

**CITY COUNCIL OF THE CITY OF HOMETOWN
JOURNAL OF THE PROCEEDINGS
May 10, 2022**

Call to Order: The regular meeting of the City Council of the City of Hometown was called to order by Mayor Casey on Tuesday May 10, 2022 at 7:00 P.M.

Pledge of Allegiance: The Pledge of Allegiance was led by Alderman Grochowski.

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

Also present: Michael Cainkar, City Attorney, Louis Dominguez, Chief of Police, Mark Trlak, Director of Public Works, Bonne Gesiakowski, and James Forbes, Building Commissioner.

Press: Kelly White, Hometown Hi-Lites.

Journal April 26, 2022: Moved by Alderman Kurysz, seconded by Alderman Finnegan to approve as published the Journal of April 26, 2022 Regular City Council Meeting.

Roll Call Indicated:

AYES: (5) Aldermen Barnhouse, Kurysz, Finnegan, Grochowski and Reynolds

NAYS: (0)

ABSENT: (4) Aldermen Smith, Beyer, Zak and Banasiak.

ABSTENSION: (1) Alderman Walsh.

MOTION DECLARED CARRIED

CITIZEN’S HEARING

NONE

Mayor Casey extended his deep condolences to Treasurer Sal Roti

REPORTS AND COMMUNICATIONS

Office of the Mayor:

Mayor Casey extended his deep condolences to City Treasurer Sal Roti on the passing of his father. The services are pending and once we know we will send them out. Mayor Casey stated he attended the Illinois Memorial for the Fallen officers in Springfield, the Mayor, Chief, Cook County dispatcher that took the call, two officers and other employees attended. There were eleven officers honored, it was a very solemn, emotion impressive two day event. There were receptions, church services and more receptions, the grieving families were treated great. Mayor Casey commended the Chief for going down, we were the only Department with no family in attendance and the only Mayor attending. There were many dignitaries involved from the governor down to the State Treasurer. There were hundreds of Police Squads in the procession with IL State Police escorting the buses holding the families and dignitaries from event to event. This was a sight to be seen, eye opening and hopefully we never have to experience it again. The Chief leaves in a few days to drive to Washington to attend the national memorial for fallen soldiers. There is an event in August also the Chief can speak to. I could not be prouder of the Chief, and I appreciate the invite to attend. The new Car Wash, Eco Bright has begun demo, they are digging up all the concrete and awaiting the MWD permit . There is now a signed contract for the Church, the Building Commissioner and Mayor will meet with the inspectors for the two-day inspection. This is moving along.

We met with Nicor representatives regarding the ballads they have started to install on the gas meters for safety. Since 2009 we have had sixteen meters knocked off the houses by cars. The plan is for them to install them on 385 houses. Mayor Casey and Commissioner Forbes explained our concerns for residents being able to get cars in and out of the driveway. They understand the concerns and we will have a decision in thirty days as to a remedy. Grant money is funding this. Nothing new on Go Puff and Pizza Plus doing well.

Office of the City Clerk:

City Clerk Hacker notified the City Council the Clerk's office received from the Department of Revenue that the Sales Tax collected in the month of March 2022 was in the amount of \$21,094.50 the amount collected in the month of March 2021 was in the amount of \$18,205.46.

City Clerk Hacker notified the City Council the Clerk's office received from the Department of Transportation that the MFT collected in the month of March 2022 was in the amount of \$14,477.55, the amount collected in the month of March 2021 was in the amount of \$12,313.42.

Clerk Hacker stated sticker sales have started and are going well. Right before the first day of sticker sales an employee that was with me 6 years gave her 2 weeks' notice because we did not have benefits she needed for her family. I now have two new young workers, and everything is going great.

Office of the Treasurer:

Treasurer Roti stated everyone should have the reports generated from his office. Nothing major happening. Everyone should have a copy of the tax revenue update sheets.

City Attorney: Michael Cainkar, City Attorney, had no report.

Police: Louis Dominguez, Chief of Police, stated the Illinois memorial was a very moving event. Here was an event today for the Cook County Officers, there were four, Jim being one of them. They presented us with a wreath and a beautiful plaque, we had seven officers in attendance. Next week I will attend a national memorial for officers that died in the line of duty in Washington on May 15th, there will be two convoys, one August 7, 2022 a moving wall which will visit the department of each officer, the wall will come to us from Chicago Heights where they also lost an officer. In July there will be a Ride to Remember from Springfield to our area that will pass through Hometown via Pulaski then down Main Street, there will be approximately 90 motorcycles. The CVS across 87th Street has been robbed twice within the past week; The Chief has spoken with the General Manager regarding his late closing hours. The Chief will again suggest closing earlier than midnight. The investigators did an excellent job on the carjacking in the Co-ops, we were able to get five-six felony counts and we identified one of the two offenders.

