

Minutes - September 4, 2001

Darien City Council Meeting Minutes: 09.04.01

A WORK SESSION WAS CALLED TO ORDER AT 7:00 P.M. BY MAYOR CARMEN SOLDATO FOR THE PURPOSE OF REVIEWING ITEMS ON THE SEPTEMBER 4, 2001 AGENDA WITH THE CITY COUNCIL. THE WORKSHOP SESSION ADJOURNED AT 7:35 P.M.

Minutes of the Regular Meeting of the City Council of the CITY OF DARIEN,
September 4, 2001

1. CALL TO ORDER

The regular meeting of the City Council of the City of Darien was called to order at 7:35 P.M. by Mayor Carmen D. Soldato.

2. PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE

Mayor Soldato led the Council and audience in the Pledge of Allegiance.

3. ROLL CALL - The Roll Call of Aldermen by City Clerk Coleman was as follows:

Present: Richard Biehl, David Hagen, Morgan Cotten, Joseph Marchese, Sean P. Durkin, James Tikalsky, Kathleen Moesle-Weaver.

Also in Attendance:

Carmen D. Soldato, Mayor
Joanne F. Coleman, City Clerk
Arthur Donner, Treasurer
Judith N. Kolman, City Attorney
Rick O. Curneal, City Administrator
JoEllen Charlton, Director of Community Development
Robert Mengarelli, Asst. Director of Public Works
Robert Rodgers, Asst. Director of Public Works
Barbara Richards, Director of Finance/Administration

4. DECLARATION OF A QUORUM

There being seven Aldermen present, Mayor Soldato declared a quorum.

5. APPROVAL OF MINUTES It was moved by Alderman Hagen and seconded by Alderman Durkin to approve the Minutes of the Regular Meeting of August 20, 2001 as presented.

Roll Call:

Ayes: Biehl, Cotten, Durkin, Hagen, Marchese, Tikalsky, Weaver

Nays: None

Absent: None

Results: Ayes 7 Nays 0, Absent 0

MOTION DULY CARRIED

6. RECEIVING OF COMMUNICATIONS

Alderman Hagen was contacted by:

- A resident, who resides on Cass Avenue, was concerned about staging of trailers and work being done overnight at the Jewel.
- Mr. Peterson, 1026 Janet Avenue, was concerned about late night gatherings at the car wash on Plainfield Road.
- Mr. Koronkowski was concerned about speeding near Our Lady of Peace School on school days.

Alderman Cotten was contacted by:

- Ms. Hildreth, 3492 Brewer Road, and Mr. Juras, 3216 Drover Lane, who were concerned about drainage and density for the proposed Gallagher & Henry project in Woodridge at 87th Street and Woodward Avenue.
- Ms. Barenek, 2200 block of Green Valley, was concerned about lack of landscape maintenance at Home Depot in Darien Towne Centre.

Alderman Weaver was contacted regarding a sidewalk; she asked if the City was liable if a resident was injured. Mayor Soldato responded that if the character of the sidewalk was changed by nature, the City would not be liable. Alderman Weaver stated that water and mud occasionally covered the sidewalk at 622 69th Street. Mayor Soldato was informed that a private homeowner had caused the problem and that the City would work with the homeowner to rectify the problem.

7. MAYOR'S REPORT

Mayor Soldato referred to Attorney Murphey's memorandum, which summarized the Woodridge Plan Commission Public Hearing held on August 30th. The Mayor stated that numerous residents contacted him regarding the Gallagher & Henry proposed development at 87th Street and Woodward Avenue in Woodridge. He noted that due to procedure, the City Attorney and professionals were not able to speak before the Woodridge Plan Commission and that the Public Hearing had been continued until September 12th. He said that the Public Hearing continuation would be held at Downers Grove South High School, on September 12th and would begin at 7:30 P.M.

8. CITY CLERK'S REPORT

Clerk Coleman..... announced that the Plan Commission meeting scheduled for September 5th was cancelled due to lack of agenda items.... invited everyone to have Coffee with Mayor Soldato on Saturday, September 15th, from 9:00-10:00 A.M. at Carmelite Carefree Village located at 8419 Bailey Road.... noted that DarienFest 2001 would be held on September 7th, 8th and 9th at Darien Community Park and invited everyone to attend.

9. CITY ADMINISTRATOR'S REPORT

Administrator Curneal reminded Council to return the requested information regarding email addresses to him.

Clerk Coleman noted that the Minutes on the City's website were not current; she asked that they be updated.

