



REGULAR CITY COUNCIL MEETING MINUTES

4200 W 183rd St. Country Club Hills, IL 60478

Monday, July 13, 2020 at 7:00 PM

1. A regular meeting of the City Council, City of Country Club Hills, Cook County, State of Illinois, was held in the City Hall, 4200 W. 183rd Street at 7:05p.m. The meeting was called to order by the Honorable James. W. Ford, Mayor. Due to COVID-19 public health emergency, this meeting is available remotely for elected officials via tele-conference per Governor J.B. Pritzker's Executive Order 2020.070 issued March 16, 2020.

- 1a. Pledge of Allegiance was presented

2. **ROLL CALL – PATRICIA D. HUTSON, CITY CLERK**

Those on Roll Call answering present were:

Alderman Lockett (on-site), Alderman Glispie (on-site), Alderman Davis (tele-conference), Alderman Spivey (on-site), Mayor James W. Ford (on-site). Also present were: City Clerk Patricia D. Hutson (on-site), Attorney John Murphey, (on-site), Director of Public Works, Jerry Townsend (tele-conference), Dr. Eric Booker-Invocaton (tele-conference).

3. **INVOCATION – CLERGY OR DESIGNEE**

Invocation was presented by Dr. Eric Booker of Greater Tabernacle Cathedral Church of God in Christ, 11300 S. Dr. Martin Luther King Drive, Chicago, IL

4. **JOURNAL PROCEEDINGS**

Alderman Lockett moved for City Council approval of minutes of the Regular City Council Meeting 06.22.2020, the Special City Council Meeting Minutes 06.25.2020 and the Special Administrative Meeting Minutes 07.09.2020. Second by Alderman Glispie. Discussion-none.

ROLL CALL VOTE:

4 Ayes: Aldermen Lockett, Davis, Glispie and Spivey

0 Nays:

0 Abstain:

1 Absent: Alderwoman Evans

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

5. COMMUNICATIONS AND REPORTS BY MAYOR FORD:

Mayor Ford shared the city is still fighting the virus and is still asking everyone to be safe, continue to practice social distancing, hand washing and wear facial covering. Mayor then shared that Illinois is looking better than so many other states. Mayor shared if you are traveling to Florida, Arizona, Georgia and Texas via flight through Chicago's airports you are required by Illinois and the City of Chicago to self-quarantine for 14 days upon your return. The numbers in Country Club Hills upon last check are over 30 residents who have succumbed to the virus.

A. Approval – Ordinance Declaring Salary Range and Related Limitations for Positions in the City of Country Club Hills

Mayor Ford presented shared a copy of the ordinance and the salary report with 46 employees people who earn over \$100,000 highlighted. Mayor shared for 5 years he has been pushing for a salary range and without a salary range in place the salaries will continue to increase. Mayor shared we have to protect the tax payers from these high salaries. Mayor shared the city cannot financially support these continued increases. Mayor shared he is asking the City Council to act on this item. Mayor shared as the city moved forward after COVID-19 there will be a major shift in financing in terms of the amount of revenue the city will receive. Mayor shared on March 1 the tax revenue received is 30% less than taxes received last year as of March 1st. Therefore less people are paying taxes and with the second installment which is normally due in August and is now due October or November. We are watching our dollars to maintain services to residents. This salary range will bring us in line with other municipalities in the southland. Mayor shared years ago under the previous administration a land developer was going to bring an outlet mall to the city. The administration anticipated greater revenues and hiked the salaries of the first responders to attract more officers. As we know the mall never came and we are still stuck with the high salaries. Mayor asked for a motion. Second by Alderman Glispie. Discussion- none

Alderman Lockett moved for City Council approval of Ordinance #O.3.20 declaring Salary Ranges and Related Limitations for Positions in the City of Country Club Hills. Second by Alderman Glispie. Discussion - None

ROLL CALL VOTE:

4 Ayes: Aldermen Lockett, Davis, Glispie and Spivey

0 Nays:

0 Abstain:

1 Absent: Alderwoman Evans

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

B. Approval – Intergovernmental Contract and By-Laws with South Suburban Land Bank & Development Authority 2020

Alderman Lockett moved for City Council approval Intergovernmental Contract and By-Laws with the South Suburban Land Bank & Development Authority 2020. Second by Alderman Glispie. Discussion – None.

