



REGULAR MEETING
OF THE
BURBANK CITY COUNCIL
MARCH 11, 2015

- CALL TO ORDER** The meeting of March 11, 2015 was called to order by Mayor Klein at 7:30 p.m. in the Council Chambers, 6530 W. 79th street, Burbank, IL.
- ROLL CALL** Roll call indicated the following Council members present: Alderman Foy, Looney, Szymczak, Grider, Pacella, Piznarski and Pyle. Also present Mayor Klein, Treasurer Viverito, Clerk Roach and Attorney Cainkar.
- The meeting opened with the pledge of allegiance to the flag.
- JOURNAL** Motion made by Alderman Grider seconded by Alderman Looney to approve the minutes of February 25, 2015 as presented was unanimously approved by voice vote and so declared by the Chair.
- CURRENT BILLS** Motion made by Alderman Grider seconded by Alderman Szymczak to approve the current list of bills. A roll call vote indicated 7 Ayes and 0 Nays. The Chair declared the motion carried. Voting Aye: Alderman Grider, Foy, Szymczak, Piznarski, Pyle, Pacella and Looney.
- PUBLIC HEARING PROPOSED APPROPRIATION ORDINANCE** Attorney Cainkar said that every year the City holds our annual public hearing on the appropriation ordinance which is passed during the first quarter of the fiscal year. The public hearing is tonight and the actual appropriation ordinance will be on the agenda for the March 25th Council meeting. The appropriation ordinance has been available for review by the City Council and the public. He then said like many municipalities times are very difficult and tight, If the governor succeeds in ending some of the monies they give to the City of Burbank, there has to be some dire and drastic cutbacks. Hopefully the state representatives and senators will resist the governor's proposals. He then asked if anyone had any questions or comments. Mayor Klein then said pursuant to law we have to hold this meeting and there has been a tentative budget in the Clerk's office there for the last couple of weeks and there may be a new budget down there to be passed in two weeks.
- TREASURER'S COMMENTS ON BUDGET** Treasurer Viverito said he isn't a member of the City Council so the only time he makes comments is when he gives his Treasurer's report. He then commented that the tentative budget for the year is \$18,737,000, not a balanced budget by a long shot. Last year the City had revenues of \$16,820,000 and if revenues remain flat as some have forecasted we could end up with a deficit of almost \$2,000,000 from this current budget which is being proposed tonight. Aside from the red light cameras and the increased capacity of one gas station, increase in revenue under the best case scenario might provide us with \$17,660,000 which would still render us with a \$1,000,000 deficit for the year

TREASURER'S
REPORT
(CONTD.)

He estimates that we need to reduce this budget further from a 7 percent best case revenue scenario where all expected revenues are realized to a 12% reduction worst case scenario budget amount where revenues remain the same amount the City collected for 2014. Various local revenue reductions being proposed on the state level could render these estimates unrealistic, but in the event new state budget proposals as proposed by Governor Rauner become realities we will need to reduce this budget further. These estimates do not even address that dreaded scenario.

He then went on to say that he reported to the City Council numerous times throughout these months and prior years that we needed to reduce expenses and/or increase revenues and that has been tried but not to the level that needed to be achieved. He then said he wished that he we could have done this so we could have forestalled the need to make drastic cuts, now that even drastic revenue increases would not solve our problems in the short run unless the budget is cut further. He said his report to the City Council at the last Council meeting clearly stated that we are nearly broke in our general funds to the point we won't be able to pay our employees or vendors during the spring of this year if nothing changes from this budget. He then went on to say that will happen if we pass the budget as it is now. He said he believes that this budget needs to be cut somewhere between \$1,250,000 and \$1,750,000 to be effective in non draining on city reserves which are down to \$771,000 now.

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Mayor Klein said he would like to comment that the Council of Mayors throughout the state of Illinois are putting tremendous pressure on their legislators in the state to hold back Governor Rauner touching these income tax funds which in our case is \$1,400,000 if reduced would be \$700,000.depletion of our income tax. He said over the years we have taken a very pro-active look at the costs of the City. He said crossing guards were paid by the City and they are now being paid by District 111. He said that has saved the city over \$100,000 and going up. He said he also instituted a hiring freeze for non-safety personnel, which means no one in the city of Burbank has been hired except for public safety individuals. He said a mayor's primary responsibility is to make sure that the public safety of his community and the community that these aldermen represent is safeguarded. He said this is one of the paramount duties of his office.

He said he instituted a "use it or lose it now" policy with respect to all our non-union employees, which means that you cannot bank or accrue **savings of your sick days or vacation days**. He said **you use it or lose it**. Before they would accumulate it bank it and when they left there would be a big burden on the cash flow of the city sometimes paying out hundreds of thousands of dollars for people who have accrued sick day and/or vacation days. He also denied requested salary increases some made by this board. He also denied capital equipment increases both in public safety for squad cars for the police department and an ambulance for the fire department.

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He said he instituted just recently no salary increases among city employees not covered by a collective bargaining agreement and also the entire City council for 2015 which will amount to according to his figures about \$80,000 in savings. The treasurer mentioned that we got a revenue boost from the "red light cameras". The "red light cameras" are not there as a revenue producer, but we are getting revenues from them even though their primary purpose is for safety. The vehicle stickers were increased last year and even senior citizens got one free per household and now they get one discounted sticker. and the other senior in the house pays full price. He said he talked to the fire chief and fees are being increased in the fire department..

