

City Council Meeting
Of the City of Palos Hills
Held Thursday, April 16, 2009
City Hall Council Chambers
10335 S. Roberts Road
Palos Hills, Illinois 60465

- 1) **CALL TO ORDER:** Mayor Bennett called the City Council Meeting to order at 7:00 p.m.
- 2) **PLEDGE TO THE FLAG:** Mayor Bennett led everyone in the Pledge to the Flag.
- 3) **ROLL CALL:** Upon roll call the following Aldermen responded as present: Knox, Brachman, Hanson, Marrotta, Schultz, Kleefisch, Stratton, Pasek, Moore, Williams

ABSENT: City Clerk Mulderink
- 4) **QUORUM:** Mayor Bennett declared a quorum was present.
- 5) **READING OF THE PREVIOUS MEETING MINUTES:**
Ald. Kleefisch, I MOVE to approve the City Council Meeting Minutes dated April 2, 2009 as presented. SECONDED by Ald. Marrotta. Upon roll call the following Ald. voted:
AYE: Brachman, Hanson, Marrotta, Kleefisch, Stratton, Pasek, Moore, Williams, Knox
ABSTAIN: Schultz
NAY: None

MOTION CARRIED.
- 6) **CITIZENS PETITION:** None.
- 7) **CITIZENS HEARING:** None.
- 8) **REPORTS & COMMUNICATIONS FROM MAYOR AND OTHER CITY OFFICIALS:**
 - A. **CITY CLERK:** No report.
 - B. **CITY ATTORNEY:** No report.
 - C. **MAYOR:**
Mayor Bennett distributed the salary ordinance to everyone. He stated that ordinance needs to be passed at our next Council Meeting; Ald. Pasek can present that ordinance this evening.

Also I have put in your mailboxes some of the outgrowth of that stimulus money. I

received a letter from the Cook County Board; they are offering us extended summer jobs for youth in the suburbs if they qualify under their program. So if you know of someone in your ward that is interested please pass on that information along to them. The deadline to apply is the 15th of May.

9) **PRESENTATION OF PETITIONS, COMMUNICATIONS, RESOLUTIONS, ORDERS AND ORDINANCES BY ALDERMEN:**

A. **BUILDING & LICENSES:** No report.

B. **CITY ADMINISTRATION/GOLF:** No report.

C. **COMMUNITY RESOURCES:**

Ald. Schultz, the lobby floor of the Community Center floor has been replaced with a heavy-duty polymer floor. The final top coating will be completed this Saturday after the building closes for the day. The floor was much worse than originally believed with more than few crumbling areas. Stop by next week to take a peek at the new look.

D. **ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT:** No report.

E. **FINANCE:**

Ald. Pasek, for presentation at this time is an Ordinance Relating to Compensation for City Officers & Employees, we will be voting on that in 3 weeks.

Ald. Pasek, you all have before you a Vendor Warrant dated April 2, 2009 in the amount of \$ 581,992.02. I MOVE to authorize the expenditure of same. SECONDED by Ald. Williams. Upon roll call the following Ald. voted:

AYE: Hanson, Marrotta, Schultz, Kleefisch, Stratton, Pasek, Moore, Williams, Knox, Brachman

NAY: None

MOTION CARRIED.

F. **LEGISLATION & ORDINANCE:** No report.

G. **PARKS:**

Ald. Stratton, I would like to read into the record a letter that I received. It reads as follows: Dear Pauline, My wife and I would like to thank you, Mayor Bennett, the City Council and the Park District Staff for the Bunny Breakfast and Easter Egg Hunt even. It was well planned and enjoyed by all. The food was well prepared and served warm. At one time, I was in the restaurant business and appreciate the hard work that went into preparing food for such a large group. Employing the magician Paul Lee was also an excellent decision, especially for our family as our granddaughter Maura was the first child he invited to participate in his show. Events such as this, the Friendship Festival and other family oriented events help to foster a small town atmosphere and warm feelings among neighbors in our community.

As you know I'm a real estate broker and have lived in Palos Hills for the last 25

years. I've always told my clients that for the first time in my life I felt that I was receiving my tax dollars worth and more living in this community. I appreciate the fiscal responsibility exhibited by the City Council and the physical improvements and services offered over the last 25 years. The fact that Mayor Bennett and most of the City Council have held office over such a long period of time is a testament to the excellent job you have all been doing.

We wish you, Mayor Bennett and the City Council continued success in your efforts to improve our community. Sincerely, Aristotle & Collette Sarlas.

Ald. Stratton, join us for some fun on Saturday, April 25th at the Community Center. The day will start our with Touch A Truck 10am to Noon. Enjoy the big rigs up close. The first 100 kids will receive a free plastic hardhat and craft project.

From 11am to 12 Noon take part in the State-wide Flying 4 Kids Kite fly. Bring your own kite or purchase a "Color Me Kite" for \$1.00.

Also from 9am to Noon check out the Shelter Pets from PAWS (People's Animal Welfare Society); bring home a pet to love.

Can't make it to Adopt a Pet this Saturday, and then join us on Saturday, July 11th at the Festival. Chicago Ridge Animal Welfare will have adoptable pets on display.

