

**CITY COUNCIL MEETING
MINUTES – March 23, 2010**

Mayor Ken Nelson called the Council meeting to order at 7:30 p.m.

Pledge of Allegiance to the Flag: Mayor Nelson led the pledge.

ROLL CALL:

Present: Pitzafarro, Lusk, Buske, Judd, Adams, D’Astice, Larsen

Absent:

Staff Members Present: Manager Sarah Phillips, Assistant Public Works Director Bob Hartnett, Community Development Director Valerie Dehner, Senior Accountant Melissa Gallagher, Fire Chief Ron Stewart, Commander Tom Godamski, City Attorney Jim Macholl, Assistant City Manager Barry Krumstok, Assistant City Engineer Jason Souden

Mayor Ken Nelson read the following statement:

MEMBERS OF THE AUDIENCE ARE REMINDED THAT THESE PROCEEDINGS ARE BEING VIDEO TAPED FOR CURRENT AND FUTURE BROADCAST OVER THE CITY’S CABLE TELEVISION CHANNEL.

MOTION TO APPROVE MINUTES:

Alderman Lusk moved to approve the minutes of the March 9, 2010 Council Meeting and the March 16, 2010 Committee of the Whole Meeting; seconded by Alderman Buske.

Yeas: Pitzafarro, Lusk, Buske, Judd, Adams, D’Astice, Larsen

Nays: 0

Absent:

Minutes Approved

MOTION TO DEVIATE:

None

MAYOR'S REPORT:

Two Public Works reminders: First, early refuse setout ends on Friday, March 26th. Refuse cannot be placed at the curb prior to 6:00pm the day before pickup. Second, yard waste collection begins on Monday, March 29th.

On March 27th at 8:30pm millions of people around the world will celebrate "Earth Hour" and will turn off their lights for one hour to demonstrate how much energy can be saved with minimal effort. Everyone in Rolling Meadows is encouraged to take part by committing to turn off all non-essential lighting. Sponsored by World Wildlife Fund, Earth Hour is the largest event of its kind in the world. In 2009, nearly one billion people from 4,100 cities in 87 countries turned out their lights, including some international landmarks such as the Golden Gate Bridge and the Eiffel Tower. Additional details are available at www.MyEarthHour.org.

State Representative Mark Walker will be conducting a Town Hall Meeting at the Rolling Meadows Library on Wednesday, April 7th starting at 7:00pm. All are welcome to attend. To reserve your seat or for more information, please contact Representative Mark Walker's constituent service office at 847-640-8645.

Census 2010 information has been mailed. All residents should have received US Census forms by now. Please fill out the form and mail it back. The 2010 Census is a count of each person living in the United States and is mandated by the US Constitution. Strict confidentiality laws protect the respondents and the information provided.

Census data is used to apportion Congressional seats to states, to distribute more than \$400 billion in federal funds to tribal, state, and local governments each year and to make decisions about what community services and infrastructure to provide (i.e., public works projects, emergency services, and schools).

A Rolling Meadows Senior Center Bakers Square fundraiser is scheduled for Monday, March 29th from 5:00 to 8:00pm. There are no coupons to redeem. Just be sure to inform the staff that you are from the Rolling Meadows Senior Center. The Bakers Square is located at 270 E. Northwest Highway, Palatine (across from the Palatine Plaza). 10% of ALL SALES will be donated to the Rolling Meadows Senior Center. Please contact the Senior Center office at 847-818-3205 if you have questions.

Potential grant funding opportunity for residents and businesses affected by flooding events in the fall of 2008. A \$10.3 million grant has been awarded to Cook County by the Illinois Disaster Assistance Program. Further information regarding the Cook County Disaster Grant, eligibility guidelines, an application form and answers to frequently asked questions can be found at the Cook County Disaster Grant website at www.CookCountyDisasterGrant.org or phone the hotline at 312-603-7600.

