

**JOURNAL OF PROCEEDINGS**

**REGULAR MEETING  
City Council of the City of Calumet City  
Cook County, Illinois**

**OCTOBER 25, 2012**

**CALL TO ORDER**

Pledge of Allegiance

The City Council of the City of Calumet City met in the City Council Chambers in a regular meeting on Thursday, October 25, 2012 at 7:30 p.m.

**ROLL CALL**

PRESENT: 7

ALDERMEN: Schneider, Wosczyznski, Jones, Wilson, Munda,  
Manousopoulos, Collins (7:36)

ABSENT: 0

ALDERMEN: None

Also present were City Clerk Figgs, City Treasurer Tarka, City Engineer Roberts, City Attorney Odelson, City Attorney Gianopolus, Fire Chief Galgan and Deputy Clerk Bonato.

There being a quorum present, the meeting was in order.

Approval of minutes

Alderman Wosczyznski moved, seconded by Alderman Munda, to approve the minutes of October 11, 2012 as presented.

MOTION CARRIED

**REPORTS OF STANDING COMMITTEES**

Finance

Alderman Wosczyznski had no report.

Public Safety

Alderman Manousopoulos had no report.

“The South Suburban Association Chiefs of Police and the Calumet City Police Department will be hosting a Gun Buy Back Program at the Calumet City Police Department, 1200 Pulaski Road on Saturday, November 17, 2012 from 8:00 a.m. to 4:00 p.m. Each eligible weapon will receive \$100.00.

Public Safety (con'td) Only residents of south Cook County are eligible to participate in the program. Those who bring weapons in for the exchange should bring their Firearms Owner's Identification Card. Make sure that the weapon is unloaded and leave the weapon in the vehicle and a police officer will escort them back to retrieve the weapon. Non eligible weapons shall include but not limited to BB guns and pellet guns."

Public Utilities Alderman Jones had no report.

Ord. & Res. Alderman Collins was absent.

H.E.W. Alderman Schneider had no report.

Permits & Licenses Alderman Wilson had no report.

Public Works Alderman Munda had no report. "The leaf program will begin on Monday, November 5, 2012. He advised residents to put leaves to the curb and sidewalk and public works will collect the leaves."

Mayor Michelle Markiewicz Qualkinbush reminded residents to rake the leaves on the parkway not on the street. Because if it rains it goes into the sewer.

Thank Hoover Schrum School District #157 Mayor Michelle Markiewicz Qualkinbush thanked Hoover Schrum School District #157. Their school board and staff had their annual Firefighters and Police Officer appreciation breakfast. Some of the art work is posted in the council chambers that were presented to the police and fireman.

## **CITY COUNCIL REPORTS**

Mayor's report/reappointment/appointment of committees Reappointment/Appointment of the following committees

Approve Zoning Board of Appeals reappointment Alderman Wosczynski moved, seconded by Alderman Munda, to approve the reappointment of the Zoning Board of Appeals as presented.

## **ROLL CALL**

YEAS: 6	ALDERMEN: Wosczynski, Jones, Wilson, Munda, Manousopoulos, Schneider
NAYS: 0	ALDERMEN: None
ABSENT: 1	ALDERMAN: Collins

**MOTION CARRIED**

Reappointment/Police Pension Board Members Alderman Wosczynski moved, seconded by Alderman Jones, to approve the reappointment of the Police Pension Board Members as presented.

ROLL CALL

YEAS:	5	ALDERMEN:	Jones, Wilson, Munda, Manousopoulos, Wosczynski
NAYS:	0	ALDERMEN:	None
ABSENT:	1	ALDERMAN:	Collins
RECUSE:	1	ALDERMAN:	Schneider

MOTION CARRIED

Reappointment/Senior  
Citizen Advisory Board  
Members

Alderman Wosczynski moved, seconded by Alderman Schneider, to approve the reappointment of the Senior Citizen Advisory Board Members as presented.

Ald. Collins entered mtg.