10. DEPARTMENT HEAD REPORT

Community Development Director JoEllen Charlton

..... noted that the Department received numerous telephone calls regarding the Woodridge project, they confirmed information, asked questions or verified rumors. She said that the City would continue to communicate with residents and provide them with accurate information

.... said that the proposed Dominick's project was keeping the Department very busy

.... commented that they were coordinating the review of the recently released Census figures, which were lower than expected. She said that a limited amount of information was received from the Census Bureau; that all of the Census tracts were included but rooftop data was needed and that the City had until September 30th to file an Objection to the Census figures

.... stated that Code Enforcement information was included in the DARIEN DATA, which informed residents that they needed to report issues. She said that Council would be kept aware of the issues and that Code Enforcement responded on a complaint basis. She said that some issues needed direction from Council because they were not addressed in Code and suggested that the issues be discussed at Goal Setting

.... reported on the "Building Permit Fee Holiday". She said the program began in May 2001, that 216 permits had been applied for and they were not charged or were rebated in the amount of \$15,690.00. The permits issued included: 60 for roofs, 35 for driveways, 33 for fences, 31 for decks, and 8 for single family alterations. She said that a summary would be prepared for Council at the end of the Holiday. Mayor Soldato commented that residents have responded in regard to maintenance of property. The Mayor noted that the City wanted to work with residents not fine them. He said that he would like the Police Department to work with Community Development in regard to violation issues; Director Charlton responded that the departments were working together. Alderman Durkin inquired about the lane closure on Plainfield Road near Bailey Road at the Sievers Development project. Director Charlton stated that the DuPage Water Commission was currently working within the right-of-way.

11. TREASURER'S REPORTA. WARRANT NUMBER 01-02-09

It was moved by Alderman Biehl and seconded by Alderman Cotten to approve payment of Warrant Number 01-02-09 in the amount of \$54,369.85 from the General Fund; \$4,941.72 from the Darien Area Dispatch Fund; \$125.00 from the Hotel/Motel Tax Fund; \$12,466.53 from the Joint Use Facility Fund; \$2,956.59 from the Motor Fuel Tax Fund; \$8,441.08 from the Water Operations Fund; \$150,918.59 from the General Fund Payroll for the period ending 08/09/01; \$15,036.88 from the Water Fund Payroll for the period ending 08/09/01; \$21,432.39 from the D.A.D.C. Fund Payroll for the period ending 08/09/01; for a total to be approved of \$270,688.63.

Roll Call:

Ayes: Biehl, Cotten, Durkin, Hagen, Marchese, Tikalsky, Weaver

Nays: None

Absent: None

Results: Ayes 7, Nays 0, Absent 0

MOTION DULY CARRIED

12. STANDING COMMITTEE REPORTS

Administrative/Finance Committee - Chairman Weaver announced that the Committee would meet on Monday, September 10th, at 6:30 P.M. in the Upstairs City Hall Conference Room.

Planning/Development Committee - Chairman Hagen stated that the Committee would meet on Monday, September 10th, at 6:30 P.M. in the Council Chambers. Public Works Water/Streets Committee - Chairman Biehl stated that the Committee unanimously recommended approval of the agreement with BFI for free leaf pickup.

13. QUESTIONS AND COMMENTS - AGENDA RELATED

There were no questions or comments from either the audience or the City Council.

14. OLD BUSINESS

There was no Old Business to come before the City Council.

15. CONSENT AGENDA

It was moved by Alderman Tikalsky and seconded by Alderman Hagen to approve by Omnibus Vote the following items on the Consent Agenda:

A. CONSIDERATION OF A MOTION TO APPROVE RECOMMENDATION TO HIRE CORRPRO WATERWORKS TO REPAIR THE EXISTING CATHODIC PROTECTION SYSTEM IN THE AMOUNT OF \$6,450.00B. CONSIDERATION OF A MOTION TO GRANT A WAIVER OF THE RAFFLE LICENSE BOND REQUIREMENT FOR AMERICAN RED CROSS OF GREATER CHICAGOC. ORDINANCE NO. O-35-01 AN ORDINANCE AUTHORIZING THE SALE OF PERSONAL PROPERTY OWNED BY THE CITY OF DARIENRoll Call: Ayes: Biehl, Cotten, Durkin, Hagen, Marchese, Tikalsky, Weaver

Nays: None

Absent: None

Results: Ayes 7, Nays 0, Absent 0

MOTION DULY CARRIED

16. NEW BUSINESS

Mayor Soldato reminded Council that Item B under New Business was removed from the Agenda during Work Session.