Also in the works he has had conversations with the insurance co-ordinator of the City and as of today has been provided with a lot of figures. The City right now is paying approximately 2 to 2-1/2 million dollars and he is working with him to reduce it. Close to 100 per cent of the City employees are on the insurance plan. Some employees pay nothing for their insurance and that is going to stop.

He is going to reduce hiring both in the police and the fire department and any where else in the City by attrition. In fact we are going to have two police officers who are leaving the City in the first quarter of this year, We have not buried our heads in the sand and looked for some miracle funds to pop up. We have been addressing them all the while.. So it is not an archaeological discovery that the city is having problems. Every city in the state of Illinois is having problems and he said he feels probably every city in the country is having problems. The economy is not that "rosy" He reiterated that he will protect to the extent that he can the public safety and welfare of this community because that is his job. He said let the records reflect that discussion was held on the appropriation ordinance. He then asked if there was any questions from the audience.

The Chair recognized Jerry Synoga of 8109 S. Normandy who wanted to know what Burbank does to attract businesses. He then commented that we don't need any more tobacco and liquor stores that we have enough of them. He then commented on the nice little strip mall at 87th and Oak Park. He said it was just remodeled and he thinks that is the way Burbank should go with businesses like Maple and Jam. He also mentioned the houses over by the reservoir to see they don't flood so people don't move and we save the revenue for Burbank

Mayor Klein thanked him for his comments and over the years said we have had many businesses coming in like Ashley furniture came in, a mega million dollar business. Speedway is up and running but during the expansion, they were closed for six months but now we are receiving about \$30,000 a month from them despite competition from a new gas station near Toyota park on Harlem. Speedway is a big ticket item. It has been mentioned that Bakers Square is moving because they wanted to get out of Burbank, not true. Their ten year lease was up and the owners of the property would not negotiate and they were paying \$10,000 a month rent.

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(Contd.)

The ma and pa businesses are being run out because of the Walmarts coming in. It is hard from them to survive. The Mayor said with the cooperation of his board he is writing letters and inviting businesses to come in and there are a few coming in but he does not want to jeopardize their coming in by having them in the newspaper before it is final, but he thinks everyone will be pleased. He also said we are in process of demolition now of the old Cezar's Inn on 79th street and that will open up four acres of property for someone to come in and we also have had someone looking in to putting in a new hotel there but we are looking at other things that would compliment that area. He said he is looking to cut budgetary items to bring in more revenue and we are not resting on our laurels.

DEPT. OF
PUBLIC
WORKS

Alderman Szymczak made the motion seconded by Alderman Looney to approve **Resolution No. 3-1-15 approving a grant Application for the 2015 Cook County Community Development Block Grant program** A roll call vote indicated 7 Ayes and 0 Nays. The Chair declared the motion carried. Voting Aye: Alderman Szymczak, Looney, Pacella, Foy, Pyle, Grider and Piznarski.

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Mayor Klein asked for a motion to pass **Ordinance No. 13-3-15 Amending Section 305, Limitation on Number of Licenses issued Chapter 3, Alcoholic Beverages, of the Burbank Municipal Code pertaining to liquor licenses.** Motion made by Alderman Grider seconded by Alderman Foy to approve **Ordinance No. 13-3-15 as outlined above.** Roll call vote indicated 7 Ayes and 0 Nays. The Chair declared the motion carried. Voting Aye: Alderman Pyle, Piznarski, Foy, Grider, Looney, Szymczak, and Pacella. As this has been passed, this is such a fluid thing because everyone is coming in asking for a liquor license because of the gaming aspect of it. This is a revenue he did not mention and it is going to bring in about \$200,000.00.

CITIZEN'S
REPORT

The Chair recognized Charles Bandusky of 8548 S. Lavergne who wanted to know when the aldermen retire or Mayor where they are going to live. Mayor Klein said he doesn't know of anyone retiring and then Mr. Bandusky asked if the aldermen drive around Burbank all answered yes they do. He then brought up the house on 83rd and Long that has been an eyesore for years. He was told by the Building Commissioner Mr. Kainrath it was scheduled to be demolished in two weeks. Mr. Bandusky said he has heard that for three years. The Mayor then explained then we go for a demolition permit you just cannot go for a bulldozer and knock it down. He explained that when you petition the courts it takes years. Mayor Klein gave an example in the past where there were four slum houses on 85th and Newcastle and he had the fire department there with Judge Stack; who is no longer a sitting judge and he finally had the houses tore down and the neighbors applauded, but it took years.

Mr. Bandusky also said we have three gas stations vacant and the Mayor gave him the locations of all three and said we were well aware of this and then he mentioned Hugo's and was told that has been rented for the last six weeks.

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Mayor Klein thanked Mr. Bandusky for his comments and praised him for being concerned about Burbank. He then invited the Reavis students in the audience to come up front after the meeting is adjourned to have their government class papers signed either at the front table or the Council table. He told the students they got a real lesson in Civics tonight.

**MOTION
TO
ADJOURN**

There being no further business to be brought before the City Council, the Chair asked for a motion to adjourn. The motion was made by Alderman Szymczak seconded by Alderman Foy to adjourn was agreed upon by voice vote and so declared by the Chair.

The meeting was adjourned at 7: 50 p.m.

PATRICIA E ROACH, CITY CLERK

APPROVED