CITY OF PARK RIDGE

MINUTES

COMMITTEE OF THE WHOLE MEETING
OF THE CITY COUNCIL

Monday, June 11, 2012
7:00 p.m.
Council Chambers

I. ROLL CALL

Mayor Schmidt called the meeting to order at 7:03 p.m.

On roll call vote the following Aldermen indicated their presence at the meeting Sweeney, Maloney, Smith, Raspanti and Knight. There was a quorum.

II. APPROVAL OF MINUTES

None

III. CITIZENS WISHING TO BE HEARD ON A NON-AGENDA ITEM

None

Mayor Schmidt stated that recommendations have been made by the sixth ward selection committee for the sixth ward alderman. All of the input was very valuable. Mayor Schmidt stated that he will be nominating Mark Mazzuca for sixth ward alderman at the next City Council meeting.

IV. FINANCE AND BUDGET

A. ACTION ITEMS

1. Revise Water and Sewer Rate Structure, Increase Water and Sewer Rates

Alderman Knight made the following motion, Alderman Sweeney seconded.

MOVE THAT THE CITY COUNCIL APPROVE THE CHANGE IN WATER AND SEWER RATE STRUCTURE EFFECTIVE WITH THE BI-MONTHLY BILLS ISSUED AT THE END OF JULY 2012 TO INCLUDE A FIXED CHARGE ACCORDING TO METER SIZE FOR WATER AND ADD A FIXED CHARGE FOR SEWER IN THE AMOUNT OF $2.98 PER BILL AND SET THE WATER RATES AT $2.51 PER 1,000 FOR CITY OF CHICAGO WATER PLUS $2.85 PER 1,000 FOR PARK RIDGE VARIABLE WATER CHARGES PLUS $1.27 PER 1,000 FOR SEWER VARIABLE CHARGES.
Director Stutts provided an overview of the Study and discussed the background memo. She felt that the Study, completed by Baxter and Woodman, was well done and very detailed. If the proposed rate structure is accepted, the City could absorb the City of Chicago rate increases. The proposed rate structure is in accordance with the American Water Works Association best practices. It eliminates that tier structure that is currently being used. Charges are based on meter size, a variable charge based on City of Chicago rates and a variable charge based on City expenses. The base water fixed charge includes all customers with 1½ inch and smaller water meters to ensure that all single family customers pay the same fixed charges. Failure to raise the water rates in the future will completely deplete the water fund by FY15. According to the consultants, the renewal cycles of 140 years and 260 years for water main replacement and sewer lining allocations are not sustainable in the long term and at some point, the pace of deterioration will overtake the pace of system renewal and service issues will become more prevalent.

Alderman Knight asked Director Stutts if the numbers could be brought down over the next five years.

Director Stutts stated that she was not sure if it would be possible.

Director Stutts stated that the City should adopt a better meter read system. There are residents who do not allow City Staff in their homes to read their meters. If a resident refuses to have their meter read, the only recourse the City has is to threaten to shut off water.

Alderman Knight asked if the FY13 numbers are firm and if future FY rate numbers could change. Director Stutts stated that this was correct. There is a lot of uncertainty in the rates for future years.

Alderman Sweeney asked for the average single family meter size. Director Zingsheim stated that most homes have a 5/8”” meter. The newer homes have 1” and the most recent homes that have been built have 1½”.

Director Stutts stated that the variable and fixed charges are adjustable depending on what the future costs are.

Alderman Sweeney asked if the new meter system would be projected for the next three or four years. Director Stutts stated that the suggested scenario would be a bond funded scenario. It would be paid off over several years.

Alderman Sweeney asked what the impact would be to the Finance Department. Director Stutts stated that they are in the process of researching whether or not the software provider would be able to do a mass update of 12,000 accounts. Communication to residents would be recommended.

Alderman Sweeney asked what the impact would be to the Public Works Department. Director Zingsheim stated that it would not affect their Department at all.

