

**CITY COUNCIL MEETING
MINUTES – February 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: Lusk, Buske, Judd, Adams, Larsen

Absent: Pitzafarro, D'Astice

Staff Members Present: City Manager Sarah Phillips, Senior Accountant Rob Fredrickson, Public Works Director Fred Vogt, Assistant Community Development Director Jim Sylverne, Fire Chief Ron Stewart, Police Chief Dave Scanlan, City Attorney Jim Macholl, Assistant City Manager Barry Krumstok

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 Buske moved to approve the minutes of the February 9, 2010 Council Meeting; seconded by Alderman Lusk.

Yeas: Lusk, Buske, Judd, Adams, Larsen

Nays: 0

Absent: Pitzafarro, D'Astice

Minutes Approved

MOTION TO DEVIATE:

None

MAYOR'S REPORT:

As mentioned in the January/February "News & Views" residents and businesses can sign up to receive emergency and community alerts. To do so, please visit the City's website at www.cityrm.org and click on the "Citizen Alert – Notification Sign Up" icon. Everbridge – Citizen Alert System is administered by the Northwest Central Dispatch System. This system will be able to communicate critical information to residents and businesses before, during and after emergency situations, such as natural disasters, missing persons, or other emergencies that impact the City.

Reminder that the Cancer Awareness Banners are for sale until March 1st. This will be your last chance to purchase a banner in memory or support of a loved one. If you are a local business, it is a great opportunity to show your support for the fight against cancer through a banner displaying your business name. These banners will be in place for the next two years along Kirchoff Road. Please visit the City website or City Hall for order forms.

Thank you to all residents and employees who participated in the 2009 City of Rolling Meadows Toys for Tots Program in conjunction with the Marine Corps Reserve Toys for Tots Foundation. Staff Sergeant Rodolfo Arguete, the Marine Corps Toys for Tots Coordinator for the Great Lakes area, wanted to be in here in person to express their gratitude with a formal presentation, however, he has been deployed to Haiti following the devastating earthquake. In addition, the Usilton family greatly appreciates all the support for this program in Steve's honor. The 2010 campaign will be around October 1st.

As Rolling Meadows Senior Center Baker's Square Fundraiser is scheduled for Monday, March 29th from 5 to 8 pm. There are no coupons to redeem. Just be sure to inform the staff that you are from the Rolling Meadows Senior Center. The Baker's 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.

Construction on East and West Frontage Roads is scheduled to begin the week of March 1st. Work will start on West Frontage Road first, which will restrict traffic to one-way southbound for approximately two months. Northbound traffic will be detoured to utilize East Frontage during this time. Construction will consist of extensive concrete pavement patching drainage improvements along the roadway in several locations, a new asphalt wearing surface, along with fence and guardrail repairs. During construction, southbound traffic will remain open to provide access to those residing on West Frontage Road to access side streets, and for emergency vehicle access. Upon completion of West Frontage Road improvements, construction will be on East Frontage Road. Traffic there will be limited to one-way northbound, with southbound traffic detoured to the West Frontage Road during this period of time. Estimated time for the completion of this section of the road repair is also approximately two months. Improvements on this section, just the West Frontage Road will consist of extensive concrete pavement patching, drainage improvements along the roadway in several locations, a new asphalt wearing surface, along with fence and guardrail repairs. This project is funded by an ARRA federal stimulus infrastructure grant in excess of \$2,600,000 provided to the City of Rolling Meadows. Information on this project will be provided and updated on the City's website and can be found under the Public Works page, and by future mailings to those along the route, and to those on adjacent streets directly affected by the roadway improvements.

The Rolling Meadows Public Works Department will be hosting its third annual Public Works Citizens Training Academy in April. The class size will be limited to thirty members this year. The Training Academy consists of six class sessions. Five of the classes will be held in the evenings; the sixth class includes a field day held on a Saturday. Graduates of the Citizen Academy will be awarded Certificates of Completion at a City Council meeting at the conclusion of the program. The Public Works Department hopes that through these informative presentation and tours of City facilities, participants will become more familiar with the City's infrastructure and function of the Department. For more information about the 2010 Public Works Citizens Training Academy please contact Bob Hartnett at 847-963-0600 or be email at Hartnett@cityrm.org, or you can check the City's website at www.cityrm.org/PublicWorks for registration information.

Finally, the community is invited to the 50th Anniversary Celebration at the Rolling Meadows Library on Sunday, February 28th from 1 to 4 pm.