Alderman Collins entered meeting at 7:36 p.m.

ROLL CALL

YEAS:	7	ALDERMEN:	Wilson, Munda, Manousopoulos, Collins, Schneider, Wosczynski, Jones
NAYS:	0	ALDERMEN:	None
ABSENT:	0	ALDERMEN:	None

MOTION CARRIED

Reappointment/ Police  
& Fire Commission

Alderman Wosczynski moved, seconded by Alderman Jones, to approve the reappointment of the Police & Fire Commission Members as presented.

ROLL CALL

YEAS:	7	ALDERMEN:	Munda, Manousopoulos, Collins, Schneider, Wosczynski, Jones, Wilson
NAYS:	0	ALDERMEN:	None
ABSENT:	0	ALDERMEN:	None

MOTION CARRIED

Delete Floodplain  
Management Committee

Alderman Wosczynski moved, seconded by Alderman Schneider, to delete the Floodplain Management Committee to the next meeting.

MOTION CARRIED

Halloween events @  
Calumet Memorial Park

Alderman Schneider announced Halloween events for the Calumet Memorial Park District. He announced October 26 & October 27 is the Haunted House at Finneran Pool from 6:00 p.m. to 8:00 p.m. located at Lincoln and Freeland Avenue. The cost is \$3.00 per person.

Halloween event @  
Calumet Memorial Park

Alderman Schneider announced on Wednesday, October 31, 2012 from 4:00 p.m. to 6:00 p.m. is the monster mini-golf and ghoulish at the Family Fun Center at Calumet Memorial Park at the corner of Memorial Drive and Wentworth Avenue. The cost is \$1.00 per participant for ages from 3 to 14 years of age.

VFW Post 8141 Spaghetti  
cancelled 10/31/12

Alderman Schneider announced that there will be no spaghetti dinner on Wednesday, October 31, 2012 at the VFW Post 8141. The next dinner will be in January, 2013. Thanks to all that have participated in the past.

Lansing Veterans Memorial  
November 11, 2012

Alderman Wosczyński: "This year Calumet City Post 330 and VFW Post 8141 will be joining several south side communities to celebrate Veterans Day at the Lansing Veterans Memorial, they will not have a joint ceremony at Post 330 as in past years.

With Veterans Day approaching we invite you to attend our "Veterans Day Ceremony" at the Lansing Veterans Memorial.

Our ceremony will honor those who served or are serving in our Nations Armed Forces both in peacetime and in time of war by recognizing our country's "True Heroes" - America's Veterans.

Veterans Day this year will fall on Sunday, November 11, 2012. Veterans Day ceremonies usually take place at 11 a.m. following the tradition of the eleventh hour of the eleventh day of the eleventh month, Armistice Day. As you know this officially became the holiday in the United States after WWI.

Many Vets and their families attend church services on Sunday morning which would interfere with a large turnout for a ceremony service if held at 11 a.m.

Also because Veterans Day has floated to various days during the week throughout the years, many Veterans found themselves at work not being able to attend their celebration. The Lansing Memorial honor guard has always in the past 20 years chosen to celebrate the holiday on the Sunday before but since it falls on Sunday, November 11, we will celebrate it on that day at 2 p.m.

With this said the Lansing Memorial honor guard extends an invitation to join us at 2 p.m. on Sunday, November 11, 2012 and unite our communities to celebrate Veterans Day Veterans Day united together at the Lansing Memorial site.

This invitation has been sent to area Vet organizations as well as community leaders surrounding Lansing. Already there has been interest in our "Southland Community Veterans Day Service." Invitations have been sent to Lansing, Calumet City, Thornton and the south side of Chicago as well as several neighboring Indiana communities.

Confirming as the guest speaker is State Representative Thaddeus Jones of the 29<sup>th</sup> District from Calumet City."

Honor father & brother

Alderman Jones: “At that event, I want to honor my father and brother who served. He is proud of the service that they gave to our country. He is proud to be the guest speaker at the Veterans Day ceremony on November 11.”

