

The City of Lake Forest
CITY COUNCIL
Proceedings of the Tuesday, September 8, 2020
City Council Meeting - City Council Chambers
REMOTE ACCESS MEETING

CALL TO ORDER AND ROLL CALL: Honorable Mayor Pandaleon called the meeting to order at 6:30pm, and the City Clerk Margaret Boyer called the roll of Council members.

Present: Honorable Mayor Pandaleon, Alderman Morris, Alderman Karras, Alderman Rummel, Alderman Preschlack, Alderman Goshgarian, Alderman Buschmann and Alderman Weber.

Absent: Alderman Notz

CALL TO ORDER AND ROLL CALL

PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE was recited.

Mayor Pandaleon made the following statement as required by the Open Meetings Act. In accordance with state statute, Mayor Pandaleon has made a determination that it was not practical or prudent to schedule an in-person City Council meeting because of the COVID-19 pandemic, which is why this September 8, 2020 City Council meeting is being held remotely

REPORTS OF CITY OFFICERS

COMMENTS BY MAYOR

Mayor Pandaleon made a brief statement regarding Bagpipes and Bonfire, hosted by Lake Forest Open Lands, and explained how the event will be hosted. For more information, you can visit lfol.org.

A. Lake Forest Fire Department Retirements, Promotions and Resolutions
- Kevin Cronin, Deputy Fire Chief

Mayor Pandaleon introduced Deputy Chief, Kevin Cronin, who displayed a brief video to honor two retiring lieutenants. Steve Grost and Paul Pugliesi both received resolutions of appreciation for retiring. The video also honored the promotion to Lieutenant of Chris Roberts and Erik Kositzki within the Fire Department.

Mayor Pandaleon thanked the retiring personnel for their service and congratulated the newly promoted officers within the Fire Department.

B. COVID 19 Financial Impact Update
- Elizabeth Holleb, Finance Director

Mayor Pandaleon introduced Finance Director Elizabeth Holleb to give a brief update on the financial impacts of COVID-19 on City finances. Ms. Holleb updated the City Council on the municipal sales tax revenue, stating that after passing a revised FY21 budget the actual revenue exceeded the projected revenue from the revised document. She also explained the increased income tax revenue, due to the taxable unemployment benefits that saw an increase due to COVID-19.

Ms. Holleb went into to further depth, giving department specific and fund specific revenue loss or expenditure cuts due to COVID-19.

Ms. Holleb gave an update on the Local Business Grant Program stating that only 16 application were received to date and the City has dispersed only \$25,517 compared to the \$287,000 allocated to this fund.

The City Council had discussion on City wide revenue expected shortfalls due to COVID-19. Ms. Holleb stated that this presentation was more specific to expense recovery but stated she would include information in her next briefing about potential changes to the FY22 budget.

There was additional discussion on the CARES Act and how much of the allocated funds would be dispersed to the Library. Ms. Holleb stated it would only be about 10% of the grant funding received from the County.

COMMENTS BY CITY MANAGER

City Manager Jason Wicha gave a brief statement regarding responding to the 2020 census to ensure an accurate count of the population of the community since State funding is distributed on a per capita basis, he stated it is important to respond by the September 30, 2020 deadline.

A. Community Spotlight

- **Dickinson Hall, Lake Forest Lake Bluff Senior Center**
- **Tricia Schwall, Manager Dickinson Hall**

City Manager, Jason Wicha introduced a video from Dickinson Hall, and thanked Manager Tricia Schwall and staff at Dickinson Hall for their hard work and dedication. The City Council had discussion about the demographics of Dickinson hall. Ms. Schwall stated that there was a larger group of members in their 70s, however there is a range of members from 60-90 years of age. Additionally, the City Council thanked Ms. Schwall for the work that her and her staff have continued to conduct throughout a consistently changing environment.

B. Summary of Recent Watermain Breaks

- **Michael Thomas, Director of Public Works**

City Manager, Jason Wicha introduced Michael Thomas, Director of Public Works to brief the City Council and the community on the watermain breaks over the weekend of August 15, 2020. Mr. Thomas gave a summary presentation regarding water pressure loss, and the work conducted to locate the main break. He explained that as they worked to contain the main break, there were additional breaks coinciding with this event. Additionally, Lake Bluff and Highland Park were able to help dewater the areas. The City worked to develop a communications plan, issuing a precautionary boil order, which was lifted the following Tuesday.

The City Council had discussion on long term replacements of the pipelines to maintain the infrastructure. Mr. Thomas stated that the City has about 12 main breaks a year, and the life of the pipe that bust has an expectancy to last for 120 years. He continued to explain that the stretch does not need to be replaced, however in the future when pipes are replaced, they will be able to easily control the breaks.

