

**City Council Meeting**  
Of the City of Palos Hills  
**Held Thursday, May 7, 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, Marrotta, Kleefisch, Stratton, Pasek, Moore, Williams

**ABSENT:** Hanson, Schultz

- 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 16, 2009 as presented. SECONDED by Ald. SECONDED by Ald. Marrotta. Upon roll call the following Ald. voted:

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

ABSENT: Hanson, Schultz

NAY: None

MOTION CARRIED.

Ald. Kleefisch, I MOVE to approve the Special City Council Meeting Minutes dated April 30, 2009. SECONDED by Ald. Knox. Upon roll call the following Ald. voted:

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

ABSENT: Hanson, Schultz

NAY: None

MOTION CARRIED.

- 6) **CITIZENS PETITION:** None

- 7) **CITIZENS HEARING:**

Mary Rochford a resident of Palos Hills congratulated all the Board Members who were re-elected to office and also thanked Public Works on the excellent job they did in clearing the streets during the winter.

- 8) **REPORTS & COMMUNICATIONS FROM MAYOR AND OTHER CITY OFFICIALS:**

A. **CITY CLERK:** No report.

**B. CITY ATTORNEY:** No report.

**C. MAYOR:**

Mayor Bennett, I like to inform everyone that I did receive a letter from the Illinois Department of Transportation; 99<sup>th</sup> Street is now designated as a FAU Route officially.

Also it has been brought to my attention by the Palos Stars Football Association that their lease has expired with the M.W.R.D. and in approaching the District for the renewal of the lease the District can't do it, they have stopped doing that with individual recreation groups. The City of Palos Hills at one time initially had the lease on that property.

What I am getting to is that the City could have to acquire that property through a no fee lease and then we can sub-lease it like we did to Stag for the Palos Stars Football Association.

I am bringing this to the Council's attention if you agree to have me sent a letter to the M.W.R.D. saying that the City is interested in acquiring the lease, approximately 10 acres where the Palos Stars Football Team is and in turn that we would then request that a sub-lease be drawn for that organization.

Ald. Knox, I MOVE to **authorize the Mayor to enter into negotiations with M.W.R.D. regarding the 10 acres of property along the canal at approximately Southwest Highway with the intent to sub-lease to the Palos Stars Football Association.** SECONDED by Ald. Stratton. Upon roll call the following Ald. voted:

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

ABSENT: Schultz, Hanson

NAY: None

MOTION CARRIED.

Mayor Bennett, I met with Ald. Pasek as announced last week, he will have the Budget to present to you during his portion of the meeting along with the Salary Ordinance.

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

**A. BUILDING & LICENSES:**

Ald. Brachman, total permits issued 30, total permit fees \$4,029.00, total security deposits received \$500.00 and total security deposits refunded \$400.00.

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

**C. COMMUNITY RESOURCES:** No report.

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

**E. FINANCE:**

Ald. Pasek, you all have before you a Vendor Warrant dated May 7, 2009 in the amount of \$202,361.40. I MOVE to authorize the expenditure of same. SECONDED by Ald. Williams. Upon roll call the following Ald. voted:

AYE: Kleefisch, Stratton, Pasek, More, Williams, Knox, Brachman, Marrotta

ABSENT: Schultz, Hanson

NAY: None

MOTION CARRIED.

Upon request of Ald. Pasek, City Clerk Mulderink assigned number 2009-5 to an Ordinance entitled: An Ordinance Relating To Compensation For City Officers & Employees.

Ald. Williams, I MOVE to WAIVE the reading of proposed Ordinance 2009-5. SECONDED by Ald. Moore. Upon roll call the following Ald. voted:

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

ABSENT: Hanson, Schultz

NAY: None

MOTION CARRIED.

Ald. Pasek, I MOVE for **PASSAGE of Ordinance 2009-5**, An Ordinance Relating To **Compensation For City Officers & Employees**. SECONDED by Ald. Knox. Upon roll call the following Ald. voted:

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

ABSENT: Hanson, Schultz

NAY: None

MOTION CARRIED.

Ald. Pasek, I MOVE for **PASSAGE of the 2009-2010 Budget**, its balanced in the amount of \$6,916,314.00. SECONDED by Ald. Kleefisch. Upon roll call the following Ald. voted:

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

ABSENT: Hanson, Schultz

NAY: None

MOTION CARRIED.

Mayor Bennett, as you know that Budget really only represents about a 1% increase of the last year and that 1% increase is primarily due to the contractual obligations of the City employees. The fixed operational budget was actually down by 3.9% from the prior year so we continue to operate on the thin dime and I thank the Council for their cooperation.

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

**G. PARKS:** No report.

**H. PLANNING & ZONING:**

In the absence of Ald. Hanson, Ald. Marrotta MOVED to set a date for a **hearing** before the **Plan Commission** on Monday, June 1, 2009 at 7:30 p.m. The petitioner is Samantha Neitzke for **property located at 10032 S. Roberts Road**. The

request is for a **Special Use for a Dog Grooming Shop and Grooming School.**

SECONDED by Ald. Moore. Upon roll call the following Ald. voted:

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

ABSENT: Hanson, Schultz

NAY: None

MOTION CARRIED.