Foreclosures in city

Alderman Jones stated there is a lot of misinformation being put out in the community by Alderman Wilson.

He stated has been working on a lot of bills in Springfield, particularly foreclosures, Senate Bill 16 and House Bill 1109 which I have asked mayor and other local mayors to support.

Alderman Jones stated according to the Illinois Department of Public Health and public administration there is 13,978 houses in Calumet City. From 2008 to 2012 there have probably been maybe 3200 foreclosures which averages 600 file foreclosures a year. In Calumet City, that number has dropped every year.

Currently in 2012 there are 541 file foreclosures of that only 266 have actually went to sale dates. We in Calumet City work hard. The purpose of Senate Bill 16 and House Bill 1109 is to have banks to give the city money they can address this in court and file liens against property when people walk away.”

Thank residents contacting his office/traffic safety bumps

Alderman Jones thanked the residents that contacted his office regarding traffic safety bumps. The bumps will be removed on November 15. Next year residents will be asked to sign a petition for any resident that wants to have speed bumps. The speed bumps were on Madison, Luella and Paxton Avenue.

River Oaks Estates polling location

Alderman Jones thanked the Mayor and City Clerk for contacting Cook County Clerk’s Office in regards to moving precinct 8 polling place back to River Oaks Estates for the November 6, 2012 election.

3<sup>rd</sup> Ward Town Hall Mtg. 10/30/12 @ Downey Park

Alderman Jones announced the third ward town hall meeting on Tuesday, October 30, 2012 at 7:00 p.m. at Downey Park regarding discussion on electric aggregation.

New third ward phone system - 11/2/12

Alderman Jones advised that the third ward will implement a new phone system on November 2, 2012. It will have the ability when residents leave a message it will have the capability to email and text his phone. The goal is to provide more efficient service and all calls are handled properly.

Ald. Wilson - comment

Alderman Wilson: “I want the record to reflect that Alderman Jones attributing any comments regarding foreclosures to me when I have not made any comments in the community.”

4<sup>th</sup> Ward Town Hall Mtg. 10/29/12 @ Downey Park

Mayor Michelle Markiewicz Qualkinbush announced the fourth ward town hall meeting on Monday, October 29, 2012 at 7:00 p.m. at Downey Park regarding discussion on electric aggregation.

Thanks residents attending  
5<sup>th</sup> Ward Town Hall Mtg.

Alderman Munda thanked his fifth ward residents for attending the town hall meeting regarding electric aggregation.

Thanks residents attending  
town hall meeting

Alderman Manousopoulos thanked the residents for attending the town hall meeting regarding electric aggregation.

Thornton Township Energy  
11/3/12

Alderman Collins announced the Thornton Township Energy Fair on November 3, 2012. Pre-registration is October 30 thru November 1. Please contact (708) 596-6040, ext. 3135 for more information.

Monies up to \$300.00 will be available for Thornton Township residents that includes money going to Nicor and Com Ed bills. CEDA will be present at the Energy Fair. Information will be posted in the city clerk's office or contact his office at (708) 891-8197.

Thornton Township food  
basket program

Alderman Collins announced that the Thornton Township Food/Christmas basket program. Residents can sign up November 14-16, 2012 at Thornton Township from 10:00 a.m. to 2:00 p.m. He encourages residents to participate in the program and receive a holiday box.

Thanks residents attending  
town hall meeting

Alderman Collins thanked residents for attending 7<sup>th</sup> Ward Town Hall Meeting regarding electric aggregation.

Contact ward office

Alderman Collins encourages residents to contact his office at (708) 891-8197 regarding any concerns or issues in the ward.

City Attorney - statement  
Reiff v. Calumet City

City Attorney Odelson: "I passed out to the city council tonight an order from United States District Court in a case called Reiff v. Calumet City, where a former employee Maureen Reiff has sued the city. That litigation has been going on. This order is very significant because in the 40 years that I have practiced law, I have never seen an attorney sanctioned and ordered to pay fees to the defendant, the City of Calumet City. I want to read three or four sentences to you from the order.