WARD REPORTS:

Ward 1 – Alderman Pitzafferro:

None

Ward 2 – Alderman Lusk:

None

Ward 3 – Alderman Buske:

He received a letter from a resident in his Ward concerned with the garbage costs that residents are paying. She mentioned a Daily Herald article concerning Arlington Heights garbage costs. It is being looked into and Staff will schedule a discussion for a future Committee of the Whole meeting.

He received a call from a resident who agreed that we do not need more housing in the downtown area. We need more retail. They suggested talking to Butera about returning to Rolling Meadows.

He received a call from a resident on Fremont. He is retired and handicapped and concerned about residents being made to plow their own sidewalks. Barrington and Chicago both do it. Suggests calling and finding out how it works.

Ward 4 – Alderman Judd:

None

Ward 5 – Alderman Adams:

None

Ward 6 – Alderman D’Astice:

None

Ward 7 – Alderman Larsen:

None

MEETING OPEN TO THE PUBLIC FOR 20 MINUTES:

Mr. Chris Lee, 928 Carswell Court, Elk Grove Village, with the Rolling Meadows Fire Department: Came forward to talk about an item on the agenda regarding the Pension Fairness for Illinois Communities Coalition. He spoke of increased benefits, poor investment returns, and contributions.

Mayor Ken Nelson closed the floor.

➤ **PENDING:**

None

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

A. Ordinance / Amend the City’s Pay Plan

B. Ordinance / Amend Personnel Rules & Regulations - Tuition Reimbursement Policy

Alderman Buske requested Item A be removed

Alderman Judd requested Item B be removed

➤ **NEW BUSINESS:**

Item A from Consent Agenda: Ordinance / Amend the City's Pay Plan

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

Alderman Buske: Made a motion to keep the hourly rates for the part-time people the same across the board at the current part-time Public Works rates, seconded by Alderman Adams.

Alderman Larsen: Is all for consistency, but he is curious as to why not the same pay rate as the crossing guards?

Alderman Buske: The crossing guards had a pay cut at the end of last school year and does not think they should be included in this. He feels that the Public Works, Fire Department & Police Department part-time jobs should be at the same rate.

Chief Scanlan: His opinion is that at \$15/hr he could get some of the people back.

Mayor Nelson: What are the functions of these assistants?

Chief Scanlan: Mostly clerical. Part-time people that were laid off are willing to come back at this lower rate.

Alderman Larsen: Appreciates where he is coming from. The reality is that if they are still out of work they will come back at \$12/hr.

Alderman Judd: How were these numbers derived?

Ms. Phillips: Our conversations in closed session. We started at \$15/hr and worked our way back.

Alderman Judd: Does Chief Scanlan see getting someone new in at the lower rate?

Chief Scanlan: He can only try and see what happens. Schaumburg pays \$20/hr for this same position.

Alderman Judd: These people that he hopes to bring back, is there any way that we can make it so that we go with the lower rate and possibly pay them at a different rate?

Ms. Phillips: We would have to create a second position.

Alderman Judd: At \$12/hr could we could hire more people and break down the tasks as opposed to 2 people at \$15/hr.

Alderman Buske: We talked in closed session that we did not want to go over \$15/hr. Schaumburg is quite a few million dollars in debt.

Alderman Lusk: What about taking them to the crossing guard levels?

Alderman Buske: Would not have a problem with that, but it would mean changing two pay rates rather than just changing this one to meet the Public Works rates.

Roll on Motion:

Yeas: Lusk, Buske, Judd, Adams, Larsen

Nays:

Absent: Pitzafarro, D'Astice

Motion Passed

Roll on Ordinance as Amended:

Yeas: Lusk, Buske, Judd, Adams, Larsen

Nays: 0

Absent: Pitzafarro, D'Astice

Approved on First Reading

Item B from Consent Agenda: Ordinance / Amend Personnel Rules & Regulations - Tuition Reimbursement Policy

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

Alderman Judd: Does not recall a lot of discussion about the part-time people on this issue. Permanent part-time people could have the cap of \$4500 or eliminate them completely. Also needs rewording on the "directly related" or "indirectly related" phrases.

Alderman Adams: Took a look at the company he works for. They only offer tuition reimbursement to full-time employees. He would be in favor of removing the part-time clause.

Alderman Larsen: Is inclined to go along with the idea of reimbursing part-time at 50% of the cap of full-time. He views tuition reimbursement as a benefit to employees.

Alderman Lusk: Has no issues with continuing the part-timers in the program. She is in favor of bringing them down to a cap of \$3000. She would also like to extend the back time that they owe us from 3 years to 5.

Alderman Buske: Does not recall discussion about part-timers receiving these benefits. He thinks we should postpone this until we can look at the minutes from the last Committee of the Whole meeting.

Alderman Buske made a motion to postpone until next business meeting, seconded by Alderman Adams.

