenues.

IV. Economic Development Alderman Hutson, Chairman

Alderman Hutson stated that both Sonic and McDonald’s should be opening within the next few weeks.

V. Planning, Zoning and Development Alderman Lockett Chairman

A. Approval of an Ordinance Granting a Variance to Section 15.3.10 (Permitted Obstructions - Yards - Structures and Fences) of the City of Country Club Hills Municipal Code - Lutz Fence Variance - 17837 Cypress Avenue

Alderman Lockett moved for Council approval of Ordinance No 0-16-08, an Ordinance Granting a Variance to Section 15.3.10 (Permitted Obstructions - Yards - Structures and Fences)

Alderman Watts reminded those residents that are eligible to sign up for the senior snow plow program. He also reminded everyone that the Halloween Happenings Harvest Fest will be held on October 24, 25, 30, and 31 on the City Campus.

Alderman Hutson requested a moment of silence on the passing of Mr. Logan.

Alderman Martin encouraged residents to take advantage of the assistance being provided by the City in the process of appealing property tax bills.

Alderman Williams thanked everyone for their prayers as his son has safely returned home from overseas. He also reminded everyone that it is the City's goal to ultimately return 100% of the City's portion of property taxes to residents.

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 7:55 pm.

Deborah M. McIlvain, City Clerk

Meeting taped by the Cable Commission