

**CITY OF COUNTRY CLUB HILLS
REGULAR MEETING
OF THE CITY COUNCIL
February 25, 2019**

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 James W. Ford, Mayor.

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

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

Aldermen Lockett, Davis, Glispie, Evans and Spivey.

Also present were: City Clerk, Deborah McIlvain; City Treasurer Argie Johnson-Martin, and City Attorney John Murphey.

Judge Stuttley served as parliamentarian.

Tiffany Nelson-Jaworski served as legislative counsel.

3. **Journal of Proceedings**

- A. **Approval of Minutes -**

1. **Administrative Meeting - February 4, 2019**
 2. **Regular City Council Meeting - February 11, 2019**

Alderman Lockett moved for Council approval of the minutes of the Administrative Meeting of February 4, 2019 and the minutes of the Regular City Council Meeting of February 11, 2019. Second - Alderman Glispie. Discussion - none. Motion to approve the minutes of the Administrative Meeting of February 4, 2019 and the minutes of the Regular City Council Meeting of February 11, 2019 Carried Via Voice Vote.

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

- A. **Approval - Volunteer Commission Appointments**

1. **John Burgiest - ex officio 0 Public Access Cable Commission**
 2. **Debbie Griffin 0 Education Commission**
 3. **Gisela Grumbach - Senior Commission**
 4. **Angela Caffey-Barr - Youth Commission**

Alderman Lockett moved for Council approval of the appointment of Debbie Griffin to the Education Commission, Gisela Grumbach to the Senior Commission and Angela Caffey-Barr to the Youth Commission (John Burgiest was not present at the meeting) Second - Alderman Davis.

ROLL CALL VOTE 5 Ayes: Aldermen Lockett, Davis, Glispie, Spivey,
and Evans.

0 Nays

0 Absent:

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

Ms. Griffin, Ms. Grumbach and Ms. Caffey-Barr introduced themselves to the Council and explained that they were eager to volunteer on these various commissions.

5. City Collector's Report

City Collector, Deborah McIlvain, gave the collector report for the month ending January 31, 2019 citing revenues received and credited to various city funds.

6. City Clerk's Report

City Clerk, Deborah McIlvain announced that the City is accepting applications for summer camp counselors and summer camp supervisors. Applicants must be at least 19 years of age. Applications are available on the City's website.

Alderman Spivey moved to amend the agenda to open the floor to the public. Second - Alderman Glispie.

ROLL CALL VOTE 3 Ayes: Aldermen Lockett, Glispie, and Spivey.

2 Nays Alderman Davis and Evans.

0 Absent:

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

The following individuals addressed the Council:

- Ursula Anderson, Country Club Hills stated that her property taxes have increased each and every year since 2015. Mayor Ford stated that the Council has not raised

- the City's portion of the taxes in 6 years.
- Derrell Thomas, Country Club Hills, questioned the public portion of the meeting being moved to prior to the committee reports.
- Gino Williams, Country Club Hills, stated that he agreed in questioning the moving of the public portion of the meeting.
- A resident addressed the Council and questioned the number of possible home based businesses in the neighborhood including a semi truck and a possible cab company.
- James Craig, Country Club Hills, addressed the Council and stated that he wanted to comment on a mayoral candidate having missed 6 of 38 scheduled meetings in the past year, having voted against a number of vouchers and had several judgements of foreclosure (information he stated he obtained from the Cook County website).
- Gino Williams, Country Club Hills, stated that he was not in attendance during the most recent treasurers report and questioned the validity of voucher payout.

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

7.. Committee Reports

I. Finance: Alderman Lockett, Chairman (Committee Meeting March 7, 2019 12 pm)

A. Approval of Vouchers - February 25, 2019

Alderman Lockett moved for Council approval of vouchers in the amount of \$982,719.90.
Second - Alderman GLispie. Discussion - none.

ROLL CALL VOTE 5 Ayes: Aldermen Lockett, Davis, Glispie, Evans
and Spivey.

Aldermen Davis and Evans stated that their "yes" vote was contingent upon fund availability. The Finance supervisor had indicated that funds should be available no later than mid-March. Alderman Davis also noted that the current bank balance was approximately \$454,000.

0 Nays

0 Absent:

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

B. Approval - An Ordinance Authorizing the Disposition of Surplus Personal

Property

Alderman Lockett moved for Council approval of Ordinance No O-02-19, an Ordinance Authorizing the Disposition of Surplus Personal Property. Second - Alderman Glispie. Discussion - It was explained that this was a housekeeping item regarding surplus E-COMM equipment.