H. PLANNING & ZONING:

Ald. Hanson, I MOVE to set a **Zoning Board of Appeals Hearing on May 12, 2009 at 7:30 p.m.** for the **property located at 10429 S. 83rd Ave;** petitioner is Jacek Lata; request is for a variance for front yard and right side yard setbacks. Seconded by Ald. Kleefisch. Upon roll call the following Ald. voted:

AYE: Marrotta, Schultz, Kleefisch, Stratton, Pasek, Moore, Williams, Knox, Brachman, Hanson

NAY: None

MOTION CARRIED.

Ald. Hanson, I MOVE to set a **Zoning Board of Appeals Hearing on May 12, 2009 at 7:31 p.m.** for the **property located at 10511 S. 84th Ave.;** petitioner is Fatima Kapitan; request is for variance of front & side yard. SECONDED by Ald. Knox. Upon roll call the following Ald. voted:

AYE: Schultz, Kleefisch, Stratton, Pasek, Moore, Williams, Knox, Brachman, Hanson, Marrotta

NAY: None

MOTION CARRIED.

Ald. Hanson, I MOVE to set a **Plan Commission Hearing on May 18, 2009 at 7:40 p.m.** for property located at **10301 S. Roberts Road;** petitioner is Fatimah Sayyed; request is for special use for Martial Arts School. SECONDED by Ald. Knox. Upon roll call the following Ald. voted:

AYE: Kleefisch, Stratton, Pasek, Moore, Williams, Knox, Brachman, Hanson, Marrotta, Schultz

NAY: None

MOTION CARRIED.

Ald. Hanson, I would like to ask Attorney Pappas to speak about the situation with the petitioner Dr. Suhail regarding the special use for a cigar lounge etc.

Attorney Pappas, I received a letter on April 8th from the Attorney representing the petitioner Dr. Suhail. The Attorney that spoke to us at the last City Council Meeting when the City Council was to consider the recommendation of the Plan Commission.

In her letter she indicated to me that the petitioner was withdrawing his petition for a special use for a cigar lounge with intentions of opening up a coffee shop serving tee, soft drinks and appetizers and deserts.

Having spoken to our Building Commissioner that does not require a special use it is a permitted use under B-1 Zoning and therefore Dr. Suhail can open up such an operation. The letter indicates there will be no smoking inside the premises.

So at this point based on the request of their petition be withdrawn there really is no reason for the City Council to vote on this issue at all because it is moot at this point. With Council's permission I will notify her he can go ahead and make his arrangements for this type of an operation as soon as he can get the necessary permits from Cook County to serve food.

Mayor Bennett, the Chair will officially note for the record that the petitioner has withdraw that request for the special use for a Cigar Lounge (tobacco sales) & Internet Café.

After further discussion Mayor Bennett stated the Chair will entertain a motion to accept the withdrawal of the petitioner's petition before this body.

Ald. Hanson, I MOVE to **accept the withdrawal of Dr. Suhail petition for a special use for a cigar lounge (tobacco sales) & Internet Café and any further action of any kind will require a re-petition for the entire process.** SECONDED by Ald. Moore.

Upon roll call the following

A YE: Stratton, Pasek, Moore, Williams, Knox, Brachman, Hanson, Marrotta, Schultz, Kleefisch

NAY: None

MOTION CARRIED.

City Attorney Pappas, with the City Councils permission I will contact the Attorney and write her a letter informing her what the vote was tonight that the City Council voted to accept the withdrawal of his letter and if he wishes to open that similar type of establishment we require another petition.

I. PUBLIC SAFETY: No report.

J. PUBLIC WORKS/SEWER & WATER: No report.

10) REPORTS OF SPECIAL COMMITTEES:

Ald. Kleefisch, Mr. Mayor the Fence Committee went out to Holiday Banquets this week and we talked to the owner of the banquet facility about his request to fence in his parking lot and the Fence Committee Members were going to discuss it this evening but our budget hearing interviened and we did not have a chance to do that. We did discuss it somewhat at the site. I personally have no objection to his request. I don't know if Ald. Knox or Ald. Williams wants to speak to it before we bring it to the full Council.

Mayor Bennett, the only thing is that there would be a huge concern about him locking off that parking lot from a public safety standpoint. I am sure the Fire Department would not allow that to happen. A fence around it is one thing but he is calling for locked gate with the parking lot and I don't think we have ever done that with another business. The Fire Department would have to pull up and get a key to unlock that gate. That would be a concern with me; we'd have to talk to the Fire Department as far as closing the lot off altogether. We need to get clarification before the final recommendation is given.

It was suggest to take this matter to Committee.

Mayor Bennett, I mentioned to the City Council last week that with the canvass to be received by the Clerk's Office on April 28th that the City Council hold a **Special Council Meeting on the 30th at 7:01 the purpose of the Canvass and the swearing of the elected officers.** The Committee Meeting can be held before or after, whatever the Council chooses. I entertain that motion that the Council call for that Special Meeting. So MOVED by Ald. Moore, SECONDED by Ald. Pasek. Upon roll call the following Ald. voted:

AYE: Pasek, Moore, Williams, Knox, Brachman, Hanson, Marrotta, Schultz, Kleefisch, Stratton

NAY: None

MOTION CARRIED.

11) UNFINISHED BUSINESS: None

12) MISCELLANEOUS BUSINESS: None

13) ADJOURNMENT:

No further business, Mayor Bennett entertained a motion to adjourn. SO MOVED by Ald. Stratton. SECONDED by Ald. Pasek. By voice vote, all voted AYE.

The Meeting adjourned at 7:25 p.m.

Submitted by

Cheryl Johnstone
Deputy City Clerk
City of Palos Hills