The court first notes that most of Mr. Casson's objections center around the decision to award costs and fees in the first place. According to Mr. Casson, the amount of recommended costs and fees is disproportionately severe given what counsel characterizes as his innocuous, reasonable actions. This argument is too little, too late, as Mr. Casson did not object to the original report and recommendation awarding costs and fees.

In sum, for the above reasons, Mr. Casson's objections are overruled. The court adopts the magistrate judge's September 14, 2012, recommendation in full, grants the defendants motion for fees and costs and directs Mr. Casson to personally pay \$5,355 in fees and \$25.00 in costs to the defendant, Calumet City, within 21 days after this order is docketed.

I make note of this not because of the amount is significant, but it is a sanction directly against Mr. Casson who has filed six or seven lawsuits against the city through the years, none of which have been successful and has cost the city quite a bit of money having to defend them.

City Attorney - statement  
Reiff v. Calumet City

There is another motion for sanction pending and we have asked the court to dismiss the entire case in the motion for sanction that is currently on file. I just want to keep the mayor and city council informed. Many of you have gone through dispositions in these cases. Unfortunately, it was a waste of your time as well as the city's money.

Secondly, on election night I have been asked to be a guest commentator on Fox News for the election results. So turn in on television and I will try and give the city a plug. Thank you."

### **INFORMATIONAL ITEMS TO BE ACCEPTED AND PLACED ON FILE**

City Treasurer Tarka/  
re: Investment Report for  
quarter ended 9/30/12

RE: Investment Report for the Quarter Ended September 30,2012.

Comcast/changes to channel

RE: Changes to Comcast channel line-up.

Comcast/programming  
changes

RE: Programming changes to Sports Entertainment & MultiLatino tiers of cable service.

LaVerne Gruba/commending

Commending City Treasurer Gerry Tarka.

Police Chief Gilmore/traffic  
study/MCR & Campbell

RE: Traffic Study for N.E. Corner of Michigan City Road & Campbell Avenue.

Robinson Engineering/  
re: pavement striping  
1350 Ring Road

RE: Pavement Striping Review - 1350 Ring Road.

Accept & place on file

Alderman Munda moved, seconded by Alderman Wosycznski, to accept the communications and place on file.

MOTION CARRIED

Pavement striping @  
1350 Ring Road

City Engineer Roberts gave a brief update on the striping of 1350 Ring Road and stated a motion is needed to approve the work.

Approve work/pavement striping @ 1350 Ring Rd.

Alderman Collins moved, seconded by Alderman Manousopoulos, to approve the recommendation from the city engineer of the letter dated October 9, 2012 to allow for the pavement striping for 1350 Ring Road in the amount of \$9,8001.00 and direct the City Treasurer to remit payment to Perma Seal in the amount of \$7,200.00 for pavement markings and \$2,600.00 to J & J Newell for concrete sidewalk; to be charged to MFT for construction and construction engineering per the agreement dated 1/26/12 council meeting.

ROLL CALL

YEAS: 7

ALDERMEN: Manousopoulos, Collins, Schneider, Wosczyznski, Jones, Wilson, Munda

NAYS: 0

ALDERMEN: None

ABSENT: 0

ALDERMEN: None

MOTION CARRIED

**NEW BUSINESS**

Submitting appointment Nicole Rudder/Deputy Treasurer from 11/1/12 to 4/30/13

Submitting approval for the appointment of Nicole Rudder as Deputy Treasurer from November 1, 2012 to April 30, 2013.

ROLL CALL

YEAS: 7

ALDERMEN: Collins, Schneider, Wosczyznski, Jones, Wilson, Munda, Manousopoulos

NAYS: 0

ALDERMEN: None

ABSENT: 0

ALDERMEN: None

MOTION CARRIED

**BUILDING PERMITS**

FENCE PERMITS  
344-154th Place - 5thWard

Approve permit

Alderman Munda moved, seconded by Alderman Schneider, to approve the fence permit as presented.

