

**CITY COUNCIL OF THE CITY OF HOMETOWN  
JOURNAL OF THE PROCEEDINGS  
June 27, 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, June 27, 2023 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 Zak, Banasiak, Walsh, Forney, Reynolds, Grochowski, Brookman, Barnhouse and Kurysz.

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

Press: Kelly White, Hometown Hi-Lites.

Journal June 13, 2023 Moved by Alderman Walsh seconded by Alderman Grochowski to approve as published the Journal of June 13, 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**

Gary Dolan of 4609 W. 88<sup>th</sup> Street asked about a speed bump for 88<sup>th</sup> street. Acting Mayor Finnegan responded that he and Chief Dominguez and Director Trlak are looking into what would be the best product. Acting Mayor Finnegan stated 88<sup>th</sup> Street is at the top of the list for either speed bumps or solar speed limit signs. Mr. Dolan then asked Acting Mayor Finnegan if he was collecting both his Alderman and Mayor salary. Acting Mayor Finnegan stated yes, on the advice of our City Attorney, he is keeping his Aldermanic Seat until he has a candidate to fill that position. Kevin Sweeney of 9007 Corcoran Road addressed the City Council regarding the noise coming from the Splash Pad, noting there are many children from Penny Lane School. There was full discussion regarding the Splash Pad/Park noise, mentioned was it is a public park and regarding the Penny Lane School many of those children are Hometown residents.

**REPORTS AND COMMUNICATIONS**

**Office of the Mayor**

Acting Mayor Finnegan stated on June 20<sup>th</sup> the District 123 School Board unanimously approved the proposal for the Pickle Ball Courts. The next step is getting a rendering from our engineer. July 1<sup>st</sup> is the Eid Halal Fest, Acting Mayor Finnegan stated he and Chief Dominguez, Chief Duffy and Commander Haubenreiser met with the officials at the Mosque regarding the upcoming Fest. They will have two mechanical rides, five blow ups, and Petting Zoo and they plan to use orange construction fence around the area. No alcohol will be allowed, and they will be providing security and we will schedule additional police during the event, and we will meet right before the event also. Alderman Grochowski asked if they will have to apply for an electric permit, Acting Mayor Finnegan stated they will apply for a general permit. There was full discussion regarding the Pickle Ball Courts. Noise in the area, no lights, who is paying for it and fencing were discussed.

There will be no lights, no fencing at this time, The City of Hometown will own the courts so we will pay for them, and the noise will be addressed if it becomes an issue. There were City Council members that stated they play pickle ball, and the noise is not loud at all. Acting Mayor Finnegan reported there are also plans for a victory garden and a vegetable garden and walking path for the area. Acting Mayor Finnegan reported that the Hometown Phoenix Girl's Softball team 18 U won the NSA 2023 State Championship! Jacie who will be performing Sunday is on the team.

**Office of the City Clerk:**

City Clerk Mary Jo C. Hacker stated we received a request from Pathlights for a donation.

Moved By Alderman Grochowski, seconded by Alderman Barnhouse to approve a donation to Pathlights for \$250.00.

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

City Clerk stated we received a request from the Southwest Conference of Mayors for a foursome and sponsorship for their annual golf outing.

Moved By Alderman Banasiak, seconded by Alderman Brookman to approve a foursome and sponsorship in the amount of \$800.00.

Roll call, the vote was:

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

NAYS: (0)

**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, was not present.

Public Works Department: Mark Trlak, Director reported the branch program is complete and went well, we will do it again the first two Mondays in October. The meter checks are going well, there have been over 400 meters installed, they now are using three installers. The flags have been put up for the holiday.

Building

Department: James Forbes, Commissioner reported there is a second story addition going up on 87<sup>th</sup> Street. Acting Mayor Finnegan thanked Jim for his assistance with an issue that came up.

Health &

Safety: Bonnie Gesiakowski, Director, had no report.

**REPORTS FROM STANDING COMMITTEES**

**FINANCE COMMITTEE**

Accounts  
Payable  
and  
Payroll  
June 27  
23 2023:

Moved by Alderman Forney, seconded by Alderman Banasiak to approve for payment the accounts payable vouchers in the amount of \$73,530.73 and payroll vouchers in the amount of \$69,414.97 for a total expenditure of \$142,945.70.