Alderman Sweeney asked if the new meter system would benefit the Public Works Department in any way. Director Zingsheim stated that it would benefit the residents in knowing if there was a leak, but it would also free up an employee to help with sewer maintenance.

Mayor Schmidt asked when the next Spokesman would go out. Acting City Manager Maller stated that it would go out in the beginning of July. Mayor Schmidt asked that the Spokesman
be used to communicate this update. Acting City Manager Maller stated that it might be a
good idea to send a letter as well in order to provide the necessary information.

Director Stutts stated that all of the account numbers are posted online along with the
 corresponding meter size, so residents are able to calculate their rate if they wish to do so.

Alderman Maloney asked if hospitals, schools, etc would also experience a rate increase.

Director Stutts stated that it depends and that she did not have the exact amount of rate
 increase for businesses, hospitals, schools, etc., only residential.

Alderman Maloney asked if information could be provided as to the increased or decreased
 rate for the hospital, schools, businesses, etc. It is not included in the study and he does not
 feel it would be right to vote on this item without knowing the impact on these organizations.

Acting City Manager Maller stated that a sample can be taken of the business district and be
 provided to Council.

Alderman Knight stated that the usage is much different amongst businesses, even with the
 same size meter.

Alderman Knight stated that this item would go to the next City Council meeting as an action
 item. Two readings would be required.

Alderman Knight stated that if any Aldermen are interested in finding out the rate for a
 particular address they should submit their request to Acting City Manager Maller for
 research.

The motion passed (5-0) by voice vote.

2. Approve Appropriation for Steve Piper & Sons Contract

Alderman Knight made the following motion, Alderman Sweeney seconded.

MOVE THAT THE CITY COUNCIL APPROVE THE PURCHASE ORDER FOR
 $315,000 FOR STEVE PIPER & SONS FOR TREE AND STUMP REMOVAL IN
 FY13.

Director Stutts stated that the contract was extended on January 16, 2012, but there was not a
dollar amount associated with the contract. The $315,000 is included in the budget.

Alderman Sweeney asked if this amount was the same as last year.

Director Zingsheim stated that it is approximately the same amount. This is the amount
 needed for tree removal and stump grinding.

The motion passed (5-0) by voice call vote.

3. Approve Renewal of Excess Liability, Property and Workers Compensation Insurance

Alderman Knight made the following motion, Alderman Sweeney seconded.
MOVE THAT THE CITY COUNCIL APPROVE THE RENEWAL FOR EXCESS INSURANCE COVERAGE TOTALING $300,460 DISTRIBUTED AS FOLLOWS $243,478 TO AJ GALLAGHER RISK MANAGEMENT AND $56,982 TO HELP.

Director Stutts stated that this is the insurance renewal. There was a slight decrease in the health premium. Workers Comp has the largest increase. The difference between what was budgeted is $903. A budget transfer will be done from insurance claims to insurance premiums.

Alderman Sweeney asked the reason as to why the liability insurance amount decreased. Director Stutts did not have information as to the reasons for the decrease.

Alderman Knight asked why the limits were higher from years past.

Director Stutts explained that it is due to an aging workforce and PEDA benefits for Police and Fire. If a police officer or firefighter is injured on duty, they receive their full salary for a year.

Alderman Knight asked for an update on insurance claims. Acting City Manager Maller stated that she could provide this and also provide the process in which the City handles a claim.

Acting City Manager Maller stated that Director Zingshiem handles general liability claims and Workers Comp claims are handled by Human Resources. The Council policy states that if a claim is under $50,000, it is handled by the Finance Director and City Manager. If a claim is over $50,000, it must come before Council.

The motion passed (5-0) by roll call vote.

4. Approve Purchase Order Increase – Northwest Municipal Conference

Alderman Knight made the following motion, Alderman Sweeney seconded.

MOVE THAT THE CITY COUNCIL APPROVE A PURCHASE ORDER INCREASE OF $453 TO NORTHWEST MUNICIPAL CONFERENCE.

