



REGULAR CITY COUNCIL MEETING MINUTES

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

Monday, January 10, 2022 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 masks are required, 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 7:08p.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, Alderwoman Evans, Alderman Edwards, Mayor Ford. Also present were City Treasurer, Deborah McIlvain, City Administrator Carl Estelle and the Administrative Team.

Excused as Absent – Alderman Davis and Alderman Spivey

3. INVOCATION – CLERGY OR DESIGNEE

Invocation was presented by Pastor Anthony Tiller of Jeremiah Temple Church International Nationwide Ministries of Country Club Hills.

4. JOURNAL PROCEEDINGS

Approval of Meeting Minutes:

A. Approval - Administrative Meeting Minutes 12.06.2021

Alderman Lockett moved for City Council approval of the 12.06.2021 Administrative Meeting Minutes. Second, Alderwoman Evans. Discussion – None.

ROLL CALL VOTE: Ayes: 3 Alderman Lockett, Evans and Edwards

Nays: 0

Abstains: 0

Absent: 2 Alderman Davis and Alderman Spivey

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

B. Approval - Regular City Council Meeting Minutes 12.13.2021

Alderman Lockett moved for City Council approval of the 12.13.2021 Regular Meeting Minutes. Second, Alderwoman Evans. Discussion – None.

ROLL CALL VOTE: Ayes: 3 Alderman Lockett, Evans and Edwards

Nays: 0

Abstains: 0

Absent: 2 Alderman Davis and Alderman Spivey

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 welcomed everyone in attendance. Mayor Ford thanked the Fire Department for their great work over the weekend as well as Public Works for their great work during the recent snow and freezing ice events. He also asked both departments to keep up the good work. Mayor Ford then shared when you enter public locations, as many have experienced tonight, you must have your temperature taken and show your vaccination card. He shared over the weekend he went to several places and in Chicago and Cook County these were requirements and we are following the rules per the State of Illinois.

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

Clerk Hutson wished everyone a Happy New Year and welcomed everyone to the first Regular Meeting of the City Council for year 2022. Clerk Hutson then shared COVID-19 is still here and thanked everyone for their cooperation with wearing masks and social distancing. Clerk Hutson shared the 2022 City Council and Committee meeting schedules, summer schedules and Homewood Disposal schedules are on the information table and on the city website. Clerk Hutson then shared as yesterday was National Law Enforcement Day we thank our very own Country Club Hills Police Department for their ongoing efforts in keeping our community safe. Clerk Hutson shared there are employment opportunities on the website (www.countryclubhills.org) for a Meter Reader and Finance Administrator. Clerk Hutson also shared there will be a ZBA – Zoning Board of Appeals meeting Tuesday January 11th at 4:30pm regarding an Annexation and Zoning request and all documents are posted in the lobby. Clerk Hutson then shared City Hall will be closed Monday January 17th in observance of Rev. Dr. Martin Luther King Jr.'s Birthday Day. Clerk Hutson also shared the 2020 Property Tax Rebate applications are being accepted through February 28th in the lower level of city hall with the Building Department. She asked that everyone have the required documents as well. Lastly, Clerk Hutson shared SD#60 will hold a Community Forum Thursday at Southwood from 6:00 to 7:00pm.

Mayor Ford then shared the Small Business Grant deadline was December 31st 2021 and there were 23 applicants and the city will work on those applications for the next couple of months by sitting down to decide how much will go to the businesses. Mayor Ford also asked everyone to look at the job posting because several of them have been out there for a long time. It has been very difficult to get people to work and if you know anyone who is interested please let me know about the positions available.

Alderman Edwards asked to be recognized and inquired as to the location for the SD#160 Community Forum on Thursday. He shared he believed it was at Sykuta. Clerk Hutson agreed to verify the location during the meeting.

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

Per Mayor Ford and Clerk Hutson this item should be disregarded and will be presented at the next Regular Meeting of the City Council.

