

**CITY OF COUNTRY CLUB HILLS
REGULAR MEETING
OF THE CITY COUNCIL
January 24, 2011**

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, 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 were City Treasurer, Michael Gleason and Aldermen Lee and Burris.

2a. Invocation - The invocation was given by Father Martin Marren, St. Emeric Parish

3. **Journal of Proceedings:**

A. Approval of Minutes - Regular City Council Meeting - December 13, 2010

Alderman Hutson moved for Council approval of the minutes of the Regular City Council meeting of December 13, 2010. Second - Alderman Comein. Discussion - none. Motion to approve the minutes of the Regular City Council meeting of December 13, 2010 Carried Via Voice Vote.

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

Mayor Welch reminded those eligible residents to apply for the senior snow removal program.

A. Presentation - Holiday House Decorating Contest Winners

Mayor Welch introduced Jennifer Denton, Chairman of the Environmental Commission. Presentations and monetary recognition were given to the 1st and 2nd place winners and the over-all City winner of the Holiday House Decorating contest.

Alderman Hutson moved for Council approval of the appointment of Kasmer Quinn to the Public Access Cable Commission and Ebony Smothers to the Youth Commission. Second - Alderman Comein. Discussion - none. Motion Carried Via Voice Vote. Ms. Quinn introduced herself and stated that she had a degree in media and journalism and was looking forward to utilizing her skills by volunteering for the City. Mayor Welch suggested that she develop an interview format program for the City's cable channel.

Mayor Welch announced the following:

- The property assessment appeal process is open in Bremen Township. Assistance will be provided at City Hall on February 1, 2, 8, and 9 from 7 to 9 pm. Those Bremen Township resident interested are asked to call City Hall.
- Mayor Welch requested that the Law and Ordinance Committee consider an ordinance requiring developers to provide complete information regarding property taxes and other fees when building for new residents and businesses.
- The City's annual Black History program will be held on Saturday, February 26 at Hillcrest High School. Rehearsals are underway and the program was written by a Country Club Hills resident.
- The City's annual Father/Daughter Dance will be held at the CRC on Saturday, February 5, 2011.

5. City Clerk's Report

No Report

6. Committee Reports

I. Finance: Alderman Ford, Chairman
(Committee Meeting February 24, 2011 6:30 pm)

A. Approval of Vouchers

Alderman Ford moved for Council approval of vouchers for in the amount of \$2,324,842.55. Second - Alderman Comein. Discussion - Alderman Ford explained that this dollar amount included five payroll runs in addition to a set of vouchers, and that there had been no regular City Council meeting since early December because of the holidays. Alderman Comein explained that the \$11,000 truck maintenance voucher was for repairs to a vehicle that would have cost \$100,000 to replace.

ROLL CALL VOTE 6 Ayes: Aldermen Hutson, Battie, Comein,
Martin, Ford and Mayor Welch.

3 Nays: Aldermen Singleton, Lockett and Williams.

Alderman Singleton cast a “no” vote for previously listed vouchers, Alderman Lockett cast a no vote for TransWorld, WGN Flag, and, WalMart. Alderman Williams cast a no vote for WalMart. (The voucher for Baxter and Woodman was pulled and not considered for approval.) Mayor Welch explained that 2 million dollars had been cut from the 2009 to 2010 budget, it was planned that a scheduled 3% pay increase would not be given in the new budget, that he would be asking elected official to forego their annual COLA increase, and that 8% would be cut in the upcoming budget, resulting in a balanced budget.

2 Absent: Aldermen Lee and Burriss

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

B. Approval of an Ordinance Providing for the Year 2011 Residential Property Tax Rebate Program for the Homeowners of Country Club Hills

Alderman Ford moved for Council approval of Ordinance No. O-01-11 an Ordinance Providing for the Year 2011 Residential Property Tax Rebate Program for the Homeowners of Country Club Hills Second - Alderman Comein. Discussion - it was explained that this would provide for a 10% rebate of the City’s portion of a residential property tax bill. Alderman Ford also stated that the Council is glad that the City is able to offer a rebate to the residents despite the current economic situation in the country.

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

0 Nays:

2 Absent: Aldermen Lee and Burriss

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

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

(Committee Meeting February 14, 2011 6:30 pm)

Alderman Martin announced that the Law, Ordinance and Government Operations Committee Meeting will be held on February 14, 2011 at 6:30 pm

**II. Public Works and Utilities Alderman Battie, Chairman
(Committee Meeting - February 7, 2011 6:30 pm)**

A Public Works and Utilities Meeting is scheduled for February 7, 2011 at 6:30 pm.

**IV. Economic Development Alderman Hutson, Chairman
(Committee Meeting February 2, 2011 6:00 pm)**

Alderman Hutson announced that Michaels Market should be opening sometime in late March and that a new Farmers Insurance facility and a Beauty Supply store are also opening. Mayor Welch explained that the outlet mall should begin in June with expected beginning revenues on 2012-2013 and that with the opening of Michael's Market, the commercial property occupancy rate will be 99%.

**V. Planning, Zoning and Development Alderman Lockett Chairman
(Committee Meeting February 1, 2011, 7:00 pm)**

Alderman Lockett announced that the Planning Zoning and Development Meeting scheduled for February 1 at 7 pm will be rescheduled.

**VI. Insurance and Risk Management Alderman Comein, Chairman
(Committee Meeting February 17, 2011 6:00 pm)**

Alderman Comein announced that a committee meeting is scheduled for February 17, 2011 at 6 pm.

**VII. Community and Park Activities Alderman Singleton, Chairman
(Committee Meeting TBA)**

Alderman Singleton announced that the All-Star Youth basketball weekend tournament is scheduled for the 2nd weekend in February.

**VIII. Contract Compliance Alderman Lee, Chairman
(Committee Meeting February 8, 2011 6:30 pm)**

No report

**IX. Special Committee - Schools & Education Alderman Williams,
Chairman
(Committee Meeting February 17, 2011 5:00 pm)**

A committee meeting is scheduled for February 17, 2011 at 5 pm.

7. Aldermen's Reports

Alderman Lockett wished everyone a happy and prosperous new year, offered congratulations to his son, Brandon, upon early graduation from high school, and stated that he was pleased and impressed with the efforts made by Chicago State University regarding placement of high school graduates and hoped to work with the local schools and Chicago State in this area.

Alderman Singleton announced that the Ward 1 Community Policing Meeting will be held February 9.

Alderman Martin offered congratulations to the Holiday House Decorating Contest winners.

Alderman Hutson announced that the NICA seminar will be held on February 26 from 10am to 12 pm. Additional information is available by contacting him at 307-2770.

Alderman Comein announced that the Boy Scouts of America will be celebrating their 101st anniversary this year.

Alderman Williams wished everyone happy holidays and encourage residents to participate in solutions for the challenges facing them.

Alderman Hutson moved to open the floor to the public. Second - Alderman Lockett.
Discussion - none. Motion Carried Via Voice Vote.

The following individuals addressed the Council:

Michael Williams, 4820 West 181st Street thanked the Council for their support of veterans programs and presented Mayor Welch with a certificate of appreciation.

Ralph Tolbert, 17750 Winston Drive thanked the Mayor and City Council for the efforts and measures the City is taking to address budget concerns and suggested further cuts be made.

Alderman Hutson moved to close the floor to the public. Second - Alderman Comein.
Discussion - none. Motion Carried Via Voice Vote.

Alderman Hutson reiterated information regarding the NICA program and explained that it provides information regarding home refinancing and rehabilitation.

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 7:50 pm.

Deborah M. McIlvain, City Clerk