The City Council thanked the staff members for their work to repair the main breaks, and the professional communication provided to the community.

Mayor Pandaleon asked City Manager, Jason Wicha if he could briefly discuss the Fall Ward Meetings. City Manager Wicha explained that these meetings will be conducted via a virtual format on Zoom and are scheduled for the following days:

Ward 2 – Tuesday, September 29th, 7 p.m. – 8:30 p.m.
Ward 4 – Thursday, October 8th, 7 p.m. – 8:30 p.m.
Ward 1 – Tuesday, October 27th, 7 p.m. – 8:30 p.m.
Ward 3 – Thursday, October 29th, 7 p.m. – 8:30 p.m.

OPPORTUNITY FOR CITIZENS TO ADDRESS THE CITY COUNCIL ON NON-AGENDA ITEMS

Members of the public can provide public comment by calling into the following number during the meeting: **847-810-3643**

COMMITTEE REPORTS

ITEMS FOR OMNIBUS VOTE CONSIDERATION

1. **Approve the Extension of the Mayor’s Declaration of a Local State of Emergency until the next City Council Meeting**
2. **Approval of the August 3, 2020 City Council Meeting Minutes**
3. **Approval of the Check Register for the Period of July 25 – August 28, 2020**
4. **Approval of a Resolution of Appreciation for Retiring Employee Stephen E. Grost**
5. **Approval of a Resolution of Appreciation for Retiring Employee Paul J. Pugliese**
6. **Approve former City Manager’s request for reimbursement of costs incurred in defending against the charges brought by the Lake County States Attorney that were ultimately dismissed in the amount of \$14,519.50**
7. **Ratification of Expenses Related to the Eleven Emergency Water Main Break and Valve Repairs that Occurred August 15th – August 21st, 2020 in the Total Amount of \$84,800**
8. **Approval of an Intergovernmental Agreement (IGA) between the City of Lake Forest and the Lake Forest Library related to the Lake County COVID 19 Relief Fund**
9. **Consideration of an Ordinance Amending the City of Lake Forest Liquor Code, to increase the number of licenses available in Class A-2 and G-1 and Amend the language relating to the Class G-2 to modify current hours of operation for intuitions of higher learning. (First reading and if appropriate final approval)**
10. **Request Council Approval to Contract with Chicago Communications to Replace Aging Cables and Antennas on the Radio Tower at the Lake Forest Public Safety Building**
11. **Consideration of Ordinances Approving Recommendations from the Building Review Board. (First Reading, and if Desired by the City Council, Final Approval)**
12. **Consideration of a Recommendation from the Plan Commission in Support of a Special Use Permit to Authorize a New Real Estate Office, Compass, at 284 E. Deerpath. (If desired by the Council, Waive First Reading and Grant Final Approval of the Ordinance.)**

COUNCIL ACTION: Approval of the twelve (12) Omnibus items as presented

Mayor Pandaleon asked members of the Council if they would like to remove any item or take it separately.

The City Council had discussion on item #6. Mayor Pandaleon asked members of the Council if they would like to remove any item or take it separately.

The City Council had discussion on item #12. Mayor Pandaleon asked members of the Council if they would like to remove any item or take it separately. Seeing none, he asked for a motion.

Alderman Buschmann commented on Item #6. He stated his opinion that our City Code requires the indemnification as was requested by Mr. Kiely, and that our action to approve should be solely based upon the requirements of our City Code. While not on the agenda, he also raised the question of indemnity provisions in our current City Code.

Alderman Morris made a motion to approve the twelve (12) Omnibus items as presented, seconded by Alderman Preschlack. The following voted "Aye": Alderman Morris, Karras, Rummel, Preschlack, Goshgarian, Buschmann and Weber. The following voted "Nay": None. 7-Ayes, 0 Nays, motion carried.

Information such as Purpose and Action Requested, Background/Discussion, Budget/Fiscal Impact, Recommended Action and a Staff Contact as it relates to the Omnibus items can be found on the agenda.

ORDINANCES

OLD BUSINESS

NEW BUSINESS

ADDITIONAL ITEMS FOR COUNCIL DISCUSSION/COMMENTS BY COUNCIL MEMBERS

ADJOURNMENT

There being no further business Mayor Pandaleon asked for a motion. Alderman Preschlack made a motion to adjourn, seconded by Alderman Weber. Motion carried unanimously by voice vote at 8:13 pm.

Respectfully Submitted
Margaret Boyer, City Clerk

A video of the City Council meeting is available for viewing at the Lake Forest Library and on file in the Clerk's office at City Hall. You can also view it on the website by visiting www.cityoflakeforest.com. Click on I Want To, then click on View, then choose Archived Meetings Videos.