MOTION CARRIED

## RESOLUTIONS AND ORDINANCES

- Res. #1: approving CDBG agreement (Res. #12-38) Resolution of the City of Calumet City, Cook County, Illinois, Approving a Community Development Block Grant Subrecipient Agreement. (Project Number 12-006) (see attached page 9A)
- Ord.#2: handicap parking by adding: 664 Freeland (Ord. #12-50) Ordinance amending Chapter 90 of the Municipal Code of the City of Calumet City, Cook County, Illinois, by adding: 664 Freeland. (see attached page 9B)
- Ord. #3: handicap parking by deleting: 339 Crandon & 270 Chappel (Ord.#12-51) Ordinance amending Chapter 90 of the Municipal Code of the City of Calumet City, Cook County, Illinois, by deleting: 339 Crandon & 270 Chappel. (see attached page 9C)
- Ord. #4: amending Chap. 54 Video Gaming Terminal License Fee Ordinance amending Chapter 54 of the Municipal Code of the City of Calumet City, Cook County, Illinois. (Video Gaming Terminal License Fee)
- Table Ordinance #4 Alderman Schneider moved, seconded by Alderman Jones, to table ordinance #4 and refer to the Ordinance & Resolution Committee for review.

MOTION CARRIED

- Pass Resolutions/Adopt Ordinances Alderman Schneider moved, seconded by Alderman Wosczyński, to pass the Resolution and adopt the ordinances, without the necessity of prior posting.

### ROLL CALL

YEAS: 7	ALDERMEN: Schneider, Wosczyński, Jones, Wilson, Munda, Manousopoulos, Collins
NAYS: 0	ALDERMEN: None
ABSENT: 0	ALDERMEN: None

MOTION CARRIED

## FINANCIAL MATTERS

- Approve auditing services Crowe Horwath, LLP Approve Crowe Horwath, LLP to provide professional auditing services for year ending April 30, 2011 and authorize the City Treasurer to execute the necessary contract.
- Remit payment/Mesirow Financial (\$72,004.00) Authorize the City Treasurer to remit payment to Mesirow Financial (Safety National) in the amount of \$72,004.00 for the Excess Worker's Compensation renewal premium and charge to account #010-50-1-130.
- Authorize the Mayor to execute the Annual Service Agreement Letter with Mesirow Financial and direct the City Treasurer to remit payment in the amount of \$25,000 to Mesirow Financial for the annual service fee; to be charged to account #010-50-2-271.

Remit payment/Complex Network Solutions/\$42,000 Approve the proposal from Complex Network Solutions in the amount of \$42,000 for the mandatory movement of police radio towers and direct the City Treasurer to remit payment and charge to the appropriate account.

Approve Settlement Authority Request/DePue v, Calumet City case Approve the Settlement Authority Request in the Geary DePue v. Calumet City Case #11 WC 6569 and direct the City Treasurer to remit payment in the amount as stated in the communication and charge to the appropriate account.

Approve payroll Approve payroll (\$851,853.61)

Approve bill listing Approve bill listing (\$130,9821.62)

Approve legal bill listing Approve legal bill listing (\$44,991.19)

Approve ratification Firefighters Local 621 Contract Approve ratification of Firefighters Local 621 for a three year contract.

Approve renewal Workers Compensation - 11/14/12 to 11/14/13/Mesirow Approve the renewal of the Workers Compensation Claims Service Agreement from 11/14/12 to 11/14/13 and authorize the City Treasurer to remit payment to "CCMSI" in the amount of \$26,500.00; to be charged to account 3010-50-1-130 and authorize the Mayor to execute the renewal agreement.

Approve financial matters authorize City Treasurer remit payment Alderman Wosczyzski moved, seconded by Alderman Jones, to approve financial matters as presented and authorize the City Treasurer to remit payment.