Acting City Manager Maller stated that the Northwest Municipal Conference increased dues since budget approval was made for this item.

The motion passed (5-0) by voice vote.

Director Stutts added that only 70% of the vehicle stickers have been sold and the deadline is Friday. There is a $15 increase if paid late for both vehicle and animal licenses. If caught without vehicle sticker, a $50 ticket is issued. Alderman Knight asked that this information be publicized.

V. PUBLIC WORKS

A. ACTION ITEMS

1. Purchase Order Approval – (5) Public Works Trucks

   Alderman Maloney made the following motion. Alderman Sweeney seconded.
MOVE THAT THE CITY COUNCIL APPROVE THE PURCHASE OF TWO (2) 2012 FORD F350 TRUCKS AND THREE (3) 2012 FORD F450 TRUCKS FROM CURRIE MOTORS FORD, 9423 WEST LINCOLN HIGHWAY, FRANKFORT, ILLINOIS 60423 IN THE AMOUNT OF $278,897.

Director Zingsheim discussed the background memo. All of the current trucks have a lot of mileage on them and replacement parts are getting difficult to find. They are being purchased through a suburban purchasing cooperative and the NWMC. Several of these replacements were in last year’s budget, but were not purchased last year.

The motion passed (5-0) by voice vote.

2. Approval of a Contract for the 2012/2013 Sewer Lining Program

Alderman Maloney made the following motion. Alderman Sweeney seconded.

MOVE THAT THE CITY COUNCIL APPROVE A CONTRACT WITH MICHELS CORPORATION, 817 WEST MAIN STREET, BROWNSVILLE, WISCONSIN 53006, IN THE AMOUNT OF $310,000 FOR THE 2012/13 SEWER LINING PROGRAM.

Director Zingsheim discussed the background memo. This is a very good price. A different company is being used from last year, as Michael’s offered the most competitive price. If they are able to return after they are done with the other communities we will line more sewers if we can get the same approximate pricing. The contracted price is lower by going through the municipal partnering program than we estimated. Every sewer that gets lined is a sewer that will not collapse in winter.

The motion passed (5/0) by voice vote.

B. DISCUSSION ITEMS – PUBLIC WORKS

None

C. DIRECTOR’S REPORT – PUBLIC WORKS

1. Evanston Water Feasibility Study

Director Zingsheim stated that he has been in communication with the City of Evanston on the water study to get water from Evanston in the future. They have chosen a firm, MWH America’s. He believes it is a good firm, and should have more information within a year.

Alderman Knight asked what the impact would be on Staff. Director Zingsheim stated that GIS mapping would need to be provided as would suggestions as to where to connect to.

2. Commonwealth Edison Update

The City has a new representative, Jeff Batara. Sixteen new poles and wiring are being installed. Five new transformers have been installed in the area of Home Avenue and Devon Avenue. ComEd has responded within an hour and a half to the several outages that have occurred recently in Park Ridge.
Mayor Schmidt wondered if the decrease in resident calls meant that service has improved. He added that the weather has been rather calm so far this summer so he wondered if ComEd has not yet been challenged.

City Clerk Henneman stated that a friend of hers put in a request with ComEd not expecting to see anyone out to ever do the work, but two weeks later, to her delight, someone was out to perform the work.

Alderman Maloney asked if a comparison from this year to last could be done to see whether or not there has been a change. Director Zingsheim stated that he would provide a report.

VII. PUBLIC SAFETY

A. ACTION ITEMS – POLICE

1. Photo Enforcement at Railroad Crossing

Alderman Raspanti made the following motion. Alderman Sweeney seconded.

MOVE THAT THE CITY COUNCIL MAKE A RECOMMENDATION FOR STAFF TO MOVE FORWARD WITH THE RFP PROCESS FOR PHOTO ENFORCEMENT AT THE RAILROAD CROSSING.

