

**CITY COUNCIL OF THE CITY OF HOMETOWN  
JOURNAL OF THE PROCEEDINGS  
August 22, 2023**

Call to Order: The regular meeting of the City Council of the City of Hometown was called to order by Acting Mayor Frank Finnegan on Tuesday, August 22, 2023 at 7:00 P.M.

Pledge of Allegiance: The Pledge of Allegiance was led by Alderman Walsh

Roll Call: Roll call indicated that the following were present: Aldermen Zak, Banasiak, Walsh, Forney, Reynolds, Grochowski, Brookman, Barnhouse and Kurysz.

Also present: Elizabeth Attard, City Attorney, Louis Dominguez, Chief of Police, Building Commissioner James Forbes, Public Health Safety Director Bonnie Gesiakowski and Mark Trlak, Public Works Director.

Press: Kelly White, Hometown Hi-Lites.

Journal August 8, 2023 Moved by Alderman Walsh seconded by Alderman Grochowski to approve as published the Journal of August 8, 2023 regular City Council Meeting.

Roll call, the vote was:

AYES: (10) Aldermen Banasiak, Brookman, Acting Mayor Finnegan, Walsh, Grochowski, Barnhouse, Reynolds, Forney, Zak and Kurysz.

NAYS: (0)

MOTION DECLARED CARRIED

**CITIZEN’S HEARING**

Angelina Gastineau of 4643 88th Place addressed the City Council saying she knows that fences are not allowed in the front yard but what options does she have when her attached neighbor allows their kids to run all over her front yard, and the adults come on her property. Building Commissioner Forbes stated she can put bushes down the middle of the property line. Ms. Gastineau then reported she had a concrete front patio she shares with the neighbor and wanted to know her options for that area. Building Commissioner Forbes asked for her address and stated he would visit her property tomorrow and discuss options with her.

**REPORTS AND COMMUNICATIONS**

**Office of the Mayor**

Acting Mayor Finnegan turned the meeting over to our Police Chief Dominguez. Chief Dominguez explained that the department held testing for promotions, which consisted of a written exam and verbal exam, the verbal exam was given by police chiefs from other municipalities. Chief Dominguez introduced two new officers that graduated from the academy in May, Donald Knor and Robert Doherty were welcomed by the City Council.

City Clerk Hacker swore in the following officers to their new rank.

Gregory Perovich      Lieutenant  
Nicholas DiSandro      Sergeant  
Sam Wu                      Corporal

Chief Dominguez stated he is so thankful for the department and those in leadership positions, they are keeping things going while we are understaffed as most departments are across the county. Many of these officers hold full-time jobs and still make things work with the shortages.

Acting Mayor Finnegan stated with a part-time department and so much demand, all levels are doing more than expected of them. The Chief, DC's, Commanders are working extra time. Acting Mayor Finnegan proclaimed September 18-24,2023 as National Rail Safety Week. School is open so please drive safely.

**Office of the City Clerk:**

City Clerk Mary Jo C. Hacker stated we received a request from the Salvation Army to conduct their annual Red Kettle Campaign Monday-Saturday, November 1<sup>st</sup>-December 24<sup>th</sup> 2023.

Moved by Alderman Grochowski, seconded by Alderman Walsh to approve the request from the Salvation Army to conduct their annual Red Kettle Campaign Monday-Saturday, November 1<sup>st</sup>-December 24<sup>th</sup> 2023. Voice Vote indicated all in favor.

City Clerk Hacker reported a late request for a table to be purchased for the VFW 75<sup>th</sup> Anniversary in the amount of \$300.00. If a motion is made the City Council can approve the request and ratify it at the next meeting when it will be on the agenda.

Moved by Alderman Zak, seconded by Alderman Banasiak to approve the purchase of a table at \$300.00 for the VFW 75<sup>th</sup> Anniversary Dinner.

Roll call, the vote was:

AYES: (10) Aldermen Banasiak, Brookman, Acting Mayor Finnegan, Zak, Grochowski, Barnhouse, Reynolds, Walsh, Forney and Kurysz.

NAYS: (0)

MOTION DECLARED CARRIED

Clerk Hacker stated that everyone should have a copy of the thank you letter from Park Lawn for the donation we made; it is nice to receive a thank you showing appreciation for the donations made.

**Office of the Treasurer:**

City Treasurer Salvatore Roti had no report.

**REPORTS FROM CITY APPOINTED OFFICIAL**

City  
Attorney: Attorney Elizabeth Attard had no report.

Police: Louis Dominguez, Chief of Police had no report.

Public Works  
Department: Mark Trlak, Director reported they are laying large asphalt patches and painting the curbs yellow.

Building  
Department: James Forbes, Commissioner had no report.

Health &  
Safety: Bonnie Gesiakowski, Director had no report.

