

**CITY OF COUNTRY CLUB HILLS
REGULAR MEETING
OF THE CITY COUNCIL
May 23, 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.

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

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

Aldermen Comein, Singleton, Lockett, Martin, Ford, Burris, Edwards, Williams and Davis constituting a quorum of the City Council.

Absent were: Mayor Welch and Alderman Hutson.

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

Alderman Comein moved for the appointment of Alderman Ford as Mayor Pro Temp for this meeting in the absence of the Mayor. Second - Alderman Burris. Motion Carried Via Voice Vote.

3. **Journal of Proceedings:**

- A. **Approval of Minutes - Regular City Council Meeting - April 25, 2011**
- B. **Approval of Minutes - Regular City Council Meeting - May 9, 2011**
- C. **Approval of Minutes - Administrative Meeting - May 16, 2011**

Alderman Comein moved for Council approval of the minutes of the Regular City Council meeting of April 25, 2011, the Regular City Council Meeting of May 9, 2011 and the Administrative Meeting of May 16, 2011. Second - Alderman Martin. Discussion - none. Motion to approve the minutes of the Regular City Council Meeting of April 25, 2011, the Regular City Council Meeting of May 9, 2011 and the Administrative Meeting of May 16, 2011 Carried Via Voice Vote.

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

- A **Appointment of Alderman Committees**

Mayor Pro Temp Ford stated that Mayor Welch had a family matter to attend to and Alderman Hutson was attending his son's graduation from high school.

5. City Clerk's Report

No Report

6. Committee Reports

**I. Finance: Alderman Ford, Chairman
(Committee Meeting June 23, 2011 6:30 pm)**

A. Approval of Vouchers

Alderman Comein moved for Council approval of vouchers in the amount of \$871,088.04. Second - Alderman Martin. Discussion -Alderman Ford stated that vouchers had been available for review at the Finance Committee meeting. Alderman Lockett stated that vouchers should not be approved as there is no budget. Alderman Davis asked if the vouchers from the previous fiscal year could be separated from the current fiscal year's vouchers. Alderman Williams stated that he agreed with Alderman Lockett. Alderman Comein stated that the aldermen had already received their stipends and may have already cashed them. Alderman Burris stated that the current cash balance had not been available. Alderman Singleton stated that she agreed with Alderman Burris and that the aldermen should not have cashed their stipend checks.

ROLL CALL VOTE

For All Vouchers	2 Ayes:	Aldermen Comein and Ford
For Payroll Associated Vouchers Only	7 Ayes:	Aldermen Singleton, Lockett, Martin, Burris, Edwards, Williams and Davis.
	1 Absent:	Alderman Hutson

**Motion Failed to Approve non-Payroll Associated Vouchers
Motion Declared Carried to Approve Payroll Associated Vouchers and
Hereby Made a Part of the Original Journal of Proceedings this date.**

**II. Law, Ordinance and Government: Alderman Martin, Chairman
(Committee Meeting June 6, 2011 6:00 pm)**

Alderman Martin announced that a committee meeting will be held on June 6, 2011 at 6:00 pm with 2 items for discussion: an aldermanic theater committee and the issuance and use of badges.

**II. Public Works and Utilities
(Committee Meeting -1st Monday of month 6:30 pm)**

A. Approval of Rejection of Bids - Marycrest Lakes Phase1-A Storm Sewer Improvements

Alderman Comein moved for Council approval of the Rejection of Bids - Marycrest Lakes Phase 1-A Storm Sewer Improvements. Second - Alderman Martin. Discussion - none.

ROLL CALL VOTE 9 Ayes: Aldermen Comein, Singleton, Lockett,
Martin, Ford, Burris, Edwards, Williams, and
Davis.

0 Nays:

1 Absent: Alderman Hutson

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

**IV. Economic Development
(Committee Meeting 1st Wednesday of month 6:00 pm)**

A. Approval of Proclamation - May 20, 2011 as AMC/IMAX Day in Country Club Hills

Alderman Lockett moved for Council approval Proclaiming May 20, 2011 as AMC/IMAX Day in Country Club Hills. Second - Alderman Comein. Discussion - none. Motion Carried Via Voice Vote.

V. Planning, Zoning and Development Alderman Lockett Chairman

(Committee Meeting 2nd Tuesday of Month 7:00 pm)

Alderman Lockett announced that a committee meeting is scheduled for June 14, 2011 at 7:00 pm

**VI. Insurance and Risk Management Alderman Comein, Chairman
(Committee Meeting 2nd Thursday of month 6:00 pm)**

Alderman Comein announced that a committee meeting is scheduled for the 2nd Thursday of the month at 6:00 pm.