Mayor Ford shared there are three properties he would like the Land Bank to look at one is 4100 W .183rd St, 18343 Cicero and 176th Pulaski (the old medical building). The Land Bank has demolition funding for properties beyond repair. Mayor Ford then shared that Hazel Crest purchased their new village hall through the Land Bank for \$300,000. Mayor Ford shared with help from the Land Bank he hopes to do something with vacant building properties in Country Club Hills.

ROLL CALL VOTE:

4 Ayes: Aldermen Lockett, Davis, Glispie and Spivey

0 Nays:

0 Abstain:

1 Absent: Alderwoman Evans

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

C. Approval - To Appoint A Local Government Director to the South Suburban Land Bank and Development Authority.

Mayor Ford shared the Land Bank is asking for a representative from Country Club Hills to sit on the Board of Directors and the representative will be able to share the actions of the Board. Alderman Davis has been selected and accepted to volunteer as the designee.

Alderman Lockett moved for City Council approval Intergovernmental Contract and By-Laws with the South Suburban Land Bank & Development Authority 2020. Statement: Alderman Lockett requested consideration as the alternate in Alderman Davis' absence for the South Suburban Land Bank meetings. Per Mayor Ford, Alderman Davis will be listed as the primary and Alderman Lockett will be listed as the alternate. Second by Alderman Glispie.

Discussion – Alderman Spivey under the Land Banking Housing Committee which committee is heading this item. Mayor Ford shared this is placed under the Housing Committee and Housing has a Chair and Co-Chair.

ROLL CALL VOTE:

4 Ayes: Aldermen Lockett, Davis, Glispie and Spivey

0 Nays:

0 Abstain:

1 Absent: Alderwoman Evans

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

6. CITY CLERK'S REPORT – PATRICIA D. HUTSON, CITY CLERK

City Clerk Patricia D. Hutson shared the mail-in voting ballots for the Presidential election are available on-line at Cookcountyclerk.com and the front counter of City Hall. Clerk Hutson also shared she has delivered 200 applications to the Victory Center and 100 to Windsor Estates. Alderman Spivey inquired as to whether we have voter registration forms and Clerk Hutson replied yes at the front counter and residents can mail them in on their own.

7. CITY COLLECTOR'S REPORT – PATRICIA D. HUTSON, CITY COLLECTOR

A. Collector's Report May 2020 – Clerk Hutson shared the reports are in the Aldermen's packets and the total of all funds collected as of May 31st was \$1,304,550.56

8. CITY TREASURER'S REPORT – DEBORAH M. MCILVAIN, CITY TREASURER

A. Treasurer's Report May 2020 – Clerk Hutson shared the report is in the Aldermen's packets and the total expenses for May 31st was \$1,123,618.83

Mayor Ford asked for a moment of prayer for retired Deputy Fire Chief Jim Sheilds and longtime resident, School Board #160 member and dedicated resident Barbara Oliver, who recently passed away. Mayor Ford then asked for a moment of prayer and get well wishes for retired Building Inspector, former Veterans Commissioner and longtime resident Ernest Powell. Mayor asked that we keep all of these families lifted up in prayer.

9. COMMITTEE REPORTS:

Finance Committee – Alderman Lockett, Chairman
(Committee Meeting – Thursday July 23, 2020 12:00pm)

A. Approval - Vouchers 07.13.2020

Alderman Lockett moved for City Council approval for Voucher 07.13.2020 in the amount of \$769,346.96. Second by Alderman Glispie.

Discussion – Alderman Lockett shared as these vouchers are approved the payments will be made as monies are available. The city will pay all vital payments first.

