

**CITY COUNCIL OF THE CITY OF HOMETOWN
JOURNAL OF THE PROCEEDINGS
August 8, 2023**

Call to Order: The regular meeting of the City Council of the City of Hometown was called to order by Acting Mayor Finnegan on Tuesday August 8, 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 Banasiak, Reynolds, Acting Mayor Finnegan, Kurysz, Forney, Walsh, Zak, Grochowski and Brookman.
Absent: Alderman Barnhouse.

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

Press: Kelly White, Hometown Hi-Lites.

Journal July Meeting. 25. 2023: Moved by Alderman Zak, seconded by Alderman Kurysz to approve as published the Journal of July 25, 2023 Regular City Council

Roll Call Indicated:

AYES: (9) Aldermen, Brookman, Banasiak, Reynolds, Walsh, Zak, Kurysz, Grochowski, Acting Mayor Finnegan and Forney

NAYS: (0)

ABSENT: (1) Alderman Barnhouse

MOTION DECLARED CARRIED

CITIZEN'S HEARING

Gary Dolan of 4609 W. 88th Street asked for an update on the request for Speed Bumps on 88th Street. Acting Mayor Finnegan stated they are looking at a digital speedometer that flashes when you exceed the speed, they can be seen in Palos on Southwest Highway. Chief Dominguez will investigate it. Mr. Dolan also asked about cracks in the new sidewalks on 88th Street. Jan Forney addressed the City Council regarding the ladies bathroom in Hammond Hall, the condition and the stall with no door. There was discussion regarding the no door, and it was stated that was due to ADA compliance. Public Works will investigate this for a remedy. Dianne Fiedler 9003 Beck Place again brought to the City Council the noise she is experiencing with her neighbor. There was discussion on this matter. Alderman Forney called for a Code and Ordinance committee meeting on August 22, 2023 at 6:00 p.m. before the regular City Council meeting.

REPORTS AND COMMUNICATIONS

Office of the Mayor:

Acting Mayor Finnegan commended City Clerk Hacker and her IT man for moving her whole office across the hall after the last meeting, not skipping a beat and now moving it back last night during the City Clerk's Office renovation. Acting Mayor Finnegan thanked everyone for attending the celebration after honoring Kevin being installed on the Mae Randle Board. Acting Mayor Finnegan stated the Coco & Fancy concert was a nice night and we have Jacie and Travelin Dan concert coming on the 13th. The fence work has begun by the Salt Dome and will take 2-3 days. Both Public Works and the Police are operating short handed and getting things done.

Office of the City Clerk:

City Clerk Hacker reported that her office received from the Department of Revenue that the Sales Tax collected in the month of April 2023 was in the amount of \$25,778.90 the amount collected in the month of April 2022 was in the amount of \$22,145.01.

City Clerk Hacker reported that her office received from of Transportation that the MFT collected in the month of April 2023 was in the amount of \$15,685.17 the amount collected in the month of April 2022 was in the amount of \$14,638.73.

Clerk Hacker thanked Director Trlak for all his and his workers assistance in moving her office for the renovation .

Office of the Treasurer:

Treasurer Roti stated everyone should have the reports generated from his office. Kudos to the Police Depaiiment, towing is up.

Alderman Forney asked the price of a typical street reconstruction. Treasurer Roti responded over \$400,000.00.

Alderman Forney asked how donations are requested and what account are they paid from.

Treasurer Roti responded organizations send in requests and they are paid from corporate services.

REPORTS FROM CITY APPOINTED OFFICIAL

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

Police Department: Louis Dominguez, Police Chief reported that the electronic citation has had the kinks worked out and is functioning great. We have bought fifteen (15) body cams, training for them will start September 1st and then we should be up and running. At the next meeting I will have five (5) officers being promoted to the next rank, and I will introduce three officers that are in the academy. Chief Dominguez thanked the City Council and everyone else that donated to the Police to benefit the Special Olympics.

Public Works: Mark Trlak, Director reported The Street Sweeper came through last night, we have been laying down cold patch on 88th Place and 89th Place. The meter program has been going well, we are at 1067 installed, we do valve checks daily. The building lights are being changed to LED.

Acting Mayor Finnegan reported he, Director Trlak and City Engineer Mark Volk met with Representative Casten regarding the grant we applied for through his office. We are in the running for \$300,000.00 for sewer televising and lining.

Building: James Forbes, Building Commissioner had no report.

Public Health: Bonnie Gesiakowski had no report.

