

**Minutes of the Springfield
City Council Meeting
Wednesday, August 5, 2009, 5:30 p.m.
City Council Chambers**

Deputy City Clerk Camille called the Pre Council Session of the Springfield City Council to order at 5:00 p.m., Wednesday, August 5, 2009, in the Council Chambers of the Municipal Center West. Deputy Clerk Camille Read the Ordinances and Resolutions to be Considered at the Next Regularly Scheduled Meeting of the Committee of the Whole into the Record of the Meeting. The Pre Council Session Concluded at 5:07 p.m.

Mayor Davlin called the Meeting to Order at 5:30 p.m. All were invited to rise for the Pledge of Allegiance.

Deputy City Clerk Camille called the roll of City Council members.

PRESENT: Alderman Edwards , Simpson , Kunz , Lesko , Cahnman , Mahoney , Cimarossa , Theilen , Dove , Griffin & Mayor Davlin .

ABSENT: None

Proclamations: None

Ald. Simpson Moved To Recess the Regular Meeting of the City Council for the Purpose of Holding Executive Session to Discuss Pending Litigation. Ald. Cimarossa Seconded. The Motion Carried 10/0 via voice vote. Ald. Edwards, Simpson, Kunz, Lesko, Cahnman, Mahoney, Cimarossa, Theilen, Dove and Griffin voted yes. The time was approximately 5:31 p.m.

Ald. Simpson Moved to Adjourn Executive Session and Reconvene the Regular Meeting of the City Council. Ald. Griffin Seconded. The Motion Carried 10/0 via voice vote. Ald. Edwards, Simpson, Kunz, Lesko, Cahnman, Mahoney, Cimarossa, Theilen, Dove and Griffin voted yes. The time was approximately 5:47 p.m.

Ald. Simpson moved, Ald. Dove seconded, To Dispense with the Reading of the Minutes of the July 21, 2009, City Council Meeting and Approve the Minutes. The Motion Carried 10/0 via voice vote. Ald. Edwards, Simpson, Kunz, Lesko, Cahnman, Mahoney, Cimarossa, Theilen, Dove and Griffin voted yes.

Ald. Simpson moved, Ald. Lesko seconded, To Dispense with the Reading of the Minutes of the July 23, 2009, Special City Council Meeting and Approve the Minutes. The Motion Carried 10/0 via voice vote. Ald. Edwards, Simpson, Kunz, Lesko, Cahnman, Mahoney, Cimarossa, Theilen, Dove and Griffin voted yes.

Ald. Simpson moved, Ald. Cimarossa seconded, To Incorporate the Pre-Council First Reading of ordinances in to the Record of This Council Meeting. The Motion Carried 10/0 via voice vote. Ald. Edwards, Simpson, Kunz, Lesko, Cahnman, Mahoney, Cimarossa, Theilen, Dove and Griffin voted yes.

Ald. Simpson Moved To Place the Consent Agenda on Final Passage. Ald. Cimarossa Seconded. The Motion Carried 10/0 via voice vote. Ald. Edwards, Simpson, Kunz, Lesko, Cahnman, Mahoney, Cimarossa, Theilen, Dove and Griffin voted yes.

Agenda Numbers 2008-337, 2009-190 and 2009-281 Remain Tabled Or In Committee.

The Next Item on the Agenda Was No. 2009-387. An Ordinance Prohibiting the Appointment of New Employees For All City Offices. Ald. Edwards Moved to Return Agenda No. 2009-387 to Committee. Ald. Theilen Seconded. The Motion Carried 10/0 via voice vote. Ald. Edwards, Simpson, Kunz, Lesko, Cahnman, Mahoney, Cimarossa, Theilen, Dove and Griffin voted yes.

The Next Item on the Agenda Was No. 2009-401. "An Ordinance Amending Ordinance Number 401-07-09 To Correct The Revenue Accounting String for the Office of Homeland Security, Department of Emergency Communications, for Emergency Passage." Ald. Simpson Moved To Place Agenda No. 2009-401 On Emergency Passage. Ald. Cimarossa Seconded. The Motion Carried 11/0. Ald. Edwards, Simpson, Kunz, Lesko, Cahnman, Mahoney, Cimarossa, Theilen, Dove, Griffin and Mayor Davlin voted yes.