**VII. Community and Park Activities Alderman Singleton, Chairman
(Committee Meeting 1st Tuesday of the month 6:30 pm)**

A. Approval of Arbor Day Proclamation

Alderman Singleton moved for Council approval Proclaiming May 21, 2011 as Arbor Day in Country Club Hills. Second - Alderman Comein. Discussion - none. Motion Carried Via Voice Vote.

**VIII. Contract Compliance
(Committee Meeting TBA)**

No Report

IX. Special Committee - Schools & Education (Committee Meeting TBA)

No Report

Alderman Comein moved to table item 4A - Appointment of Aldermanic Committees. Motion failed for lack of Second.

7. Aldermen's Reports

Alderman Davis thanked residents of the 5th Ward for their support.

Alderman Lockett wished everyone a Happy Memorial Day and thanked residents for their attendance at this evening's meeting.

Alderman Singleton wished everyone a safe and happy holiday. She reminded everyone that the Community and Parks Activities Committee meets the 1st Tuesday of each month.

Alderman Martin stated that it was good to see residents' attendance and participation at the meeting and that elected officials are then held accountable. He welcomed the newly elected aldermen and reminded everyone that school will soon be out for the summer and to be watchful of children playing outside.

Alderman Comein announced that a Disaster Preparedness Seminar will be held for seniors on Wednesday. He stated that it is important for all families to have a disaster plan and meeting place in effect. He announced that the Farmer's Market will begin on Wednesday, June 1 from 3-8 pm at the theater pavilion. Family movies will be shown from 7 to 10pm and the Friends of the Grande Prairie Library will be in attendance. He also announced that the Memorial Day service will be held at City Hall on Monday, May 30 at 11:00 am. This year's event includes winning essays from students at Southwood Middle School.

Alderman Burris thanked the residents for their attendance at the meeting.

Alderman Williams asked to be recognized. Alderman Williams moved to authorize preparation of an ordinance amendment that the City Council by majority shall elect its own members to all City Council committees and appoint all chairmen of same committees. Second - Alderman Lockett. Discussion - none.

ROLL CALL VOTE	7 Ayes:	Aldermen Singleton, Lockett, Martin, Burris, Edwards, Williams, and Davis.
	2 Nays:	Aldermen Comein and Ford.
	1 Absent:	Alderman Hutson

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

Alderman Burris moved to authorize preparation of an ordinance amendment that the City Council by majority vote shall determine the order and content of the City Council meeting agenda and shall be able to amend the agenda for the City Council meetings. Second - Alderman Lockett. Discussion - none.

ROLL CALL VOTE	7 Ayes:	Aldermen Singleton, Lockett, Martin, Burris, Edwards, Williams, and Davis.
	2 Nays:	Aldermen Comein and Ford.
	1 Absent:	Alderman Hutson

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

Alderman Williams moved that the City Attorney be present at all City Council meetings. Second - Alderman Lockett. Discussion - none.

ROLL CALL VOTE 9 Ayes: Aldermen Comein, Singleton, Lockett, Martin, Ford, Burris, Edwards, Williams, and Davis.

0 Nays:

1 Absent: Alderman Hutson

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

Alderman Lockett moved to authorize preparation of an ordinance to reduce City spending authority without Council approval from \$25,000 to \$5,000. Second - Alderman Williams. Discussion - none.

ROLL CALL VOTE 7 Ayes: Aldermen Singleton, Lockett, Martin, Burris, Edwards, Williams, and Davis.

2 Nays: Aldermen Comein and Ford.

1 Absent: Alderman Hutson

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

Alderman Burris moved to authorize preparation of an ordinance amendment authorizing the elimination of Section 4.10.03 of the City of Country Club Hills Longevity Policy for all non-union full and part-time employees where upon the expiration of each union contract will eliminate section 4.10.03 of the City of Country Club Hills longevity policy for all union full and part-time City employees. Second - Alderman Williams. Discussion - none.

ROLL CALL VOTE 8 Ayes: Aldermen Singleton, Lockett, Martin, Ford, Burris, Edwards, Williams,

and Davis.

1 Nays: Alderman Comein.

1 Absent: Alderman Hutson

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

Alderman Burriss moved to authorize preparation of an ordinance amendment that the elected treasurer of the City of Country Club Hills shall be mandated as a required signer on all city bank accounts and all checks issued by the City of Country Club Hills and only if the Mayor is incapacitated should the City Clerk sign any checks issued by the City of Country Club Hills. In addition, all documents that financially obligate the City of Country Club Hills and/or divert city funds and/or tax dollars shall require the signature of the City Treasurer. Second - Alderman Williams. Discussion - none.