The month long effort by ComEd to help pay half the balances for customers facing recent or pending service suspension due to a recent financial hardship ends March 31st. Funds are limited and restrictions apply. Customers can find out more regarding this ComEd Helping Hand program by calling 888-806-2273. For information on other assistance programs, visit www.ComEd.com.

Congratulated the Steel Supply Company as they celebrate 39 years of operations in Rolling Meadows.

WARD REPORTS:

Ward 1 – Alderman Pitzaferro:

Received a phone call from a resident regarding the red light cameras. How do we justify that they are not a moving violation? He intends to attend a future meeting.

Ward 2 – Alderman Lusk:

None

Ward 3 – Alderman Buske:

A resident had a drainage issue that was turned over to Ms. Dehner. Another resident had some ideas about garbage collection, fireworks, and a couple of other ideas which were turned over to Ms. Phillips. A resident called about some tax issues and may be at the meeting tonight.

Ward 4 – Alderman Judd:

None

Ward 5 – Alderman Adams:

None

Ward 6 – Alderman D’Astice:

Received an email from Ann Minor offering suggestions on raising funds for the City.

Ward 7 – Alderman Larsen:

None

MEETING OPEN TO THE PUBLIC FOR 20 MINUTES:

Mr. Jim Peters, GM of State Oil Company (owner and operator of Marathon on Algonquin Road): Requesting additional B1 liquor license. He read a statement clarifying their procedures for selling liquor and noting the on-premises security. He thanked the City Staff for their help and cooperation. This liquor license will help boost their revenue which is not as high as expected with the sale of gasoline, as well as help increase the city's tax revenues.

Mr. Earl Hobbs, 4579 Lincoln Avenue: Noticed in other communities that they have safety checks set up for DUI enforcement, insurance, seatbelts, etc. Does Rolling Meadows receive grant money for this?

Mayor Nelson: We do get some federal grants for DUI enforcement. We have been very aggressive on this issue.

Mr. Peter Gezik, Flicker Lane: Came forward because of the increase in his property taxes. He is currently out of work and is having problems making his mortgage payments.

Mayor Nelson: Suggested that Mr. Gezik look at the breakdown of the taxes on his bill to see where the increase is.

Mayor Ken Nelson closed the floor.

➤ **PENDING:**

A. Ordinance No. 10-06 / Amend Personnel Rules & Regulations – Tuition Reimbursement Policy (2nd Reading)

Mayor Ken Nelson read the background on this Ordinance.

Alderman D' Astice made a motion to accept the Ordinance, seconded by Alderman Buske.

Alderman Lusk: We have one permanent part-time employee currently in the program. She has one class left. Her degree will directly benefit her work.

Alderman Lusk made a motion to grandfather the current part-time employee at the level of the old ordinance until she completes her degree, seconded by Alderman Buske.

Alderman Larsen: Is in agreement with Alderman Lusk.

Alderman Pitzferro: How many semesters left before she graduates?

Alderman Lusk: She will graduate after the Fall 2010 semester.

Alderman Pitzferro: Will go along with the motion.

Alderman Buske: Also agrees. Her degree is directly related to her job. He will support.

Alderman Larsen: Thanked Alderman Lusk for exploring this further.

Roll on Motion:

Yeas: Pitzafarro, Lusk, Buske, Judd, D'Astice, Larsen

Nays: Adams

Absent:

Motion Passed

Alderman Lusk: What do we do with folks that are currently in the middle of a semester?

Mayor Nelson: We could make the effective date July 1st.

Alderman Lusk: Would like to make it June 1st so it does not go into the summer session.

Alderman Pitzafarro: How many dollars would this use?

Ms. Phillips: About \$2000 dollars.

Alderman Pitzafarro: How many employees are we talking about?

Ms. Phillips: Three.

Alderman Larsen: That is unfortunate, but we are trying to save money as a City. Thinks it should go into effect now.

Alderman Buske: Will they run over the cap in the new program?

Ms. Phillips: Does not think so with what they are currently enrolled in.

