



REGULAR CITY COUNCIL MEETING MINUTES

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

Monday, April 11, 2022 at 7:00 PM

In accordance with the Illinois Open Meetings Act, and in light of the Governor's most recent Declaration lifting Mask Mandates, Mayor James W. Ford has determined that fully in-person meetings will be conducted.

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 7:02p.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 and lead by Mayor Ford.

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

Those on Roll Call answering present were:

Alderman Lockett, Alderman Davis, Alderwoman Evans, Alderman Spivey and Mayor Ford. Also present were City Administrator Carl Estelle and the Administrative Team.

Excused as Absent – Deborah McIlvain, City Treasurer

Alderman Edwards was not present during roll call and arrived at 7:06pm

3. INVOCATION – CLERGY OR DESIGNEE

Invocation was not presented.

4. JOURNAL PROCEEDINGS

Approval of Meeting Minutes:

- A. Approval - Regular City Council Meeting Minutes 03.28.2022

Alderman Lockett moved for City Council approval of the 03.28.2022 Regular City Council Meeting Minutes. Second, Alderman Davis. Discussion-None.

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

Nays: 0

Abstains: 0

Absent: 1 Alderman Edwards

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 expressway shootings are a serious concern and he, Mayor Agpawa of Markham along with Senator Hastings are asking for new technology to combat this problem in the southland, Mayor Ford shared there have been 8 expressway shootings on I-57 in recent this year and they are now extending to the southland. Mayor Ford shared a recent excerpt from a CBS-2 news with Jermont Terry where Mayors Ford and Agpawa were interviewed along with Senator Hastings on the need for real time expressway cameras to combat the expressway shootings. Mayor Ford shared a mother and u.s.p.s. employee was killed on I-57 while in route to work. Mayor Ford shared the camera technology does not extend beyond 111th St. and that leaves the southland vulnerable to potential expressway shootings. Jermont reported the State Police have an additional 200 cameras and have not shared when or where they will be installed. Senator Hastings shared he too last a friend and neighbor in a senseless expressway shooting while leavings a White Sox game. He shared we need to hold the offenders accountable for their actions and prevent these shootings. All expressed they would like to have cameras installed before the warm weather comes to deter expressway shootings.

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

City Clerk Patricia Hutson shared she attended the Spring Fling event along with the Easter Bunny, JoAnn Wade and volunteers passing out jumbo Easter eggs filled with candy and prizes. Clerk Hutson shared it was cold but a good time was had by all.

7. COMMITTEE REPORTS:

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

A. Approval - Vouchers as of 04.11.2022

Alderman Lockett moved for City Council approval of vouchers in the amount of \$659,351.87 when funds are available. Second, Alderman Davis. Discussion – Ald. Edwards asked if the \$52,000 for Marycrest was for one bill or if it was for work done over a time frame? Alderman Lockett shared the Sanchez bill was for previously completed street repairs from last year and recently billed.

ROLL CALL VOTE: Ayes: 5 Alderman Lockett, Davis, Evans, Spivey and Edwards
Nays: 0
Abstains: 0
Absent: 0

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 – 04.28.2022 5:30pm)

Alderwoman Evans shared she will hold her next meeting Thursday April 28th at 5:30pm

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

Ald. Davis shared the Invitation to Bid packets for Public Works and Building(Vacant properties) are online and at the front counter and the Public Works Bids will be opened April 19th 1:00pm the Building Dept Bids will be opened April 25th at 11:00am both will be at City Hall.

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

Ald. Spivey shared Big Lots is progressing and scheduled to open May 14th and he will share the grand opening information when he has it.

Education, Parks & Recs – Alderman Edwards, Chairman
(Committee Meeting – 04.28.2022 5:00pm)

Ald. Edwards shared he had a meeting Thursday with SD#228 and their rep presented him with an official request for donations for t-shirts for the senior class. He told her the requested amount was too high asked to have the price reviewed and represent the request. Ald. Edwards shared all aldermen agreed to donate except for Ald. Spivey and he will speak with him later. Ald. Edwards then shared SD#160 will hold their Career Day April 27th at Meadowview School 9am to 11am. Ald. Shared #SD227

attended his meeting and is in need of donations to groom the young men at the school and he has contacted barbers to assist. Ald. Edwards shared he is available to assist Mr. Ross however he needs as baseball season is approaching.

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 Edwards, Discussion – none.