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 had no report.

**WATER AND SEWER COMMITTEE**

Alderman Daniel Walsh, Chairman reported he had his meter replaced, it took 15 minutes, the installers were very professional and cleaned up when they were done.

**PARKS AND RECREATION COMMITTEE**

Alderman Tom Brookman, Chairman had no report. Alderman Grochowski asked if there is a time limit on the splash pad due to the drought. Acting Mayor Finnegan stated if we receive a notice, we will investigate it.

**CODE AND ORDINANCE COMMITTEE**

Alderman Robert Reynolds, Chairman had no report.

**INSURANCE COMMITTEE:**

Alderman Rick Banasiak, Chairman reminded everyone the stickers and animal tags are on sale until June 30 at the regular price. After June 30<sup>th</sup>, the price doubles.

**PUBLIC HEALTH AND SAFETY COMMITTEE**

Alderman Luci Kurysz, Chairman encouraged people to wear a mask due to the air quality.

**BUILDING COMMITTEE**

Alderman Brian Barnhouse, Chairman had no report.

**LICENSE COMMITTEE:**

Alderman Donna Grochowski, Chairman reminded residents that the vehicle stickers and animal tags go on sale May 1-June 30<sup>th</sup> and the price doubles on July 1<sup>st</sup>.

**POLICE COMMITTEE**

Acting Mayor Frank Finnegan, Chairman reported Friday the Police received a tip regarding a garage in town with an excessive number of fireworks. The Police Department went through all the legal channels prior to knocking on the door, they confiscated 20k worth of fireworks, he was fined, and the Chief contacted the bomb squad to remove them.

**REPORTS FROM SPECIAL COMMITTEES**

Library:

Alderman Grochowski, Liaison reported the library will hold their next meeting on July 11, 2023 at 7 pm. The library will be closed on July 4<sup>th</sup>.

Legislation: Alderman Forney reported the minimum wage in Suburban Cook County will increase on July 1, 2023.

Fire

Department: Alderman Reynolds, Liaison was unable to attend the meeting, so Acting Mayor Finnegan attended and reported they had 153 calls with 44 being billable. The city received the AED Machine, and they will locate it at Patterson Park. They completed the annual business inspections. The Department will participate in the Evergreen Park Parade. They assisted Oak Lawn and Chicago Ridge on fires. Alderman Barnhouse asked who will check the batteries, Acting Mayor Finnegan stated the HFPD, and they will consider training the coaches on the use of the machine.

Personnel

Review: Acting Mayor Finnegan, Chairman no report.

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

SPECIAL

EVENTS: Alderman Grochowski reported plans for the 9-11 memorial service are underway, the event will take place on September 12, 2023 at the Mayors Park. Alderman Grochowski asked that the water park be turned off for the event. Acting Mayor Finnegan replied sure.

HEALTH, WELFARE & COMMUNITY EVENTS: Alderman Grochowski reported the VFW will have the beer garden open on July 21, 2023, they will also be hosting the Cruise Night from 5-9 on the 1<sup>st</sup>, 3<sup>rd</sup> and 4<sup>th</sup> Wednesday of the month. Crazy Joe's Christmas in August, August 19, 2023 4 pm to 11 pm. Acting Mayor Finnegan announced a 16-year-old that is the daughter of a Hometown and her mother teaches at Hometown School, Jacie Strelow will be singing Sunday with 70-year-old Travelin Dan at the Gazebo 6:30-9:30. Pizza plus is putting together a small menu of food for purchase.

UNFINISHED BUSINESS: There was discussion regarding the tire lot being used for parking for Saturday night. There was discussion regarding charging nonresidents for the park. There was discussion regarding the street parking for the Fest.

NEW BUSINESS: NONE

CITIZEN'S HEARING:

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

MOTION STATED CARRIED

The meeting was adjourned at 7:45 p.m.

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Mary Jo C. Hacker  
City Clerk/Collector