**REPORTS FROM STANDING COMMITTEES**

**FINANCE COMMITTEE**

Accounts  
Payable  
Payroll  
August  
22 2023: Moved by Alderman Forney, seconded by Alderman Brookman to approve for payment the accounts payable vouchers in the amount of \$151,802.76 and payroll vouchers in the amount of \$66,571.55 for a total expenditure of \$218,374.31.

Roll call, the vote was:

AYES: (10) Aldermen Banasiak, Brookman, Acting Mayor Finnegan, Zak, Grochowski, Barnhouse, Reynolds, Walsh, Forney and Kurysz.

NAYS: (0)

MOTION DECLARED CARRIED

**STREETS, SIDEWALKS AND MUNICIPAL BUILDING COMMITTEE**

Alderman Glen Zak, Chairman moved, seconded by Alderman Walsh to authorize the Acting Mayor to sign the IDOT Local Public Agency Engineering Services Agreement for Corcoran Road Reconstruction project funded with CDBG Funds through Cook County.

Roll call, the vote was:

AYES: (10) Aldermen Banasiak, Brookman, Acting Mayor Finnegan, Zak, Grochowski, Barnhouse, Reynolds, Walsh, Forney and Kurysz.

NAYS: (0)

MOTION DECLARED CARRIED

Alderman Glen Zak, Chairman moved, seconded by Alderman Banasiak to authorize the Acting Mayor to sign the IDOT Local Public Agency Engineering Services Agreement for the 89<sup>th</sup> Place Reconstruction project funded with DCEO Grant Funds through the Capitol Grant.

Roll call, the vote was:

AYES: (10) Aldermen Banasiak, Brookman, Acting Mayor Finnegan, Zak, Grochowski, Barnhouse, Reynolds, Walsh, Forney and Kurysz.

NAYS: (0)

MOTION DECLARED CARRIED

**WATER AND SEWER COMMITTEE**

Alderman Daniel Walsh, Chairman had no report.

**PARKS AND RECREATION COMMITTEE**

Alderman Tom Brookman, Chairman had no report.

**CODE AND ORDINANCE COMMITTEE**

Alderman Robert Reynolds, Chairman had no report.

**INSURANCE COMMITTEE:**

Alderman Rick Banasiak, Chairman had no report.

**PUBLIC HEALTH AND SAFETY COMMITTEE**

Alderman Luci Kurysz, Chairman had no report.

**BUILDING COMMITTEE**

Alderman Brian Barnhouse, Chairman notified of a Zoning Board of Appeals meeting to be held on August 23, 2023 at 7:00 pm. At the request of Rosendo Guzman of 4224 W. 90<sup>th</sup> Place regarding a fence permit that was denied. The fence he wants to remove was put up over thirty-three (33) years ago without a permit and the fence is less than one inch on the neighbor's property line.

**LICENSE COMMITTEE:**

Alderman Donna Grochowski, Chairman had no report.

**POLICE COMMITTEE**

Acting Mayor Frank Finnegan, Chairman had no report.

**REPORTS FROM SPECIAL COMMITTEES**

Library: Alderman Grochowski, Liaison reported the library, will be closed September 4<sup>th</sup> in observance of Labor Day. The next meeting will be on September 5, 2023.

Legislation: Alderman Forney had no report.

Fire

Department: Alderman Reynolds, Liaison report they met last night, they reported July 2023 they had 164 runs, 56 EMS, 48 billable runs, they assisted on two fires, one of which was Jedi Garden in Oak Lawn. They are actively looking for new members.

Personnel

Review: Acting Mayor Finnegan, Chairman no report.

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

SPECIAL

EVENTS: Alderman Grochowski report the September 11 memorial will be held on September 10 at Mayor's Park Starting at 2 pm. Alderman Grochowski asked that the park be closed prior to this event. Volunteers are welcome.

HEALTH, WELFARE & COMMUNITY EVENTS: Alderman Grochowski reported the Fall Fest will be held on October 21, Noon to 4 pm at Patterson Park. The VFW is selling Lottery tickets for \$5.00 each. There will be a band at the VFW on August 26<sup>th</sup> starting at 7:30 p.m. and the 75<sup>th</sup> Anniversary dinner is Sunday from 1pm to 5 pm at the Garden Chalet.

UNFINISHED BUSINESS: Director Forbes encouraged the Aldermen to attend the Zoning Hearing.

NEW BUSINESS: NONE

CITIZEN'S HEARING: NONE

ADJOURNMENT: Motion made by Alderman Reynolds Seconded by Alderman Walsh to adjourn the regular meeting of the Hometown City Council.

MOTION STATED CARRIED

The meeting was adjourned at 7:27 p.m.

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Mary Jo C. Hacker  
City Clerk/Collector