Chief Kaminski stated that this has been worked on for over a year. He discussed the background related to this issue. There have not been any serious accidents at this crossing, therefore, Staff is trying to be proactive. There will not be a cost to the City. The Department does not have the resources it used to, so it is turning to technology for help. Chief Kaminski hopes that this will be a message to citizens to be safer drivers.

Acting City Manager Maller asked if the tickets would go through the adjudication process. City Attorney Henn stated that they would.

Alderman Maloney asked what would constitute a violation. Chief Kaminski stated that technically once the bells and lights go off, any vehicle that enters the crossing is committing a violation. He stated that he would work with the firms to ensure an equitable system in ticket writing. He would institute a policy to mimic the decision making involved if an officer were sitting at the crossing deciding whether or not to write a ticket. Chief Kaminski suggested doing an educational campaign first. He hopes that it transfer over to other crossings in town.

Mayor Schmidt stated that this appears to be a pure revenue generator. He does not see the need and feels as though it is an example of “Big Brother.”

Alderman Knight is not in total favor of this either, but the law is the law. He would vote in favor of this.

Alderman Raspanti felt that this is a situation looking for a problem.

Alderman Maloney and Sweeney expressed the same concerns as Alderman Knight but would be in favor of seeing the results of an RFP.
The motion passed unanimously (3/2) by roll call vote with Alderman Smith and Raspanti voting no.

**B. DISCUSSION ITEMS – POLICE**

1. **Status of Talcott Road Crosswalk Issues**

   Alderman Raspanti asked that this item be deferred to the next Public Safety Committee of the Whole meeting in July.

2. **Underage Drinking – Presentation – Margaret Palovchak, MCYAF**

   Ms. Palovchak, Director of MCYAF, stated that she was asked to come before Council by Alderman Sweeney. MYCAF is a coalition of 250 organizations. They strive to support youth in making healthy choices. Some of the main programs include Parent Patrol, Parents Who Host Lose the Most and Sticker Shock. In the past, people felt that underage drinking was a police enforcement problem, but in fact it is a community problem. Recently MYCAF met with all three law enforcement agencies (Park Ridge, Niles and Des Plaines). Ms. Palovchak provided statistics and background related to underage drinking.

   Ms. Palovchak stated that as part of the adjudication process, offenders are allowed to chose their penalty between a fine, a fine and community service or a fine and assessment program. She recommended that if Council decides to use a fine-only system, that the fine be increased.

   Alderman Rasptanti asked which assessment programs are being used. Ms. Palovchak stated that currently Maine Center, Omni Youth Services and PEER Services are providing the assessment programs.

   Alderman Sweeney thanked Ms. Palovchak for coming. He stated that she and her Staff do an excellent job.

   Alderman Raspanti asked that the ordinance review related to underage drinking be added to the July 9, 2012 Committee of the Whole meeting agenda as a discussion item.

3. **Sale of Recovered Weapons**

   Alderman Smith stated that $5-10,000 per year could be raised in the sale of recovered weapons. He discussed his memo dated, Tuesday, February 21, 2012 and his chart discussing his Proposal to Sell Unneeded Firearms, dated March 21, 2012. He felt that this would be a reasonable proposal and is primarily symbolic it shows that the Council is doing everything it can to run the City in a fiscally responsible manner.

   Alderman Sweeney asked if the sale of firearms, following the procedures set forth by the ATF with the FLL, put the City in any liability. City Attorney Henn stated that she does not have information to answer this question but could provide an explanation at a future meeting.

   Alderman Sweeney asked Chief Kaminski if he knew of any other municipalities doing this locally or nationally. Chief Kaminski stated that he did not know of any locally, but Alderman Smith shared an article with him listing other municipalities doing this as a revenue gernerator.
Alderman Sweeney asked how many guns the Department receives each year. Chief Kaminski stated that the Department receives about twenty per year. Over half are rifles and the rest are usually from a friend or relative who has passed on.