ROLL CALL VOTE 5 Ayes: Aldermen Lockett, Davis, Glispie, Spivey, and Evans.

0 Nays

0 Absent:

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

Alderman Lockett reminded everyone that a Finance Committee meeting is scheduled for March 7, 2019 at 12 pm.

**II. Law, Ordinance, Government Operations & Alderman Glispie, Chairman
Contract Compliance (Committee Meeting TBA)**

No Report

**III. Public Works and Utilities Alderman Davis, Chairman
(Committee Meeting TBA)**

No Report

**IV. Economic Development, Planning, Zoning & Economic Development
Alderman Spivey, Chairman (TBA)**

Alderman SPivey reminded everyone that a Shred Day is scheduled for April 5 from 9 am to 12 pm at the pavilion and an additional shred day will be scheduled in July.

**V. Insurance, Risk Management & Personnel Alderman Evans, Chairman
(Committee Meeting TBA)**

No Report

7. Aldermen's Reports

- ◆ Alderman Davis congratulated the newly-appointed volunteer commissioners. He stated that the City has not raised the tax levy in several years; however, increases may be the

result of other taxing bodies raising their levy. He stated that he felt changing the agenda order regarding the public portion of the meeting was an attempt to confuse the public, that attendees are encouraged to record the meetings, that the City can check on home based businesses. He concluded by thanking Alderman Evans for expressing her opinions and providing support.

- ◆ Alderman Lockett announced the passing of George Carter.
- ◆ Alderman Glispie thanked the newly appointed volunteers and stated that he is looking forward to working with them.
- ◆ Alderman Evans explained that different taxing bodies' portion of the collected property taxes, stated that opening the floor to the public at the beginning of the meeting was a mistake made by the administration, stated that it has been "silly season" for 4 years, that a loan of City funds had been made to a city employee, that there are not sufficient funds in the City's bank accounts, that there are gross errors in the City's payroll and payroll system, that there are too many "super-users" in the payroll system, that the Mayor is responsible for a 16 million dollar verdict and that the City considered hiring a registered felon to work at the CRC. She stated that home based businesses can be verified by City staff and that the City will be financially "ok" when the property tax money is received; however, the shortages will continue to occur. She encouraged residents to file Freedom of Information requests.
- ◆ Alderman Spivey announced that a 4th Ward meeting will be held on Wednesday at 7 pm. He stated that he agreed with statements regarding property taxes made by his fellow aldermen.

Mayor Ford stated that may remarks made were not completely true. He stated that an 80 million dollar project with Logistics is underway with a groundbreaking to be held soon. He stated that as of March 1, 2019 he was proposing that elected officials that not attend meetings not be paid for time not in attendance. The treasurer asked to be recognized. Mayor Ford did not recognize the treasurer's desire to speak. Alderman Davis moved for Council approval to allow the Treasurer to speak. Second - Alderman Evans. Mayor Ford continued by requesting that proof of mismanagement of funds be provided, that the former Mayor is telling residents that the City is bankrupt, that the employee was not given a loan, that we need to be respectful of one another and provide solutions, not criticisms. Heated discussion ensued with Alderman Evans moving to override the Mayor's decision to not allow the Treasurer to speak

ROLL CALL VOTE 5 Ayes: Aldermen Lockett, Davis, Glispie, Spivey, and Evans.

0 Nays

0 Absent:

Motion Declared Carried and Hereby Made a Part of the Original Journal of

proceedings this date.

Treasurer Johnson-Martin requested clarification as to which meetings the treasurer was required to attend as she stated that she cannot attend meeting of which she does not receive proper notification. Mayor Ford stated those meetings would be the regular City Council meetings, Finance committee meetings and pension Board meetings

Attorney Nelson-Jaworski asked to be recognized. Alderman Evans moved that Attorney Nelson-Jaworski be recognized. Second - Alderman Davis.

ROLL CALL VOTE 5 Ayes: Aldermen Lockett, Davis, Glispie, Spivey,
and Evans.

0 Nays

0 Absent:

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

Ms. Nelson-Jaworski stated that Mayor's proposed executive order regarding Council meeting attendance and payment withheld for non-attendance was a violation of state statute regarding the compensation of elected officials.

Mayor Ford stated that it was not a change in salaries if it involved the stipend payment for chairing committee meetings. Alderman Evans thanked the attorney for her comments and stated that she felt the Mayor often changed processes.

9 Adjournment

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

Meeting adjourned at 8:16 pm.

Respectfully submitted
Deborah M. McIlvain, City Clerk