8. COMMITTEE REPORTS:

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

A. Approval - Vouchers as of 01.10.2022

Alderman Lockett moved for City Council approval of Vouchers in the amount of \$870,075.56 01.10.2022. Vouchers to be issued when monies are available.
Second, Alderwoman Evans. Discussion – None

ROLL CALL VOTE: Ayes: 3 Alderman Lockett, Evans and Edwards

Nays: 0

Abstains: 0

Absent: 2 Alderman Davis and Alderman Spivey

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

B. Approval - IMRF Delegate Resolution

Alderman Lockett moved for City Council approval of IMRF Resolution R-01-22 to add City Treasurer Deborah M. McIlvain as the city representative for IMRF. Second, Alderwoman Evans. Discussion – Alderman Lockett shared this will name the delegate for the city's' retirement fund. He shared the City Treasurer has been selected giving her another responsibility as treasurer and he thanked her for taking on this additional responsibility. Alderman Edwards asked if she will take on this responsibility temporarily or will the city hire someone. Mayor Ford shared this is not a paid position, the previous delegate has retired and Deborah graciously volunteered. Alderman Edwards thanked Treasurer McIlvain.

ROLL CALL VOTE: Ayes: 3 Alderman Lockett, Evans and Edwards

Nays: 0

Abstains: 0

Absent: 2 Alderman Davis and Alderman Spivey

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 she has a meeting January 13th 5:30pm at City Hall.

Mayor shared he has an ordinance form John Murphey that he will pass along to her.

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

A. Approval - Resolution for IGA/CMAP to facilitate an updated Comprehensive Plan

Alderman Lockett moved for City Council approval of Resolution R-02-22 for IGA/CMAP to facilitate an updated Comprehensive Plan Second, Alderwoman Evans. Discussion – Alderman Lockett shared today the committee met regarding an updated Comprehensive Plan. He also shared the city did not have plan in place, only a draft copy from 2006. Alderman Lockett shared this is a 5 year plan with the company, the city has a grant that will pay for most of the plan and the city portion will be \$24,000. Alderman Lockett shared this will tell us the different businesses, the landscape, how much land is available and utilized from the Logistics, Cubes, Amazon, fishing ponds, Fire and Police operations, schools and it covers the whole town. He also shared this is a great tool for Economic Development.

ROLL CALL VOTE: Ayes: 3 Alderman Lockett, Evans and Edwards

Nays: 0

Abstains: 0

Absent: 2 Alderman Davis and Alderman Spivey

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

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

No Report in Alderman Spivey's absence

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

Alderman Edwards shared his committee will meet 01.13.2022 at 5:00pm at City Hall.

9. 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 Edwards. Discussion – none.

ROLL CALL VOTE: Ayes: 3 Alderman Lockett, Evans and Edwards

Nays: 0

Abstains: 0

Absent: 2 Alderman Davis and Alderman Spivey

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

10. PUBLIC PORTION OF MEETING

Mark Davis shared his wife met with Mayor Ford July 5th with her business plan regarding opening a Nail Salon with esthetician and micro derma therapy services and was denied by Mayor Ford. Mr. Davis asked for reconsideration for JBB Nail'd It Salon at 401 167th St., for which they have a signed lease to open in Country Club Hills. Mr. Davis shared his wife was told we don't want Country Chills looking like Chicago and there was a conflict of interest. Mr. Davis asked if there was a conflict of interest when Sharks and Doc's opened or Wing Stop and Chicken Coop as they have similar products. He shared their nail salon will be different from the other nail salons because they will also offer esthetician services, hot stone therapy, facials and make-up. He then shared clearly this business will be like none of the others and based on the google reviews of the nearest nail salon which were not favorable they will stand out. Mr. Davis then shared copies of the business proposal to all on the diocese.