Chief Kaminski stated that he personally has never been in favor of police departments getting involved with turning over guns to the public. Any guns that come to police departments should be destroyed.

Alderman Sweeney asked what the Department currently does with guns it receives. Chief Kaminski stated that they use a vendor to melt and destroy the guns. No money is received from the melted down guns.

Alderman Raspanti is not in favor of this and does not feel it would be fiscally responsible.

Alderman Knight stated that while he was previously on the fence on this issue, he does not agree with Alderman Smith’s idea that this would be symbolic and does not feel that it would be much of a revenue generator.

None of the Aldermen, aside from Alderman Smith, were in favor of moving this to the next meeting as an action item.


No discussion.

5. Speed Cameras – Cumberland and Stewart

Chief Kaminski stated that he met with Redflex, who are currently the vendors for the City of Chicago speed cameras. Speed cameras are currently legal in the State of Illinois, but there are restrictions as to where they can be displayed. They can only be used in the City of Chicago in school zones, near parks or in construction zones. This would not be a resource that can be used in Park Ridge.

Alderman Sweeney asked if there is any possibility that Springfield would expand the usage beyond the City of Chicago. Chief Kaminski stated that the legislative committee for the Illinois Chief’s is lobbying to have this expanded statewide.

Alderman Raspanti asked that Chief Kaminski communicate this information to the interested resident.

6. Illinois Law Enforcement Accreditation Program – June 27 and 28

Deputy Chief Jogmen provided an overview of the accreditation process. The Park Ridge Police Department was previously accredited by CALEA, but due to cost restrictions, the Department has moved to be accredited by ILEAP. The next step will be an on-site assessment which will take place on June 28 and 29. This has value in allowing the Department to compare itself to other agencies and to national standards and standards accepted in the industry. The accreditation status would be for four years.

Alderman Raspanti asked if a rating would be provided as part of the assessment report. Deputy Chief Jogmen stated that they initially make recommendations and the
Department is then allowed to make improvements. Ultimately, the Department must be in compliance with all of the standards.

Deputy Chief Jogmen stated that the standards between CALEA and ILEAP are very similar, but ILEAP is much more cost effective.

Alderman Knight asked if current issues with the facility would affect the outcome of the accreditation status. Deputy Chief Jogmen stated that there were always issues with CALEA, but he did not feel that it would affect the overall accreditation status. In the past, building issues were grandfathered.

C. **Department Head Report – Police**

1. **Monthly Report**

Chief Kaminski stated that Commander Bill Polka retired from the Department last month with over 30 years with the Department. He served the Department well.

The new county radios have been implemented.

There were several celebrations for National Police Month.

The Department is down to two divisions, from three.

The Department currently has two vacancies and the Police and Fire Commission did a great job in assisting the Department with the hiring process. There are currently two recruits ready to attend the Police Academy starting July 9, 2012.

The Department received third place in the Traffic Challenge, even without a Traffic Division. There will be an awards ceremony on August 22, 2012.

The Department raised over $3,100 for Special Olympics during Cop on Rooftop at Dunkin Donuts held earlier this month. Staff is doing a great job.

The Department has been very short staffed due to injuries and two vacancies. The Department is doing its best to be fiscally responsible.

Chief Kaminski stated that he has been working with City Attorney Kathy Henn and City Engineer Mitchell in developing an RFP for Phase 1 of the building renovations.

Alderman Knight asked what progress has been made with the speed study on Berry Parkway. Chief Kaminski stated that the study is underway.

2. **Complimentary Letters**

   No discussion.

B. **Action Items – Fire**

1. **ALGH Paramedic Continuing Education Agreement**

   Alderman Raspanti made the following motion, Alderman Sweeney seconded.
MOVE THAT THE CITY COUNCIL APPROVE THE PARAMEDIC CONTINUING EDUCATION AGREEMENT WITH ADVOCATE LUTHERAN GENERAL HOSPITAL EMS SYSTEM.

Chief Zywanski requested that this item be heard after the second action item on the agenda: ALGH Paramedic Continuing Education Agreement.