Michelle Markiewicz Qualkinbush: "Item #8 is ratification of the Firefighters Local #621 contract. There is a typo on the agenda. It is for three years, not one year. Could I have a motion to remove the first and the second agenda."

Remove motion approving financial matters Alderman Wosczyzski moved, seconded by Alderman Jones, to remove the motion approving financial matters from the agenda.

MOTION CARRIED

Amend item #8 reflect three year contract firefighters Alderman Wosczyzski moved, seconded by Alderman Jones, to amend item #8 to reflect a three year contract for Firefighters Local #621,

MOTION CARRIED

Approve financial matters authorize City Treasurer remit payment Alderman Wosczyzski moved, seconded by Alderman Jones, to approve financial matters as presented and authorize the City Treasurer to remit payment as so amended.

ROLL CALL

YEAS:	7	ALDERMEN:	Wosczynski, Jones, Wilson, Munda, Manousopoulos, Collins, Schneider
NAYS:	0	ALDERMEN:	None
ABSENT:	0	ALDERMEN:	None

MOTION CARRIED

Thank negotiating team Mayor Michelle Markiewicz Qualkinbush: “I would just thank City Attorney Cary Horvath, Fire Chief Galgan Treasurer Tarka, Finance Director Kasperek and firefighters negotiators for negotiating the contract and the city is ratifying it tonight. Thank everyone for all the hard work put into that.”

**UNFINISHED BUSINESS**

Thank residents attending town hall meeting Alderman Schneider thanked the residents for attending town hall meeting regarding electric aggregation.

Neighborhood Watch Mtg. first Monday of month police department Alderman Wosczynski announced the Neighborhood Watch Meeting in the central section is every first Monday of the month downstairs in the police station lower level. Residents are encouraged to attend if they have any concerns in the ward.

Thank residents attending town hall meeting Alderman Wosczynski thanked the residents for attending town hall meeting regarding electric aggregation.

Thank residents attending free shredding event Alderman Jones thanked the residents for attending the shredding event sponsored by his office.

Letter from Secretary of State alerting businesses Alderman Jones advised a letter received from Secretary of State Jesse White alerting businesses about a scam taking place targeting Illinois corporations. It is a firm called Corporate Record Service that is contacting Illinois businesses in an attempt to collect a \$125.00 fee to fill out the corporations annual minute record form.

The Secretary State Police and the Illinois Attorney Generals office is investigating this matter the business. If businesses get contacted as a business in Calumet City by this company contact the Secretary of States office at (312) 814-2201 or contact his office at (708) 891-8193.

Contact ward office regarding adding resumes to list Alderman Jones thanked the residents for sending there resumes to his office. In the last two months, nine people were employed. His office has a list of job listings. If anyone wants to be added to the email list to receive upcoming jobs contact his office or email him at [calcacity3@yahoo.com](mailto:calcacity3@yahoo.com) or contact his office (708) 891-8193.

Early voting ends 11/3/12

Alderman Jones advised that early voting started in Calumet City. He encourages residents to exercise their right to vote. Early voting ends on Saturday, November 3, 2012.

Electronic recycling day  
12/1/12

Alderman Munda announced that public works will be hold an electronic recycling day on December 1, 2012. More details available at the next meeting.

Thank residents contacting  
ward office

Alderman Collins thanked residents for contacting his office regarding ward issues and concerns.

Thank City Clerk Figgs  
getting early voting

Mayor Michelle Markiewicz Qualkinbush thanked City Clerk Figgs for getting early voting at the Calumet City Public Library. She encourages residents to be patient due to long lines. The girls from the Cook County Clerk's Office are working hard and dealing with the large crowds.

## **ADJOURNMENT**

Adjournment was at 8:20 p.m. on a motion made by Alderman Manousopoulos, seconded by Alderman Munda.

MOTION CARRIED

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Nyota T. Figgs, City Clerk

/rb