Public Works: Mark Trlak, Director, reported they opened the Splash Pad, it looks good. The Street Cleaner came through. They will be re-seeding the lawns from the water breaks. The asphalt repair will be done once the companies open.

REPORTS FROM CITY APPOINTED OFFICIAL

Building: James Forbes, Building Commissioner reported he studied the driveway situation and the maximum we can allow would be 18ft. Mayor Casey thanked Jim for all the work he has been putting in on many projects. Alderman Grochowski asked about the pavers and Commissioner Forbes stated that would be part of the changes to the code.

Public Health and Safety: Bonnie Gesiakowski stated with all the rain, she gave forty-eight grass warning tickets., this year she will give one warning and then straight to a ticket.

REPORTS FROM STANDING COMMITTEES

FINANCE COMMITTEE

Accounts Payable Payroll April 12, 2022: Moved by Alderman Reynolds, seconded by Alderman Finnegan to approve for payment the accounts payable vouchers in the amount of \$62,094.06 and payroll vouchers in the amount of \$65,333.39 for a total expenditure of \$127,427.45.

(List of vouchers marked "EXHIBIT A" attached to and made a part of this Journal)

Roll Call Indicated:

AYES: (6) Aldermen Barnhouse, Kurysz, Finnegan, Grochowski, Reynolds and Walsh.

NAYS: (0)

ABSENT: (4) Aldermen Smith, Beyer, Zak and Banasiak

MOTION DECLARED CARRIED

Alderman Reynolds acknowledged receipt of the City Treasurer's Report and the Clerk Collector's Report.

STREETS, SIDEWALKS AND MUNICIPAL BUILDING COMMITTEE

Alderman Glen Zak, Chairman was absent.

WATER AND SEWER COMMITTEE

Alderman Walsh, Chairman had no report.

PARKS AND RECREATION COMMITTEE

Alderman Smith, Chairman was absent. Mayor Casey reported the Splash Pad is open.

BUILDING COMMITTEE

Alderman Barnhouse, Chairman gave the building report Chairman Barnhouse notified the City Council that the Zoning Board of Appeals will conduct a Public Hearing on Wednesday May 25, 2022 at the request of Mary Ann Kurek of 4401 W. 87th Street. Her Garage permit application for an oversized garage measuring 24'x24' was denied. Commissioner Forbes explained this resident is on an oversized corner lot and is also putting an addition on their house.

LICENSE COMMITTEE: Alderman Donna Grochowski, Chairman reminded residents that the Vehicle Stickers and animal tags will be on sale May 2-June 30th. Alderman Grochowski reminded residents, if your car sleeps here it must have a sticker, that includes work vehicles and trucks.

CODE AND ORDINANCE COMMITTEE: Alderman Bob 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.

POLICE COMMITTEE: Alderman Finnegan, Chairman commended the Police department and staff for being so active. Chairman Finnegan gave the activity for April 2022. State Tickets:73 P Tickets:404 C Tickets: 9 Warnings:166 (103 HT Residents)

REPORTS FROM SPECIAL COMMITTEES

Library: Alderman Grochowski reported the circulation for April 2022 was 448, the circulation for April 2021 was 320. They received over 13k in tax revenue. Annette is retiring after 29 years of service . The mayor asked if they ever have an Amnesty Day, Alderman Grochowski stated she will look into them having one again.

Legislation: Alderman Beyer was absent.

Fire

Department: Alderman Rick Banasiak was absent. Mayor Casey stated that they hired a new chief, Dan Duffy. Mayor Casey stated he commends the Trustees, Trustee Scott is taking a huge lead and making changes. They have restructured things and hired seven people, they are getting things up to speed and recovering. We wish Chief Duffy well.

Personnel Mayor Kevin Casey, Chairman, had no report. Chief Dominguez had no report.

Review:

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

Alderman Kurysz stated there is a misunderstanding in the Medicare medication increase and people should speak with a professional.

SPECIAL

EVENTS: Alderman Grochowski has been in touch with Cook County Rabies unit, and we will not have a Cook County Rabies Day this year. The Cook County Rabies unit is trying a new Pilot Program to vaccinate Veteran's dogs in November and asked Hometown to be the pilot site, but the Hometown and Oak Lawn VFW were not interested due to the service requiring an indoor facility.

HEALTH, WELFARE & COMMUNITY AWARENESS: Alderman Grochowski reported on many upcoming events.

UNFINISHED BUSINESS: Mayor Casey and Alderman Barnhouse discussed the electronic speed sign currently on Southwest Highway.

NEW BUSINESS: Clerk Hacker stated we received a thank you from the Bukowski Family for the flowers we sent at the time of Rich's passing.

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 adjourned at 7:55 pm

Mary Jo C. Hacker
City Clerk/Collector