Roll on Motion:

Yeas: Lusk, Buske, Judd, Adams, Larsen

Nays: 0

Absent: Pitzafarro, D'Astice

Motion Passed

C. Motion to Approve Payment of Bills on Warrant 2-23-2010

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

Yeas: Lusk, Buske, Judd, Adams, Larsen

Nays: none

Absent: Pitzafarro, D' Astice

Warrant Passed

D. Resolution No. 10-R-24 / Accept 2007 JAG Grant

Mayor Ken Nelson read the background on this Resolution.

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

Alderman Judd: Is this going to cause any issue because we closed the PNRC?

Chief Scanlan: No.

Yeas: Lusk, Buske, Judd, Adams, Larsen

Nays: none

Absent: Pitzafarro, D' Astice

Resolution Passed

E. Resolution No. 10-R-25/ Accept 2009 JAG Grant for Equipment Enhancement

Mayor Ken Nelson read the background on this Resolution.

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

Yeas: Lusk, Buske, Judd, Adams, Larsen

Nays: none

Absent: Pitzafarro, D' Astice

Resolution Passed

F. Resolution No. 10-R-26 / Accept 2009 JAG Grant for Technology Enhancement

Mayor Ken Nelson read the background on this Resolution.

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

Alderman Buske: Clarified that these are not matching grants.

Yeas: Lusk, Buske, Judd, Adams, Larsen

Nays: none

Absent: Pitzafarro, D'Astice

Resolution Passed

G. Resolution No. 10-R-27 / Supporting the City of Rolling Meadows Becoming a Member of the Pension Fairness for Illinois Communities Coalition

Mayor Ken Nelson read the background on this Resolution.

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

Alderman Lusk: There are a number of employees/retirees in her Ward. They were asking why the other pension is paid at 90% and how much goes into that pension on a yearly basis.

Mr. Krumstok: IMRF is for non-sworn individuals. Our amortization slides and is pretty consistent, however at the same time before the economy "tanked" we were at 100%.

Mayor Nelson: IMRF and the Police and Fire Pensions are extremely different. He does not think it is fair in some ways to compare them in terms of contributions.

Mayor Nelson: The Coalition's position is not to change anything for current retirees or current employees. Any changes would be for future hires.

Alderman Lusk: There are many residents in her Ward who support their pensions. It does not look like to goal is to cut anyone's current pension.

Mayor Nelson: There is absolutely no intent to do that.

Alderman Lusk: We definitely need to do something to address the pension issues.

Alderman Adams: He saw that we are being asked to contribute \$1000. He would like clarification on what organizations are considered to be a foundation partner at \$10,000?

Mayor Nelson: Noted a few organizations.

Alderman Adams: Questions the good that would come from this. With respect to the state legislators, a good part of their contributions come from unions. He does not feel that they are here to represent us (the middle class) but their campaign contributors.

Mayor Nelson: If we are not at the table we will not have any voice. Speaker of the House Madigan is going to make pension reform one of his top priorities. Together we can work something out that is beneficial to the taxpayers and the employees.

Alderman Larsen: Is the \$1000 contribution a one time contribution?

Mayor Nelson: Yes. It is to cover out-of-pocket expenses.

Alderman Larsen: Feels it is worth \$1000 to have a seat at the table.

Alderman Buske: Agrees that we should be involved in this. We have to be on top of this and put in our suggestions. He takes offense to what Mr. Chris Lee stated earlier that he is happy about our contribution "this year". We have made the contributions that we were supposed to.

Mayor Nelson: Clarified that up until this year we had three actuarials looking at this. We have now agreed on one actuarial.

Alderman Judd: The US public pensions have a 3 trillion dollar problem. He finds it interesting that it was stated that our pensions performed well the 5 years previous to 2008, but he does not know how much was made. How much was lost in 2008? All we hear is that we are underfunding it. He would appreciate getting all the facts before being accused of things.

Mayor Nelson: Stressed that the purpose of this coalition is not to put blame on the past, but to build for the future.

Yeas: Lusk, Buske, Judd, Larsen

Nays: Adams

Absent: Pitzaferro, D'Astice

Resolution Passed

H. Resolution No. 10-R-28 / Approve an Agreement with Goodman Williams, Inc. for Downtown Market Analysis

Mayor Ken Nelson read the background on this Resolution.

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

Alderman Buske: In past discussions he stated that he does not want to see any more housing. He would like to tell them that we want retail to take precedence over housing.

Mayor Nelson: If we give them predetermined notions, then there would be no reason for this analysis.

Alderman Buske: This is coming out of what TIF?

Ms. Phillips: Dominick's.