ROLL CALL VOTE: Ayes: 5 Alderman Lockett, Davis, Evans, Spivey and Edwards

Nays: 0

Abstains: 0

Absent: 0

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

9. PUBLIC PORTION OF MEETING

Morris Michael Williams, resident, shared he moved to Country Club Hills 15 years ago and purchased his home for \$152,000 and in February his home was appraised at \$145,000 and he is disappointed in the decreased value. He shared he tried to start a disabled veterans chapter in the city because veterans are not receiving the services they deserve. He shared he met with the Mayor, Police Chief and Assist Police Chief regarding a tow company towing cars out of the community. Lastly, he shared the Police and Building departments need to serve their roles in the community by issuing tickets when needed.

Caroline Kennedy, resident, shared her concerns regarding the bar/restaurant next to her home. She shared this is police activity, trash in her yard, her home was shot at and there were 4 bullets in her car resulting in \$7,000 of damage 3.4.22. She does not feel safe in this community and there was no response from the police department or Mayor to address her concerns.

Mayor Ford shared that we are all concerned for her safety and the Police Chief is here tonight and ready to speak with her about her concerns.

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 Davis, Discussion – none.

ROLL CALL VOTE: Ayes: 5 Alderman Lockett, Davis, Evans, Spivey and Edwards

Nays: 0

Abstains: 0

Absent: 0

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

11. ALDERMANIC REPORTS

Alderman Davis thanked Mayor Ford, the Building Dept and Public Works for securing Marycrest Lake. Alderman Davis addressed Mr. Williams's property value concern. He shared his perspectives on the property values do not reflect all of the property values in Country Club Hills. He shared the statement is very broad and there are several factors related to property values. He shared he has a background in real estate and would be happy to discuss this with him at a later time. Alderman Davis shared he empathized with Ms. Kennedy and he was glad to see her come in to bring her concerns to the attention of the city council and he will work with Mayor Ford to address her concerns. He shared this is an example of something that decreases property value.

Alderman Lockett shared the pandemic is still active and asked everyone to wear their masks and maintain distance with others. He reminded everyone to put safety first and be cautious.

Alderwoman Evans shared her next meeting is Thursday April 28th at 5:30pm

Alderman Spivey concurred with Alderman Davis's perspective and thanked Ms. Kennedy and Mr. Williams for attending the meeting and sharing their concerns. He reminded Mr. Williams the city has a Veterans Commission that he hopes will return an active status very soon. He thanked the Park District Director for restoring the rims in the parks and asked if the Wolf Park basketball area can be resealed. He also thanked Director Rogers for taking care of the street repairs in the 4th Ward.

Alderman Edwards shared his next meeting is Thursday April 28th at 5:00pm. He then shared he would like to initiate block clubs, neighborhood watch programs, work with the Police Chief on programs for the 1st Ward block parties and set-up a special call in line for residents to report incidents as they are occurring instead of calling 911. He would also like to have community meetings at the police station.

Mayor Ford shared there is anonymous call in line for resident to report concerns. Mayor Ford shared the city is in the process of bring commissions back as they were suspended due to the pandemic. Alderman Spivey shared the EDC is meeting and Mayor Ford shared they are the only active commission and due to the ongoing status of the pandemic the city is still working to

reestablish the Senior/OAK services at the Resource Center at Flossmoor and Cicero. He shared he had hoped to have it open by May 1 but it appears it may open in June. Lastly, Mayor Ford addressed the Property Tax Rebate status. Mayor shared the checks have been going out since March and the process will continue until complete which may be through July. Mayor shared this is a project managed by the City Clerk. City Clerk Patricia Hutson shared checks are going out on a weekly basis as over 2,200 applications were submitted and each must be checked for outstanding monies owed to the city from the Police, Building and Water departments and processed for check preparation.

12. ADJOURNMENT

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

ROLL CALL VOTE: Ayes: 5 Alderman Lockett, Davis, Evans, Spivey and Edwards

Nays: 0

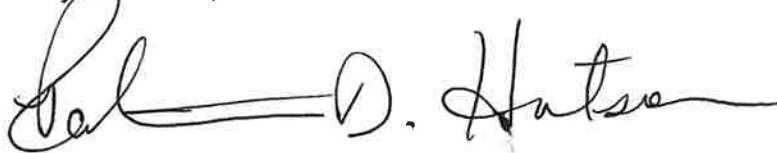
Abstains: 0

Absent: 0

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

The Meeting adjourned at 7:30pm

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