A. CONSIDERATION OF A MOTION TO APPROVE AGREEMENT WITH BFI FOR REVISED LEAF COLLECTION PROGRAM FOR 2001

It was moved by Alderman Biehl and seconded by Alderman Durkin to approve an agreement with BFI for revised leaf collection program for 2001, as presented. Alderman Durkin was concerned about enforcement for those who did not wish to participate in the free leaf pickup program. He stated that residents were not allowed to place their leaves and debris into the street. Mayor Soldato asked the Press for their assistance with notifying the public about the free leaf pickup program. Alderman Biehl reiterated that NO sticker was needed for leaves to be picked up and that the first pickup would occur the week of October 8th.

Roll Call:

Ayes: Biehl, Cotten, Durkin, Hagen, Marchese, Tikalsky, Weaver

Nays: None

Absent: None

Results: Ayes 7, Nays 0, Absent 0

MOTION DULY CARRIED

17. QUESTIONS, COMMENTS AND ANNOUNCEMENTS - GENERAL

Alderman Durkin commented about a facsimile received in regard to DarienFest. He was concerned because it stated that the Amusement Company would stop disassembling equipment at 9:30 P.M. on Sunday. He inquired what time they would stop with set-up on Thursday evening. Asst. Director

Mengarelli stated that set-up would begin early Thursday morning and should be completed earlier in the day. Gene Kolling voiced his opinion in regard to the City's attitude toward developers, he said it was not friendly but when asked was unable to give a specific set of circumstances. He felt that the City should maximize the income from a piece of property since there were only a few parcels left to develop. He referred to the proposed Dominick's project and that the City should consider businesses that could raise the sales tax income. Also, he stated that he was disappointed that no action was taken by the Council in regard to the Gateway Project. Mayor Soldato responded to Mr. Kolling's comments in regard to the treatment of developers. He said that the City would remain proactive and that the Comprehensive Plan was being updated. Mayor Soldato noted that the Gateway Project needed further consideration because some Aldermen have brought forward concerns that were not raised during the "Charette". He said that another meeting of all those involved would be scheduled to review the gateway design. Alderman Weaver said that \$50,000 was budgeted for the Gateway Project and was discussed at the meeting. Mayor Soldato said that a cut-off figure was not discussed for the signage and that the committees wanted to keep open minds about the project. Alderman Tikalsky noted that a dollar figure was not set because those in attendance did not want to hinder creativity. Jim Cavanaugh, 1725 Gigi Lane, said he was concerned about landscape maintenance at Fairview School, Mark DeLay School and Darien Swim & Racquet Club. Mayor Soldato said that the proper entities would be contacted in regard to the maintenance. Jim Buric, 8396 Alden Lane, asked what the official policy was for Gallagher & Henry's condominium project. Specifically if the City was opposed to it as proposed or opposed to any condominium project on the site. Secondly, what kind of representation from the City would be at the September 12th meeting. Mayor Soldato explained the Public Hearing process. He responded that the City was on record, which was opposition to the proposed project based on the height of the condominiums and the closeness of retail to Darien single family homes. He said that City Attorney Murphey, Staff and hired expert planners have attended the meetings. He noted that the September 12th Public Hearing would be the first opportunity that allowed City representatives to address the Woodridge Plan Commission and that compiled information in regard to the City's opposition would be presented at that time. Mr. Buric asked if the City could oppose the proposed development's utilization of the existing detention pond. Mayor Soldato stated that the City of Darien, as a legal entity, could not oppose the utilization of the detention pond but residents who would be impacted could oppose it. Elmer Reed, 8408 Alden Lane, Mr. Reed stated that residents felt that the Mayor or another elected official should attend the Public Hearing. Mayor Soldato noted that he had a prior family commitment on September 12th, but would try to attend. Mayor Soldato stated that the process would be repeated before the Woodridge Village Board and that would give the Darien elected officials a better opportunity to voice the City's opposition. Discussion ensued regarding the annexation of Farmingdale Village and the property to its west and the boundary agreement between Woodridge and Darien. Kevin Monaghan, 922 Hickory, spoke about DarienFest. He said that bands were scheduled to perform and that an Arts & Crafts show had been added. He invited all to attend.

18. ADJOURNMENT

There being no further business to come before the City Council, it was moved by Alderman Marchese and seconded by Alderman Cotten to adjourn.

VIVA VOCE VOTE - MOTION DULY CARRIED

The City Council meeting adjourned at 8:45 P.M.

Mayor _____

City Clerk

JFC/jr -All supporting documentation and report originals of these minutes are on file in the Office of the City Clerk under File Number 09-04-01.

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