



REGULAR CITY COUNCIL MEETING MINUTES

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

Monday, July 12, 2021 at 7:00 PM

Pursuant to Governor Pritzker's ongoing Executive Orders Covid-19 Masks and Social Distancing are required for this in-person meeting. Also, be advised seating is limited and building capacity orders will be followed and enforced.

1. CALL TO ORDER – JAMES W. FORD, MAYOR

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 7:03p.m. The meeting was called to order by the Honorable James W. Ford, Mayor.

1a. PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE

The Pledge of allegiance was presented by all in attendance.

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

Those on Roll Call answering present were:

Alderman Lockett, Alderman Spivey, Alderman Edwards, Mayor Ford. Also present was City Administrator Carl Estelle

Excused as absent – Alderman Davis

3. INVOCATION – CLERGY OR DESIGNEE

Invocation was not presented at this meeting.

4. JOURNAL PROCEEDINGS

Approval of Meeting Minutes:

- A. Approval - Regular City Council Meeting Minutes 06.28.2021

Alderman Lockett moved for City Council approval of Regular Meeting Minutes 06.28.2021.
Second, Alderwoman Evans. Discussion – None.

ROLL CALL VOTE: 4 Ayes: Alderman Lockett, Evans, Spivey and Edwards

0 Nays:

0 Abstain:

1 Absent: Alderman Davis

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 his concern about the ongoing use of illegal fireworks throughout the city. Mayor Ford also shared he has received numerous calls regarding the construction site for the CUBES project at 183rd St. near Lavergne. Mayor shared the old Girl Scout building will be demolished as a part of this project and there were numerous meeting held last year with the Zoning Board and public hearings.

**6. CITY CLERK'S REPORT – PATRICIA D. HUTSON, CITY CLERK
City Clerk Patricia D. Hutson read the following statement.**

Please let the records reflect that per the meeting minutes from 06.28.2021 during the discussion of the approval of the 06.21.2021 meeting minutes Alderman Edwards shared his concerns regarding a statement made by Alderman Lockett. After various discussions I agreed to remove the statement. After reviewing I called Alderman Edwards the next day on June 29th to share although the validity of the statement may be in question the statement itself will remain a part of the meeting minutes as it was made during the meeting and is a part of the meeting records. Clerk Hutson then shared a flyer for an upcoming SD#160 Job Fair July 22nd 8am -2pm at Southwood Jr. High 18635 Lee Street.

7. COMMITTEE REPORTS:

**Finance, Insurance and Risk Management Committee – Alderman Lockett, Chairman
(Committee Meeting – TBA)**

A. Approval - Vouchers 07.12.2021

Alderman Lockett moved for City Council approval of Vouchers in the amount of \$833,086.47 07.12.2021. Vouchers to be issued when monies are available. Second, Alderwoman Evans. Discussion – None.

ROLL CALL VOTE: 4 Ayes: Alderman Lockett, Evans, Spivey and Edwards

0 Nays:

0 Abstain:

1 Absent: Alderman Davis

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

Law, Ordinance, Government Operations & Contract – Alderwoman Evans, Chairman
(Committee Meeting – TBA)

Alderwoman Evans shared her meeting is a TBA fireworks will be the next topic of discussion.

Public Works and Utilities – Alderman Davis, Chairman
(Committee Meeting – TBA)

No report per Alderman Lockett.

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

Alderman Spivey shared there is an ongoing project near 183rd off Cicero and the Girl Scout building will be demolished as a part of the project.

Education and Parks & Recs – Alderman Edwards, Chairman
(Committee Meeting – TBA)

Alderman Edwards shared he is still awaiting clarification on the roles and responsibilities of the Parks and Recs Committee for the 3rd time. Alderman Edwards shared he has spoken with SD#160 and SD#144 board members and he cannot move forward with a meeting because of lack of a quorum. Alderman Edwards shared he would like the other members of his committee to participate when he sets meeting dates. Alderman Spivey responded Alderman Edwards only scheduled one meeting. There was ongoing conversation between Alderman Edwards and Alderman Spivey and Alderman Edwards will schedule another meeting and work with Alderman Spivey to coordinate a time. Mayor

Ford shared as a reminder that due to his work schedule that Alderman Davis is unavailable for the month of July.

8. 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 Evans. Discussion – none.

ROLL CALL VOTE: 4 Ayes: Alderman Lockett, Evans, Spivey and Edwards

0 Nays:

0 Abstain:

1 Absent: Alderman Davis

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

9. PUBLIC PORTION OF MEETING

Barbara Smith, resident, asked what was being developed on 183rd? Alderman Spivey shared it is a warehouse and logistics development. Ms. Smith shared there have been recent incidents and asked how were the residents informed? Mayor shared residents are informed with the reverse 911 phone system and the city will work on a better system. Alderwoman Evans shared the police department participates and shares information through the Ring Neighborhood app and having the Ring system is not a requirement. Mayor shared the city is working on removing those who are not obeying the laws which are being enforced by the police department.

James Franklin, resident, shared he has been a resident for 30 years and it was nice when he first moved her but now it has gotten pretty rough. He shared he has a lot invested in his home. He thanked Ald. Edwards for inviting him. He also shared a lot of residents think when they vote that they are voting for elected officials that will do the right thing but that is not always true. He shared he would like everyone to work together and do what's best for the community.