ROLL CALL VOTE:

4 Ayes: Aldermen Lockett, Davis, Glispie and Spivey

0 Nays:

0 Abstain:

1 Absent: Alderwoman Evans

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

B. Approval - Southland Water Agency Water Supply Contract

Alderman Lockett moved to table the Southland Water Agency (SWA) Water Supply Contract per recommendation memo from Attorney John Murphey. Alderman Lockett shared although he asked several questions during the meeting with the SWA representatives there are still a lot of detailed unanswered questions to be addressed. Alderman Lockett shared that Attorney Murphey will meet with Oak Lawn to see if our contract can be extended without penalties and if SWA's water supply will be ready to meet the needs of the city. Second by Alderman Davis.

Discussion – Attorney Murphey shared if the tabled motion passes he will speak with Oak Lawn to make sure all is well. The decision to accept the contract is a policy decision and probably the most important decision to be made by the Aldermen. This is a 50 year contract and it is a venture with uncertain time tables. The last estimate he has observed was water delivery in 2029 on a \$600 million dollar bond issue, acquisition of real estate, acquisition of property and laying pipes. Attorney Murphey's concern is whoever recalls a large scale public works project that came in on on time and under budget. Please raise your hand. More importantly the city has a supply contract with Oak Lawn and that contract ends in 2024. At this time there is a 5 to 7 year gap from when the city ends its contract with Oak Lawn and when we reasonably expect SWA to be prepared to provide water to our residents. It's a long period of time and we cannot risk any jeopardy to our water supply. Alderman Glispie inquired as to how this will impact the original timeline given by SWA. Attorney Murphey shared that Hazel Crest voted down the contract. Alderman Davis shared the city previously contracted with a similar project and deposited \$10,000 and nothing materialized from that.

ROLL CALL VOTE:

4 Ayes: Aldermen Lockett, Davis, Glispie and Spivey

0 Nays:

0 Abstain:

1 Absent: Alderwoman Evans

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

Per recommendation from Attorney John Murphey we will combine items C and D.

- C. Approval - Motion to terminate the Billing Services Agreement between the City and Medical Reimbursement Services, in accordance with Section 8(d).**
- D. Approval - Billing Services Agreement between Country Club Hills and Andres Medical Billing, Ltd.**

Alderman Lockett moved for City Council approval to terminate the Billing Services Agreement between the City and Medical Reimbursement Services, in accordance with Section 8(d) and approval to enter the Billing Services Agreement between Country Club Hills and Andres Medical Billing, Ltd. Second by Alderman Davis.

Discussion – Alderman Lockett inquired as to confirmation that city is providing a 60 day notice of termination to MRS regarding the termination of their contract. Attorney Murphey confirmed the notice of termination and the new contract with Andres billing. Alderman Davis asked Alderman Lockett to elaborate on the advantages of Andres over MRS billing. Alderman Lockett shared Andres will provide better a larger portion of the collections made, this a larger company with more modern technology and they can turn the invoices around a lot quicker.

ROLL CALL VOTE:

4 Ayes: Aldermen Lockett, Davis, Glispie and Spivey

0 Nays:

0 Abstain:

1 Absent: Alderwoman Evans

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

E. Approval - Intergovernmental Agreement between Country Club Hills and The Illinois Department of Healthcare and Family Services 2020

Alderman Lockett shared this agreement will help the city collect more monies for medical billing of low income residents via the Federal Government and the State of Illinois. Second by Alderman Spivey. Discussion – None

ROLL CALL VOTE:

4 Ayes: Aldermen Lockett, Davis, Glispie and Spivey

0 Nays:

0 Abstain:

1 Absent: Alderwoman Evans

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

Law, Ordinance, Government Operations & Contract – Alderman Glispie, Chairman
(Committee Meeting – TBA)

A. Approval - An Ordinance Declaring Certain City Owned Equipment Surplus and Authorizing Its Disposition

Alderman Glispie moved for City Council Approval of Ordinance #O.4.20 Declaring Certain City Owned Equipment Surplus and Authorizing Its Disposition. Second by Alderman Lockett.