Alderman Lusk made a motion to allow the 3 people already enrolled in classes to be reimbursed at the old rate through the end of this current semester, seconded by Alderman Buske.

Alderman D'Astice: Agrees with Alderman Larsen.

Alderman Judd: These are full-time people?

Ms. Phillips: Yes.

Alderman Pitzafarro: Will not support the amendment.

Roll on Motion:

Yeas: Lusk

Nay: Pitzafarro, Buske, Judd, Adams, D'Astice Larsen

Absent:

Motion Failed

Roll on Ordinance as Amended:

Yeas: Pitzafarro, Lusk, Buske, Judd, D' Astice, Larsen

Nays: Adams

Absent:

Ordinance Passed

➤ **CONSENT: ORDINANCES FOR 1ST READING:**

B. Ordinance / Amend “Emergency Services” Alarms of the Schedule of Rates, Fees, Fines, and Penalties

C. Ordinance / Approve Volume Cap

D. Ordinance / Approve Vehicle/Equipment Disposal

E. Ordinance / Amend Liquor Code to Increase Class B-1 Licenses by One (1)

F. Ordinance / Amend City Code – Family Assistance Program

G. Ordinance / Amend Adjudication Code- Notices

Alderman Buske requested Items E & F be removed.

Alderman Judd requested Item D be removed.

Alderman Larsen made a motion to accept the Consent Agenda as amended, seconded by Alderman Pitzafarro.

Unanimous

➤ **NEW BUSINESS:**

Item D from Consent Agenda: Ordinance / Approve Vehicle/Equipment Disposal

Alderman Lusk made a motion to approve on first reading, seconded by Alderman Pitzafarro.

Alderman Judd: What is the main motive?

Mr. Hartnett: This is a live auction in Arlington Heights. If they don't sell we can sell online.

Mayor Nelson: We have had real luck selling at live auctions.

Alderman Pitzafarro: The furniture in the dispatch center that police will handle on their own. How are we going to liquidate?

Ms. Phillips: It is not ordinary furniture. It is the consoles. We will advertise online.

Alderman Buske: What happened to the motorcycles?

Ms. Phillips: They are still in the garage.

Alderman Buske: Are we moving on this?

Ms. Phillips: We are still trying to see the best way to sell them.

Yeas: Pitzafarro, Lusk, Buske, Judd, Adams, D'Astice, Larsen

Nays: none

Absent:

Approved on First Reading

Item E from Consent Agenda: Ordinance / Amend Liquor Code to Increase Class B-1 Licenses by One (1)

Alderman Pitzafarro made a motion to approve on first reading, seconded by Alderman Buske.

Alderman Buske: Will not support booze in a gas station.

Alderman Lusk: Has difficulty with this issue. Her concern is that we are adamant and rated high in dealing with DUI's.

Alderman Pitzafarro: Does not see any reason to not issue this license. Does not think this will harm the City.

Alderman Larsen: This is about liquor and understands why someone would question it. When we grant a license what option do we have for yanking a license?

Mayor Nelson: The liquor commission runs, at least twice a year, visitations to license holders. A third offense in a two year period will revoke their license. There are also other suspensions and fines in the process.

Alderman Larsen: We don't feel that we have a problem?

Mayor Nelson: No. His personal opinion is that he does not see a difference in going into a package store or going into a gas station.

Alderman Larsen: If it does not work out, we do have some recourse.

Mayor Nelson: We do not have bars in Rolling Meadows. On premise consumption is in conjunction with a restaurant.

Alderman D'Astice: Walked in here not decided. After hearing what he heard he wants to see the system that Mr. Peters spoke about and maybe we make everybody be required to use this system.

Alderman Judd: What are the hours?

Mayor Nelson: They are limited on the license.

Alderman Judd: What restrictions exist for advertising?

Mayor Nelson: They are limited in advertising anything they sell.

Alderman Judd: How many other stores could this impact? Are we opening a Pandora's Box?