Alderman Buske: Is it legal to use this for our entire downtown area?

Mr. Macholl: If the analysis includes the Dominick's site, it would be appropriate to use the TIF money.

Ms. Phillips: Added that the study is to look at the market and they will be looking well beyond the Dominick's site.

Mayor Nelson: The study will help us determine what will work on that property.

Alderman Judd: Does not think we should be spending money on this at this time. We could look at previous proposals that were completed when Bristol Moran was going to come into that area.

Alderman Larsen: Does not view this as spending \$27,000, but investing \$27,000. It takes a plan to make economic development happen. He would like to see something that we can look at other than our "gut feelings".

Alderman Adams: On one hand he is cringing spending the money and on the other he wants to see what they come up with. Also, it is very important that input from the residents is included in this analysis. He will support this, but wants to see a very heavy input from the residents.

Ms. Phillips: Attended a conference today, the International Council of Shopping Centers. One thing lenders will require is sound development, marketing and financial incentive plans. Also, there are more public/private partnerships. Without this analysis in place we will not attract the developers to Rolling Meadows.

Alderman Buske: Agrees with Ms. Phillips. He does not have a problem with this.

Mayor Nelson: Doing nothing would be detrimental.

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

Resolution Passed

I. Resolution No. 10-R-29 / Approve an Agreement with Kane McKenna and Associates, Inc. for Downtown Economic Development Program Study

Mayor Ken Nelson read the background on this Resolution.

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

Alderman Buske: Has quite a few misgivings about this. Kane McKenna is basically used for TIF districts. He feels that we are putting the horse behind the cart. We need to find out who wants to move in first. This is the wrong time for this study.

Mayor Nelson: The development community is talking about that you need to develop partnerships.

Ms. Phillips: Yes, Kane McKenna is known for great developments of TIF projects. They will find the different funding mechanisms available to us. This is going to have to be done.

Alderman Lusk: She thought it would be a good idea to hold off on this, but now believes it would be good to run the analysis and this study concurrently.

Alderman Larsen: Can sympathize with the Council members who don't want to spend this money in hard times. He fully supports this Resolution.

Alderman Lusk: What is Phase I and the cost differential of \$5000 and \$7500?

Ms. Phillips: It depends on how much detailed information you want. We have asked them to stay as close to \$5000 as they can.

Alderman Judd: Does not know that some of the things they are proposing to do is something we need to have done.

Yeas: Lusk, Buske, Adams, Larsen

Nays: Judd

Absent: Pitzafferro, D'Astice

Resolution Passed

J. Resolution No. 10-R-30 / Award Contract to Logsdon Consultation Services for Emergency Operations Plan Update

Mayor Ken Nelson read the background on this Resolution.

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

Alderman Buske: This is the updating of our current plan?

Ms. Phillips: Correct.

Yeas: Lusk, Buske, Judd, Larsen

Nays: Adams

Absent: Pitzafarro, D' Astice

Resolution Passed

K. Resolution No. 10-R-31 / Amend the Submittal of the 5-Year Consolidated Plan for the Cook County CDBG Program

Mayor Ken Nelson read the background on this Resolution.

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

Alderman Buske: If something else comes up we could change this?

Ms. Phillips: Correct.

Yeas: Lusk, Buske, Judd, Adams, Larsen

Nays: none

Absent: Pitzafarro, D' Astice

Resolution Passed

DISCUSSION ITEMS:

1) Reschedule of Council Meeting (April 13th to April 6th) due to IML Legislative Days

Alderman Larsen made a motion to reschedule the April 13, 2010 Council Meeting to April 6, 2010; seconded by Alderman Buske.

UNANIMOUS

OTHER BUSINESS & REPORTS:

Mayor's Appointments:
Mayor's Proclamation:
City Clerk's Report:
City Staff Reports:

1) PO Disclosure Over \$2500.00

Alderman Judd: Would like an explanation of the \$4000 broken spring.

Mr. Vogt: It was an emergency call for the main garage door at Public Works. He can provide details on the repair.

2) January 2010 Financial Report

MATTERS NOT ON THE AGENDA:

None

ADJOURNMENT:

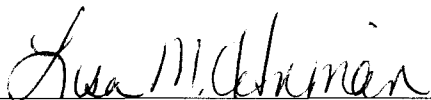
There being no further business, Alderman Larsen moved to adjourn, seconded by Alderman Buske.

UNANIMOUS

City Council meeting of February 23, 2010 adjourned at 9:10 p.m.

Respectfully submitted by: Lisa M. Hinman, City Clerk

February 23, 2010 Minutes Approved by Council on March 9, 2010



Lisa M. Hinman, City Clerk