ROLL CALL VOTE 9 Ayes: Aldermen Comein, Singleton, Lockett, Martin, Ford, Burriss, Edwards, Williams, and Davis.

0 Nays:

1 Absent: Alderman Hutson

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

Alderman Burriss moved to authorize preparation of a policy and ordinance of the City of Country Club Hills with reference to the use of the City of Country Club Hills facilities (including but not limited to the City Hall building) that after each election of the Mayor, elected City Clerk, and Elected City Treasurer that each shall choose (in the above mentioned order) their respective personal office space and/or work area in the city hall building or other city facilities where they decide to perform their respective work. Second - Alderman Lockett. Discussion - none.

ROLL CALL VOTE 8 Ayes: Aldermen Singleton, Lockett, Martin, Ford, Burriss, Edwards, Williams, and Davis.

1 Nays: Alderman Comein.

1 Absent: Alderman Hutson

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

Alderman Lockett moved for Council approval of Steven Burris as Chairman of the Finance Committee and Aldermen Lockett and Williams as Committee members. Second - Alderman Williams. Discussion - none.

ROLL CALL VOTE 7 Ayes: Aldermen Singleton, Lockett,
Martin, Burris, Edwards, Williams, and
Davis.

2 Nays: Aldermen Comein and Ford.

1 Absent: Alderman Hutson

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

As Chairman of the Finance Committee, Alderman Burris requested that Finance Committee meetings be posted for 6:30 - 9 pm for May 26 and May 27, 2011 with the agenda item for both meetings being discussion of the FY 2011/2012 budget.

Alderman Edwards thanked the residents of Ward 1 for their support and stated that he was “humbled” by the opportunity to serve them. He stated that he has met with members of School District 144 and 160 and has a mentoring program for both young men and women. He requested a fair allocation of jobs for interns and an elimination of nepotism. He suggested that the aldermen approach the local businesses to seek employment for the City’s youth. He ended by reminding residents that they may call him with questions and concerns.

Alderman Williams thanked everyone for their support and gave the floor to Alderman Martin.

Alderman Martin moved to authorize preparation of an ordinance amendment to remove the Mayor from the position and responsibility of “Public Safety Director” and all authority assigned to the position. Second - Alderman Lockett. Discussion - none.

ROLL CALL VOTE 7 Ayes: Aldermen Singleton, Lockett,
Martin, Burris, Edwards, Williams, and

Davis.

2 Nays: Aldermen Comein and Ford.

1 Absent: Alderman Hutson

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

Alderman Martin announced that applications for interns ages 18 - 24 will be accepted and processed from 3-6 pm on the lower level of City Hall on Tuesday and Wednesday, May 24 and 25. He concluded by requesting the microphones on the dais be repaired.

Alderman Edwards requested clarification regarding the "Teen-opoly" program which was operated by the Park District. City Manager, Henrietta Turner explained that the City's liability insurance did not allow for anyone under the age of 18 to be employed. Alderman Ford stated that the youth mentoring program had assisted last year with applicants under the age of 18; however, sufficient funding for the program had been eliminated from the proposed budget.

Alderman Lockett inquired about the Put Illinois to Work Program and the POET program. It was also explained that anyone under the age of 16 requires a work permit.

Alderman Singleton moved to open the floor to the public. Second - Alderman Martin. Motion Carried Via Voice Vote.

The following individuals addressed the Council:

M. Michael Williams, 4820 West 181st Street addressed the Council and presented copies of documents regarding the Richton Park Chapter of the Disabled American Veterans. He stated that the National membership may be revoking the chapter's membership.

Duncan Guild, 4625 West 176th Street addressed the Council and asked that the Council reconsider the proposed spending cap, especially for emergency situations.

Michael Simmons, 18710 Maple, addressed the Council and inquired as to the process and calculation used for the property tax rebate.

Ralph Tolbert, 17750 Winston Drive, addressed the Council and stated he was proud of the aldermen and their actions. He stated that he feels there is a need for a better power balance and a reduction in spending,

Anthony Vaughn, 3851 West 178th Street, addressed the Council and stated that he was a parent volunteer at Hillcrest High School. He stated that the track team will be going downstate for competition and they are requesting financial assistance from the Council.

Alex Locker, 17867 Parkview, addressed the Council and requested clarification regarding the rejection of the Marycrest bids. He also requested that the City and schools work together as residents move here for the schools and the economic development.

Alderman Lockett explained that the property tax rebates will be bigger next year as the City reduces “wasteful” spending.

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

8. ADJOURNMENT:

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

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

Meeting adjourned at 8:13 pm.

Deborah M. McIlvain, City Clerk