Discussion – Alderman Lockett shared this a housekeeping item for vehicles that are non-repairable. Alderman Lockett shared the auction will cost money and disposal or donations are our best option. Alderman Glispie asked for confirmation on how the city will dispose of the vehicles per Director Brown. Mayor Ford and Alderman Lockett confirmed the Director Brown will review all options and share the procedures with the City Council. Alderman Davis shared we are also paying insurance on these vehicles.

ROLL CALL VOTE:

4 Ayes: Aldermen Lockett, Davis, Glispie and Spivey

0 Nays:

0 Abstain:

1 Absent: Alderwoman Evans

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

Public Works and Utilities – Alderman Davis, Chairman (Committee Meeting – TBA)
No Report

Economic Development & Planning, Zoning & Development – Alderman Spivey, Chairman
(Committee Meeting – TBA)

Alderman Spivey announced the date of the EDC Shred Day 2020 is Sunday July 26th 9:00am to 12:00pm in the Theater parking lot. Social Distancing and face masks are required.

Insurance, Risk Management, and Personnel – Alderwoman Evans, Chairman
(Committee Meeting – TBA)

No Report per Alderman Lockett

10. MOTION TO OPEN THE FLOOR TO THE PUBLIC

Alderman Lockett moved for City Council approval to open the floor to the public. Second by Alderman Glispie. Discussion – None.

ROLL CALL VOTE:

4 Ayes: Aldermen Lockett, Davis, Glispie and Spivey

0 Nays:

0 Abstain:

1 Absent: Alderwoman Evans

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

11. PUBLIC PORTION OF MEETING

Leora Bell, resident shared it was mentioned that the salary ranges are put in place to make sure the salaries are more in line with surrounding municipalities. The last time she shared draft information aldermanic regarding salaries Country Club Hills and Harvey were out of alignment for this area. She then asked the alderman please consider lower their salaries.

Jennie Betton, resident shared her commendations to the Mayor, City Council and his administrative team for the wonderful job they have done during the COVID-19 pandemic. The letters and manner of professionalism made her proud to be a resident.

12. MOTION TO CLOSE FLOOR TO THE PUBLIC

Alderman Lockett moved for City Council approval to close the floor to the public. Second by Alderman Glispie. Discussion – None.

ROLL CALL VOTE:

4 Ayes: Aldermen Lockett, Davis, Glispie and Spivey

0 Nays:

0 Abstain:

1 Absent: Alderwoman Evans

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

13. ALDERMANIC REPORTS

Alderman Spivey No Report

Alderman Glispie shared his concerns from resident regarding fireworks. He would like to see the fireworks stop.

Alderman Lockett reminded everyone to complete Census 2020 for funding and COVID-19 is still here. He asked everyone to practice social distancing, wash your hands, wear a mask and be safe..

Alderman Davis shared an email from a resident but first he commended the Mayor and Police, Fire, Building and Public Works on their response to a fire in the 5th ward. Alderman Davis had an opportunity to observe all departments collectively and he appreciated their professionalism and commends all of them. Alderman Davis then shared the email from the resident. He started off with "What makes a perfect neighborhood is the community of people coming together and loving thy neighbor. On this day it was an eye opening experience about how wonderful Country Club Hills really is. The resident recently observed their child playing basketball with his neighborhood friends. What happened next warmed their heart and brought tears to their eyes. The Country Club Hills Fire Department stopped at the house along with the postman to play a quick game of basketball with the boys. This makes our neighborhood perfect. The pride respect and support our community has for one another. Those firemen and postal worker has no idea what that moment meant for those boys. The boys will always remember and brag about that moment. Thank you to the (2) firemen from the Country Club Hills Fire Department. Alderman Davis recommended the (2) firemen be recognized during the next City Council Meeting. Mayor Ford and Alderman Davis agreed on the acknowledgement.

14. ADJOURNMENT

Alderman Lockett moved for adjournment. Second by Alderman Davis. Discussion – None

ROLL CALL VOTE:

4 Ayes: Aldermen Lockett, Davis, Glispie and Spivey

0 Nays:

0 Abstain:

1 Absent: Alderwoman Evans

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

Respectfully submitted,



Patricia D. Hutson, City Clerk