Mr. Macholl: Thinks that because we have already issued one the door has already been opened.

Mayor Nelson: We can always say no to any request.

Yeas: Pitzafarro, Judd, Adams, D'Astice, Larsen

Nays: Lusk, Buske

Absent:

Approved on First Reading

Item F from Consent Agenda: Ordinance / Amend City Code – Family Assistance Program

Alderman Buske made a motion to approve on first reading, seconded by Alderman D'Astice.

Alderman Buske: How much money do we put into this account?

Ms. Phillips: \$10,000.

Yeas: Pitzafarro, Lusk, Buske, Judd, Adams, D'Astice, Larsen

Nays: none

Absent:

Approved on First Reading

H. Motion to Approve Payment of Bills on Warrant 3-23-2010

Alderman Lusk made a motion to approve Warrant, seconded by Alderman Larsen.

Yeas: Pitzafarro, Lusk, Buske, Judd, Adams, D'Astice, Larsen

Nays: none

Absent:

Warrant Passed

I. Resolution No. 10-R-19 / Award Contract for Environmental Study (Tabled February 9, 2010)

Mayor Ken Nelson read the background on this Resolution.

Alderman Lusk made a motion to accept the Resolution, seconded by Alderman Buske.

Alderman Lusk: For the engineering fees, do we take that out of the TIF?

Ms. Phillips: No, there is no TIF on that property.

Mayor Nelson: Can we use funds from the federal grant?

Ms. Phillips: Yes.

Alderman Buske: He is receiving a lot of negative attitude from residents in his Ward. Can the mayor call for a straw vote?

Mayor Nelson: We cannot take a straw vote.

Alderman Buske: Will not vote in favor.

Alderman Pitzafarro: Will not support either.

Alderman Lusk: Could we postpone and put on the next Committee of the Whole agenda for further discussion?

Mayor Nelson: What is our deadline?

Chief Stewart: The performance period would end October 2012. He is required to report quarterly. His intent is to clearly layout what the risk of delaying is and how it could affect the grant funding.

Alderman Lusk: Would like to postpone and discuss at the next Committee of the Whole meeting.

Ms. Phillips: If at any point in the future we want to build on this property, this study will have to get done.

Mayor Nelson: Postponing would put the discussion on the May 18th agenda.

Alderman Lusk: Is comfortable with that.

Alderman Lusk made a motion to postpone until May 25th with further discussion on May 18th, seconded by Alderman Larsen.

Roll on Motion:

Yeas: Lusk, Adams, Larsen

Nays: Pitzafarro, Buske, Judd, D'Astice

Absent:

Motion Failed

Alderman Larsen: How much is coming out of our pockets?

Ms. Phillips: 49% which could be covered under grant money if we finish the project by the deadline.

Alderman Larsen: Unless we decide not to build the fire station he sees no reason to not go forward with this. He is in favor of doing this study now.

Alderman Buske: Believes that it is very important that we decide if we are going to go forward with this fire station.

Alderman Judd: Finds it interesting that we have done studies in the past and we have to come back and do the study again. He also finds it interesting that Homeland Security believes this survey would cost somewhere between \$10,000-\$15,000.

Chief Stewart: Typically you will see that when the government does estimate. They take a broad spectrum from around the country.

Ms. Phillips: Clarified that this study has never been done.

Alderman Judd: He was talking about the downtown study.

Ms. Phillips: That was a downtown comprehensive plan not a marketing study.

Alderman Pitzafarro: After thinking about it, he is against this because he has also received feedback from residents that they do not want to spend money on this right now.

Yeas: Lusk, Larsen

Nays: Pitzafarro, Buske, Judd, Adams, D'Astice

Absent:

Resolution Failed

J. Resolution No. 10-R-39/ Award Contract for Emergency Sanitary Storm and Sewer Repair

Mayor Ken Nelson read the background on this Resolution.

Alderman Lusk made a motion to accept the Resolution, seconded by Alderman D'Astice.