Kim Maddox, resident, shared she could not hear what anyone of the diocese was saying and everyone needs to speak into their mic. Ms. Maddox asked what is going on with the water department because she continues to receive inaccurate bills. Mayor Ford asked Ms. Maddox for her bill. Ms. Maddox shared she did not bring it with her but it reflected no consumption and she knows she used water last month. Alderman Lockett shared she may not have used enough to generate a bill and a minimum bill may have been issued. Mayor Ford asked Ms. Maddox to bring her bill in Thursday to discuss it with the water department supervisor.

Jackie Hollis, resident, shared she understands everyone is coming out of the pandemic but the drag racing on School Dr is outrageous and she asked that something be done about the renters. Ms. Hollis shared there have been some strange things going on lately. She shared maybe the city needs more CSO's and police officers. Mayor Ford shared the city needs citizens to assist the police and it is pretty rough everywhere.

Louis B. Smith Jr., resident, shared he lives at 17801 Sarah and we need to love each other a little more. Ms. Smith shared disagreements should be handled behind closed doors. Mr. Smith shared his driveway apron is in need of repair and suggested to get license plates from the cars speeding up and down the streets. Ms. Smith also shared delivery trucks such as Fed-Ex are speeding too and everyone needs to slow down. Mayor Ford shared yes we are coming out of the pandemic and the world is a crazy place. Mayor shared again, we need the help of out citizens.

Barbara Smith, resident, shared during the last meeting speed bumps were discussed. Mayor Ford shared there are two in place and he had to borrow those from another municipality. Mayor shared he will see if he can borrow more speed bumps. Alderman Spivey asked if these were temporary speed bumps and Mayor shared yes.

10. MOTION TO CLOSE FLOOR TO THE PUBLIC

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

ROLL CALL VOTE: 4 Ayes: Alderman Lockett, Evans, Spivey and Edwards

0 Nays:

0 Abstain:

1 Absent: Alderman Davis

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

11. ALDERMANIC REPORTS

Alderman Lockett thanked residents for coming out during the 4th of July celebration. Alderman Lockett shared he thought everyone seemed to enjoy fireworks and the entertainment for the event.

Alderwoman Evans shared fireworks will be the agenda for her next committee meeting. She shared there were fireworks before, during and after the 4th of July. Alderwoman Evans addressed the CUBES by sharing residents were accustomed to the tree lined area and this project started a couple of years ago and she will try and get a layout for the project. Residents can use the text notification system to get updated with what is going on with the city. Ald. Evans shared the city website has updated information. Ald. Evans shared she loves getting calls, texts and emails from her residents. She shared residents should have a first line contact with their aldermen. Ald. Evans shared she has addressed inoperable vehicles, broken and boarded up windows, seniors with no money and other issues. Ald. Evans shared Mayor Ford addressed the renters by placing a moratorium on renters. She shared although it may have been seen as discriminatory it was needed as developers were purchasing property at a low cost while receiving income money from state, county and the federal government. She shared the city needed to limit the amount of renters in town. She shared the city is working with landlord to make sure they are taking care of their properties. Ald. Evans shared residents should text their concerns to their alderman. Ald. Evans shared the city is working with limited staff and during the summer months the city is faced with additional shortage as staff may be on vacation. Ald. Evans asked for patience on service requests while staff is doing the best they can at this time. Ald. Evans also shared tarps on cars and roofs along with tall are all against city ordinances.

Alderman Spivey shared there is a 4th Ward meeting July 15th at 7pm at the Fire Station on 175th St. Ald. Spivey shared he thought the 4th of July event went well and thanked the Mayor and staff for a great show. Ald. Spivey shared the fireworks after the fireworks was something else. Ald. Spivey thanked the police department for their responses to all of the fireworks calls.

Alderwoman Evans shared anyone can participate in Ald. Spivey's 4th Ward meeting July 15th. Ald. Evans shared there will be a representative from the Police Department and residents can feel free to attend any alderman's meeting to address their concerns.

Alderman Edwards shared he rode through the 1st Ward and asked residents to put their trash in the cans and put their trash cans away. Alderman Edward shared he received an email about an event June 24th and he had no information. Mayor Ford shared he does not know who the acts are himself. Mayor shared the promoters decide who the acts will be and set up their own marketing and advertising for the events. Mayor Ford shared the city cannot afford to spend money on entertainment after laying off 47 employees. Alderman Edwards shared he heard something on the radio about an event in Country Club Hills and he had no knowledge. Alderman Edwards asked if the aldermen are allowed to see the final contract. Mayor shared yes, you can see the contract. Alderman Edward asked the amount of money the city stands to make from the rental. Mayor Ford shared the cost can range from \$10,000 to \$20,000. Alderman Edwards stated, he is an elected official and he should know this information. Alderman Edwards shared tree cutting, potholes, street repairs are concerns in his ward that need to be addressed. Mayor Ford shared that Alderman Edwards has the ability to discuss these matters before bringing these concerns to the city council meetings. Alderman Edwards shared he would like to hold his committee meeting July 19th at 6:25pm. Mayor Ford shared committee meeting dates are shared during admin meetings and the next meeting in July 19th.

12. **ADJOURNMENT**

Alderman Lockett moved for adjournment. Second, Alderman Spivey. Discussion – none.

ROLL CALL VOTE: 4 Ayes: Alderman Lockett, Evans, Spivey and Edwards

0 Nays:

0 Abstain:

1 Absent: Alderman Davis

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

The Meeting adjourned at 7:55pm

Respectfully submitted,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "Patricia D. Hutson". The signature is fluid and cursive, with a long horizontal stroke extending to the right.

Patricia D. Hutson, City Clerk