REPORTS FROM STANDING COMMITTEES

FINANCE COMMITTEE

Accounts Payable Payroll August 8, 2023: Moved by Alderman Forney, seconded by Alderman Banasiak to approve for payment the accounts payable vouchers in the amount of \$113,948.36 and payroll vouchers in the amount of \$89,911.66 for a total expenditure of \$203,860.02.
(List of vouchers marked "EXHIBIT A" attached to and made a part of this Journal)
Roll Call Indicated:

AYES: (9) Aldermen, Brookman, Banasiak, Reynolds, Walsh, Zak, Kurysz, Grochowski, Acting Mayor Finnegan and Forney

NAYS: (0)

ABSENT: (1) Alderman Barnhouse

MOTION DECLARED CARRIED

Alderman Forney acknowledged receipt of the City Treasurer's Report and the Clerk Collector's Report and thanked the appointed officials for all they do.

STREETS, SIDEWALKS AND MUNICIPAL BUILDING COMMITTEE

Alderman Glen Zak, Chairman had no report.

WATER AND SEWER COMMITTEE

Alderman Daniel Walsh, Chairman had no report .

PARKS AND RECREATION COMMITTEE

Alderman Brookman, Chairman had no rep01i.

BUILDING COMMITTEE

Alderman Barnhouse, Chairman was absent. Alderman Walsh gave the building rep01i.

LICENSE COMMITTEE: Alderman Donna Grochowski, asked if we were still pursuing vehicles with no stickers, she was advised we were.

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, Chairlman, had no report.

POLICE COMMITTEE : Alderman Finnegan gave the police report.

C Tickets: 20 P Tickets: 398 State Tickets: 268 Verbal Warnings: 117 Written Warnings: 86
Total: 889 Hometown Residents: 59 Arrests: 34 Felony Arrest: 1
Average is 28 stops a day and 22 tickets written a day

REPORTS FROM SPECIAL COMMITTEES

Libral_y: Alderman Grochowski reported the board has started using all visitors in the library to the circulation report so we will now report the number of visitors. In July of 2022 there were 992 visitors and in July of 2023 there were 1257 visitors. The library has received their per capitol funds. They continue to work on the revamp. They have a high school student that is painting a mural in the children's section. They are looking into another grant. The Reading Program ended on August 12, 2023. They are talking to Hometown School Library about materials they are no longer using. Alderman Kurysz complimented the library personnel on the help they gave her and encouraged others to go to the library if they need assistance.

Legislation: Alderman Forney had no report.

Fire

Department: Alderman Reynolds reported they will meet on August 21st at 5:00 p.m.

Personnel Acting Mayor Finnegan, Chairman, had no report. Chief Dominguez had no report.
Review:

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

RES. No. RESOLUTION NO. 6-2023: MOVED BY ALDERMAN BROOKMAN, SECONDED BY
6-2023: ALDERMAN ZAK TO APPROVE RESOLUTION NO. 6-2023, A RESOLUTION APPROVING
THE MFT MAINTENANCE BUDGET IN THE AMOUNT OF \$450,000.00.

Roll Call Indicated:

AYES: (9) Aldermen , Grochowski, Reynolds, Forney Banasiak, Brookman,
Acting Mayor Finnegan, Kurysz, Walsh and Zak.

NAYS: (0)

ABSENT: (1) Alderman Barnhouse.

MOTION DECLARED CARRIED

SPECIAL

EVENTS: Alderman Grochowski reported for the 9-11 memorial service we have confirmed the Police Chief, Fire Chief, the VFW, The VFW Auxiliary. We are still waiting on the American Legion and the Army Band. Alderman Grochowski asked that the park is closed during this event on September 10, 2023 at 2 p.m. Father Tom has offered St. Germaine in the event of rain.

HEALTH, WELFARE & COMMUNITY AWARENESS: Alderman Grochowski reported the VFW will be hosting a Cruise Night, the first, third and fourth Wednesday of the month 5pm to 9 pm through September. Crazy Joe is having a Christmas Toy Drive on August 19th from 4 pm to 11pm at the Hometown Shopping Plaza, the Police Car from the Special Olympic will be on display. There will be a free shredding event in the City Hall parking lot September 29 from 9:00 am to 10:00 am. The Park Board will be hosting a Fall Fest on October 21st, 2023 at Patterson Park from Noon-4:00 p.m. There will be a live band at the VFW on August 26 and tickets are on sale for the 75th Anniversary.

UNFINISHED BUSINESS: Alderman Forney asked for an update on the speed bumps and the stop sign on Corcoran and 90th place. . Acting Mayor Finnegan stated he and the Chief are looking at other options, putting speed bumps in tear up the street and the stop sign will be installed.

NEW BUSINESS: NONE

CITIZEN' S HEARIN G: John Forney reported he had a resident make him a parking sign for the parking lot.

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

MOTION STATED CARRIED

The meeting adjourned at 7:45 pm Mary Jo C. Hacker, City Clerk/Collector