

**CITY OF COUNTRY CLUB HILLS
REGULAR MEETING
OF THE CITY COUNCIL
January 25, 2010**

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 Hutson, Battie, Comein, Singleton, Lockett, Martin, Williams, Ford, Burris, and Mayor Welch 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 Lee.

2a. Invocation - The invocation was given by Pastor Howard Kennon, United Christian Church.

3. **Journal of Proceedings:**

A. **Approval of Minutes - Regular City Council Meeting, January 11, 2010**

Alderman Hutson moved for Council approval of the minutes of the Regular City Council meeting of January 11, 2010. Second - Alderman Comein. Discussion - none. Motion to approve the minutes of the Regular City Council Meeting of January 11, 2010 Carried Via Voice Vote.

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

A. **Recognition - Holiday House Decorating Contest Winners**

Jennifer Braun-Denton, Chairman of the Environmental Commission, announced the winners of the Holiday House Decorating Contest: Ward 1 - Alexander Family and Vaughn Family, Ward 2 - Glover Family and Harris Family, Ward 3 - Schmidt Family and St. Coletta's, Ward 4 - Swain Family and Davis Family, and Ward 5 - Vlach Family and House Family. The

Reginald Lewis Family of Oakwood Court was judged as the best in the City. Checks were presented to the winners.

- B. Wal-Mart Presentation to:**
- 1. Sykuta School**
 - 2. Meadowview School**
 - 3. Hillcrest High School**
 - 4. Rich Central High School**
 - 5. Veterans' Commission**
 - 6. Youth Mentoring Group**

Jason Thomas, manager of the Wal-Mart in Country Club Hills, presented checks to Sykuta School (\$1500), Meadowview School (\$1500), Hillcrest High School (\$2500), Rich Central High School (\$2500), Veterans Commission (\$1500), and Youth Mentoring Group (\$1500). Representatives of the various organizations accepted the donations and stated they would be used for various programs such as: arts, math and science programs, business programming and family reading night, veterans programming and a math and reading program.

Mayor Welch announced the following:

- ◆ 972 senior driveways were completed following the last snowfall. Public Works was commended for a job well done.
- ◆ Jak's Cuisine, 4033 West 183rd Street will hold their grand opening on Saturday, February 6, 2010 at 10 am
- ◆ Elected Officials and staff attended the UNCF Benefit dinner where scholarship funds were raised.
- ◆ Recently received property tax bills include the new state law requirement of 55% as the first installment.
- ◆ President Obama's State of the Union address will be telecast on Wednesday evening.
- ◆ Wesley Hutson was introduced. He came forward and shook hands with the Council.
- ◆ The City will be hosting a property tax appeal assistance seminar for Bremen Township residents. Information will be mailed to eligible households.

5. City Clerk's Report

City Clerk, Deborah McIlvain announced that the residential property tax rebate program would begin on February 1, 2010, following Council approval of the ordinance. Rebates will be 23% of the City's portion of the property tax bill. 2.1 million dollars have been

million dollars in revenue to the City.

**V. Planning, Zoning and Development Alderman Lockett Chairman
(Committee Meeting February 9, 2010 7:00 pm)**

No Report

**VI. Insurance and Risk Management Alderman Comein, Chairman
(Committee Meeting February 4, 2010 5:00 pm)**

No Report

**VII. Community and Park Activities Alderman Singleton, Chairman
(Committee Meeting February 2, 2010 7:00 pm)**

Alderman Singleton announced that registration for high school age basketball and softball is currently being taken.

**VIII. Contract Compliance Alderman Lee, Chairman
(Committee Meeting February 9, 2010 6:30 pm)**

No Report

**IX. Special Committee - Schools & Education Alderman Williams,
Chairman
(Committee Meeting February 18, 2010 5:00 pm)**

No Report

7. Aldermen's Reports

Alderman Lockett questioned the number of jobs that had been provided by Wal-Mart. He questioned the City's fiduciary practices (a heated discussion ensued). He reminded residents to not park in front of their neighbor's mailboxes and congratulated Frank Martin on his recent appointment as Sauk Village Chief of Police.

Alderman Martin thanked Wal-mart on behalf of the school districts. He offered congratulations to the Lewis family and reminded everyone to be aware of their children's whereabouts.

Alderman Hutson announced that the property tax appeal workshop for Bremen Township residents will be held by appointment on February 9 and February 11, 2010.

Alderman Ford stated that the revenue and expenditure reports will be reviewed at the next Finance Committee meeting.

Alderman Battie stated that the 2010 Community Policing Calendar is available. The 5th Ward meeting will be held on January 26 at 7:00 pm. He also reminded residents that no parking is allowed on City streets following a 2 inch snowfall.

Alderman Comein thanked everyone who participated in the City wide Blood Drive.

Alderman Williams asked that prayers be offered for the people in Haiti. He reminded everyone of the 2 inch snowfall parking restriction, offered congratulations to the basketball programs at Hillcrest High School (named one of the top 20 in the Chicagoland area) and reminded potential developers that Country Club Hills is an excellent location in which to do business.

Alderman Burris reminded everyone that the Ward 4 Community Policing Meeting will be held on February 16, 2010. He stated that the 0% levy represents 13 million dollars in property taxes, that the property tax rebate has never been over 23%, that the theater is operating in a deficit mode and announced a town hall meeting. A heated discussion ensued and Alderman Burris was called out of order.

Alderman Ford reminded everyone that the Ward 4 Community Policing Meeting will be held at the police station.

8. ADJOURNMENT:

A Motion to adjourn was made by Alderman Hutson. Second - Alderman Comein.

Motion Carried Via Voice Vote and hereby made a part of the original journal of proceedings this date.

Meeting adjourned at 7:58 pm.

Deborah M. McIlvain, City Clerk

Meeting taped by the Cable Commission