Alderman Raspanti withdrew his motion, Alderman Sweeney withdrew his second.

After approval of the Letter of Commitment for ALGH Emergency Medical Services System was made, the following action was taken.

Alderman Raspanti made the following motion, Alderman Sweeney seconded.

MOVE THAT THE CITY COUNCIL APPROVE THE PARAMEDIC CONTINUING EDUCATION AGREEMENT WITH ADVOCATE LUTHERAN GENERAL HOSPITAL EMS SYSTEM.

Chief Zywanski stated both items are required for the Illinois Department of Public Health for the EMS system. The agreement between Lutheran General and Park Ridge stipulates that Lutheran General will provide continuing education by sending nurse educators out to the Department so all of the required hours for licensing will be provided in house. Therefore there is a significant decrease in cost. This cost is included in the budget.

The motion passed (5/0) by voice vote.

2. Approve Letter of Commitment for ALGH Emergency Medical Services System

Alderman Raspanti made the following motion, Alderman Sweeney seconded.

MOVE THAT COUNCIL APPROVE THE CITY OF PARK RIDGE LETTER OF COMMITMENT WITH ADVOCATE LUTHERAN GENERAL’S EMS SYSTEM.

Chief Zywanski stated that Lutheran General recently received formal approval from the Illinois Department of Public Health to be designated as a EMS system resource hospital in the State of Illinois. They have the ability to train paramedics, provide medical control and establish and run an EMS system. Having medical control closer on a local basis provides benefits to residents. It provides a closer working relationship between paramedics, staff and the medical director at Lutheran General. There will be many more educational opportunities available for our paramedics and the hospital will be increasing the community outreach opportunities.

The motion passed (5/0) by voice vote.

C. Discussion Items – Fire

1. ISO Community Evaluation Follow-Up

Chief Zywanski stated that he had informed the Council at a past meeting that ISO representatives would be coming to Park Ridge. They came to the City May 29 - June 1, 2012. They came to the Department May 29 - June 1, 2012. They inspected the Departments resources, staffing levels, equipment, water system, response patterns,
911 Dispatch procedures and times, neighboring communities in which Park Ridge receives aid. The final rating is not yet available, but they did state that the Department would most likely maintain their current rating of 3. The final rating will take several months. Once received, it will be made public.

D. Department Head Report – Fire

1. Monthly Report - May

The first four months of 2012, the emergency call volume has been down slightly compared to the same time period in 2011. However, the emergency call volume in May 2012 is up 6% over May 2011. Overall, 2012 call volume is within 5 calls for the same time period in 2011. There were many significant calls during May in which the Department responded to. The Department continues to monitor overtime and is in the process of filling vacancies. There were structure fires as well as assists to DesPlaines and Rosemont.

2. Complimentary Letters

No Discussion

3. 2012 Hydrant Testing

Hydrant testing continues. The crews are about 20% through the City. The program should be completed in August. There has not been any damage done to any hydrants thus far.

4. Maine East High School Carnival (East Feast) – June 14-17, 2012

The Fire Department has been working closely with the Police Department to make sure that the event runs safely. Inspections services will be provided for the rides. The Fire Prevention Bureau will be on-site each day to conduct inspections.

VIII. Other City Business

Alderman Sweeney asked the reason as to why the Aldermen would no longer have a booth at the Farmers Market. Acting City Manager Maller stated that she thought Barb Beil was going to be sending out an email letting the Aldermen know that if they would like to set up a date to host the booth they could. Alderman Sweeney asked that he be signed up for July 28, 2012.

Alderman Raspanti stated that he attended the TIF meeting with the Park District and he felt that it went very well. He will also attend the meeting that has been scheduled with District 207 on June 20, 2012.

IX. New Business

None

X. Adjournment

Alderman Sweeney made a motion to adjourn. Alderman Raspanti seconded.

The meeting was adjourned at 9:57 p.m.