Ald. Marrotta, I MOVE to set a date for a **hearing** before the **Plan Commission** on Monday, June 8, 2009 at 7:30 p.m. The petitioner is Ray Schweil for **property located at 10344 S. Harlem Ave.** The request is for a **Special Use for Tobacco Sales and a Hookah Lounge.** SECONDED by Ald. Knox. Upon roll call the following Ald. voted:

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

ABSENT: Hanson, Schultz

NAY: None

MOTION CARRIED.

Ald. Marrotta, I MOVE to set a date for **hearing** before the **Plan Commission** On Monday, June 8, 2009 at 7:31 p.m. The petitioner is Ray Schweil for property located at **10348 S. Harlem Ave.** The request is for a **Special Use to allow Drive-Thru Restaurant.** SECONDED by Ald. Kleefisch. Upon roll call the following Ald. voted:

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

ABSENT: Hanson, Schultz

NAY: None

MOTION CARRIED.

**I. PUBLIC SAFETY:**

Ald. Kleefisch presented and read the Palos Hills Police Department Activity Report for the month of April 2009 as follows: 350 traffic tickets issued, 498 parking tickets issued, 63 misdemeanors complaints, 1 felony complaint, 1 aggravated assault, 1 burglary, 21 thefts, 1 motor vehicle theft and we handled a total of 95 C.I.D. Cases.

Ald. Kleefisch stated we have a memo concerning our Red Light installation at 111<sup>th</sup> & Roberts Road. He stated I.D.O.T. has now approved for us to go forward with permitting and bonding for installation of that facility.

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

**10. REPORTS OF SPECIAL COMMITTEES:** None.

**11. UNFINISHED BUSINESS:**

Ald. Williams asked if we received a rendering on that proposed fence over at Holiday Banquets?

Ald. Kleefisch, I checked with the Building Dept. on that and there has been no additional action on that request.

Ald. Williams, he been told by the Fire Department (inaudible).

Ald. Kleefisch, he has been told.

Mayor Bennett, they do not want a fence in front of it, is that correct?

Ald. Kleefisch, they don't want a fence to run parallel to the sidewalk on Roberts Road.

Ald. Kleefisch stated that the annual Beautification Contest will take place between Wednesday, July 1<sup>st</sup> and Friday, July 17, 2009.

Also I'd like to mention to the Council that I had a resident call me who indicated to me his concern for the appearance of certain areas in our city. I have toured my ward and I have given Wendy the addresses of certain residences and certain businesses that I think need to be spoken to about their property maintenance, which she is doing. I encourage the other Aldermen to also take a tour of their wards and take note of maintenance violations and see if we can't get them taken care of so that we help to maintain strong property values in our community. This is a difficult time I know because what is happening with people with foreclosures. But nonetheless its still is incumbent upon us as City Officials to do everything we can to maintain the maintenance and appearance of our city for everyone's benefit.

Ald. Marrotta, we are back to square one with the house on 100<sup>th</sup> Place, 7800, it was the house that was involved in the illegal activity last year. We are back to grass being 2 foot tall; nothing against Wendy she does a great job but I think this guy is still dancing around. Do we need a motion to maintain this property to add then to the list of our maintained properties?

Mayor Bennett, is there an occupant of the building or not?

Ald. Marrotta, the house is in foreclosure or still in foreclosure; according to the owner he was moving out May 1<sup>st</sup>, the bank was taking over, I seen him there today.

City Attorney Pappas, if Wendy can give me the information as to who the owner is, I can track down and find out who the Lender is in the foreclosure proceeding and I should be able to convince the Lender to maintain it.

Ald. Marrotta, it needs to be maintained now I don't want to wait that long.

City Attorney Pappas, that is fine I would suggest you put it in a motion and I can go forward with it.

Ald. Marrotta, as far as **adding it on to the maintenance list** for this company that we are using we **need a motion to add them to that list**. I like to make a **MOTION 7800 W. 100<sup>th</sup> Place**. SECONDED by Ald. Moore. Upon roll call the following Ald. voted:

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

ABSENT: Hanson, Schultz

NAY: None

MOTION CARRIED.

Ald. Marrotta, my next question with the same house, still the same problem with the stagnant water in the swimming pool. I was told there is nothing we can do but throw mosquito pellets in there. It's ridiculous, the poor people that live next to them can't even sit out on their patio because of smell of the stench and the mosquitoes. Why can't we not do anything?

Mayor Bennett, Ann is not here, I don't know what we ended up doing last year whether we made him drain it ----(interrupted).

Ald. Marrotta, no Wendy would make him just throw those mosquito pellets in there but it doesn't solve the problem.

Mayor Bennett, if it is also part of a public health issue then we can do the same with that too.

Attorney Pappas, we can do the same thing.

Ald. Marrotta, the pool has never been operable it always had muddy nasty water in it and like I said it is not fair to the residents who have to live on either side.

Mayor Bennett, **you can add that to the list (pool).**

City Attorney Pappas, as you may recall the City Council directed me to send a letter to the Attorney representing the cigar lounge advising them that their request to withdraw the special use was granted by the City Council. I have sent that letter and I have also informed the Attorney that in the event he does get permission to operate a cigar lounge at that location he will have to return to City Council for a special use for permission to do that. I have a copy of the letter here is anyone needs it.

**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 7:20 p.m.

Submitted by

Rudy A. Mulderink  
City Clerk  
City of Palos Hills