Theresa Banks, resident, shared she came to sing, shout and praise our amazing Fire Department. While on a cruise last week she checked her security cameras to see her mother-in-law, who is paralyzed on her right side, had fallen while home alone. She was able to reach her sister via a Marco Polo app and asked her to call the non-emergency number and they were connected with the Fire Department and with the two way mics she spoke with Fire Department upon arrival and directed her mother-in-law to scoot and unlock the door. Ms. Banks shared the Fire Department treaded through ice and snow and showed the most ultimate compassion as she listened on the mic. She shared the empathy and gentleness in lifting and placing her in the bed was overwhelmed her with joy. She shared the Fire Dept was professional and did an outstanding job. They returned January 3rd to lift her by gurney. Ms. Banks said, imagine being away and not being able to help a family member. She called Chief Hullinger and emailed Mayor Ford her appreciation and plan to attend tonight's meeting. We have an amazing Fire Department she was honored to come in this public forum to speak and say thank you. We are blessed to have them in this community. She then thanked Mayor Ford, Alderwoman Evans and Alderman Edwards for their patience as she has contacted them via email for street and water concerns through completion.

Mayor asked Chief Hullinger and A.C. Agpawa to stand and be recognized.

Dr. Cornell Darden Jr., President and CEO of the Southland Black Chamber of Commerce and Industry. Dr. Darden shared it is the largest black business association in the State of IL. Dr. Darden shared he is here to speak on behalf of the proposed nail salon. He shared he has addressed the council before and has had conversations with Mayor Ford about certain misunderstandings between the business community and processes in Country Club Hills. He would like to see more communication moving forward so that businesses don't feel like they are being locked out of opening, creating businesses and that the community has a welcoming spirit. Dr. Darden shared he believes the process by which the city currently uses should be eradicated. He then shared he provided information to the committee on a process that would be conducive to the business community. He shared this business is a good thing for Country Club Hills. He shared it is good thing in the Southland for a business to open and not leave spaces vacant. Dr. Darden shared the process should be easy. As long as a person isn't breaking any rules, no strip clubs where vices are involved, there should be no reason to deny a person a business license just because there is a similar business. He shared that is the spirit of competition and capitalism. He shared with more discussion in the future the city can build a partnership with the chamber. He suggested the City becomes a member of the chamber. He named several chamber members from the Southland.

11. MOTION TO CLOSE FLOOR TO THE PUBLIC

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

ROLL CALL VOTE: Ayes: 3 Alderman Lockett, Evans and Edwards

Nays: 0

Abstains: 0

Absent: 2 Alderman Davis and Alderman Spivey

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

12. ALDERMANIC REPORTS

Alderman Edwards shared he would like to support the nail salon per Mr. Davis who previously spoke. Alderman Edwards also shared he has spoken with several businesses and the best way to support the area is to fill up the vacant spaces. Alderman Edwards also shared the nail salon owner has invested in the business and the city needs to support them and keep the foot traffic moving. Lastly, Alderman Edwards shared this business will be in his ward.

Alderwoman Evans shared the business Licensing Ordinance is on her agenda for her upcoming meeting January 13th.

Alderman Lockett wished everyone a Happy New Year and shared his price for the Police and Fire Departments. Alderman Lockett then asked for a moment of silence for the following; Nick Colionne, who was a good friend and musician who performed at the theater in the past. Danny "Mo" Moore, a beloved retired former city public works employee and resident. William Webb Sr., retired Cook County Sheriff's Office from Markham who passed away at 90 years of age. Lafayette Gatling Sr., who was the founder of Gatling Funeral Home and a visionary, land developer and entrepreneur. Frank Zucarelli who was the Thornton Township Committeeman, Township Supervisor, President of the South Suburban College Board, a gentleman who was dedicated to the 17 communities that he loved and served. All of whom had recently passed away.

Mayor Ford shared the city has never had a vacancy for businesses in town because they were always immediately filled and that is not a major concern. He shared the Mayor looks at the full picture when businesses are interested in coming into Country Club Hills. He looks at the full picture. He wished everyone a Happy New Year and shared the SD#160 Community Forum will be at Sykuta School.

Alderman Lockett then shared the services for Frank Zucarelli will be Friday 10am at South Suburban College.

13. ADJOURNMENT

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

ROLL CALL VOTE: Ayes: 3 Alderman Lockett, Evans and Edwards

Nays: 0

Abstains: 0

Absent: 2 Alderman Davis and Alderman Spivey

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

The Meeting adjourned at 7:46pm

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 from the middle of the name.

Patricia D. Hutson, City Clerk