Yeas: Pitzafarro, Lusk, Buske, Judd, Adams, D'Astice, Larsen

Nays: none

Absent:

Resolution Passed

K. Resolution No. 10-R-40 / Approve Prescription Drug Card Program

Mayor Ken Nelson read the background on this Resolution.

Alderman Pitzafarro made a motion to accept the Resolution, seconded by Alderman Lusk.

Mayor Nelson: This was discussed at the last Committee of the Whole meeting and will provide residents with a prescription card offering discounts.

Alderman Buske: Were did we find out about this?

Ms. Phillips: Through the National League of Cities (NLC). She read about it and went online for further information.

Yeas: Pitzafarro, Lusk, Buske, Judd, Adams, D'Astice, Larsen

Nays: none

Absent:

Resolution Passed

L. Resolution No. 10-R-41 / Approve Family Assistance Policy

Mayor Ken Nelson read the background on this Resolution.

Alderman D'Astice made a motion to accept the Resolution, seconded by Alderman Lusk.

Alderman Buske: What type of deviations are we talking about?

Ms. Phillips: That clause has always been in there.

Yeas: Pitzafarro, Lusk, Buske, Judd, Adams, D'Astice, Larsen

Nays: none

Absent:

Resolution Passed

M. Resolution No. 10-R-42 / Award 4th of July Fireworks Contract

Mayor Ken Nelson read the background on this Resolution.

Alderman D'Astice made a motion to accept the Resolution, seconded by Alderman Lusk.

Yeas: Lusk, Buske, Judd, Adams, D'Astice, Larsen

Nays: Pitzafarro

Absent:

Resolution Passed

DISCUSSION ITEMS:

1) Billboard Proposal

Ms. Phillips: The initial offering was \$175,000. She went back to see if this was their final offer and they have stated that it is. She is suggesting we go out and get other proposals.

Alderman D'Astice: Thinks that Ms. Phillips should go forward.

Alderman Pitzafarro: Also agrees.

Alderman Buske: What do we get for a license to install a billboard?

Ms. Dehner: It is not necessarily what it costs to install, it is the annual fee.

Mayor Nelson: This one would provide us with an initial fee plus an annual fee?

Ms. Phillips: Correct.

Mayor Nelson: Direction to Staff is to get more RFP's.

OTHER BUSINESS & REPORTS:

Mayor's Appointments:

Mayor's Proclamation:

City Clerk's Report:

City Staff Reports:

1) Sexual Assault Awareness Month – April 2010

1) PO Disclosure Over \$2500.00

Alderman Judd: Moving forward could we get more description on what the money is being spent on.

2) February 2010 Financial Report

Alderman Judd: When will we get more concrete information?

Ms. Phillips: When we get the RFP's from the billboard.

MATTERS NOT ON THE AGENDA:

Alderman Adams: An organization that does a lot of good work, Almost Home Foundation, is having a fundraiser at Lou Malnati's on Wednesday, March 31st. Please visit their website at www.AlmostHomeFoundation.org for more information.

CLOSED SESSION:

1. Review Closed Session Minutes
2. Pending Litigation

Alderman Larsen made a motion to enter into Closed Session, seconded by Alderman Pitzaferro.

Yeas: Pitzaferro, Lusk, Buske, Judd, Adams, D'Astice, Larsen

Nays: none

Absent:

Motion Passed

ENTERED INTO CLOSED SESSION: 9:12 pm

Alderman D'Astice made a motion to go into Open Session; seconded by Alderman Pitzaferro.

Unanimous

RETURNED TO OPEN SESSION: 9:49 pm

ADJOURNMENT:

There being no further business, Alderman Pitzaferro moved to adjourn, seconded by Alderman Buske.

UNANIMOUS

City Council meeting of March 23, 2010 adjourned at 9:50 p.m.

Respectfully submitted by: Lisa M. Hinman, City Clerk

March 23, 2010 Minutes Approved by Council on April 6, 2010



Lisa M. Hinman, City Clerk