The Next Item on the Agenda Was No. 2009-402. "An Ordinance Authorizing The Execution of a Memorandum of Understanding with Sangamon County, Illinois, to Allocate Funds Received in Connection With the 2009 Byrne Justice Assistance Grant Program (#2009-H2833-IL-DJ) From the U.S. Department of Justice, For Emergency Passage." Ald. Simpson Moved To Place Agenda No. 2009-402 On Emergency Passage. Ald. Cimarossa Seconded. The Motion Carried 11/0. Ald. Edwards, Simpson, Kunz, Lesko, Cahnman, Mahoney, Cimarossa, Theilen, Dove, Griffin and Mayor Davlin voted yes.

The Next Item on the Agenda Was No. 2009-403. "An Ordinance Accepting and Authorizing the Execution of Proposal No. UE10-05 With Envirovac Waste Transport Systems, Inc. In the Amount of \$660,000.00 for the Removal and Beneficial use of up to 40,000 Tons of Synthetic Gypsum Generated at the Utility's Power Plant Complex for the Electric Division Generation Department, For Emergency Passage." Ald. Simpson Moved To Place Agenda No. 2009-403 On Emergency Passage. Ald. Dove Seconded. The Motion Carried 11/0. Ald. Edwards, Simpson, Kunz, Lesko, Cahnman, Mahoney, Cimarossa, Theilen, Dove, Griffin and Mayor Davlin voted yes.

The Next Item on the Agenda Was No. 2009-404. "An Ordinance Accepting and Authorizing the Execution of the Homelessness Prevention and Rapid Re-Housing Program Grant From The U.S. Department of Housing and Urban Development to the Office of Planning and Economic Development and Authorizing a Supplemental Appropriation of Said Grant Funds in the Amount of \$516,191.00, For Emergency Passage." Ald. Cahnman Moved To Place Agenda No. 2009-404 On Emergency Passage. Ald. Simpson Seconded. Sandy Robinson stated this ordinance will provide funding for prevention and re-housing. The dollars are all coming from the American Recovery and Re-investment Act of 2009. The dollars were allocated directly to the City of Springfield. There is another pool of funds coming into the community via Heartland Continuum of Care beginning this fall. Ald. Cahnman commended Sandy Robinson for obtaining the funds for this problem. Ald. Simpson asked if any of the funds will go towards new construction. Mr. Robinson stated that is not permitted use under these funds. The Motion Carried 11/0. Ald. Edwards, Simpson, Kunz, Lesko, Cahnman, Mahoney, Cimarossa, Theilen, Dove, Griffin and Mayor Davlin voted yes.

Ald. Simpson Moved To Suspend The Rules and Place On First Reading, Agenda No. 2009-428, "An Ordinance Authorizing the Execution of a Redevelopment Agreement With The City of Springfield Office Of Public Utilities For Purchase And Installation of Decorative Pedestrian and Streetscape Lighting In The Enos Park TIF Area using Enos Park Neighborhood Tax Increment Finance Funds In An Amount Not To Exceed \$850,000.00, For The Office Of Planning And Economic Development." Ald. Lesko Seconded. The Motion Carried 10/0 by Voice Vote.

Ald. Mahoney stated at the next Committee of the Whole Meeting, the Unions have been invited to attend with the hopes of a discussion on the recommendations that were provided by the Unions to cut costs from the City budget to avoid layoffs. His thought is to go through each recommendation to see where it takes us.

Ald. Cimarossa stated she is outraged by the recent incident at CWLP. She wants something to be done about this situation. She also apologized to Mr. Williams for the situation.

Ald. Cahnman seconded Ald. Cimarossa's remarks.

TC Christian Jr., Publisher of Pure New, was present to discuss the CWLP noose incident. He was enraged that the Police Report ruled the incident as simply as "disorderly conduct". He is present today to make sure this is not reduced to disorderly conduct, some kind of prankster or some kind of joke. Mr. Christian stated he found the Mayor's comments in the newspaper to be pleasant. However, he wants to send a message that the community will not tolerate this type of nonsense.

Mike Williams, Springfield, IL, addressed the Council. He is the CWLP Employee that found the noose at his work site. He stated he was a humbled man due to the incident. He wanted to know how the City of Springfield concluded an investigation without asking him how, why or who did this. He would like to use this as a teachable moment. Mr. Williams stated it was a noose. There was no doubt in his mind. He knows now that his higher power has put him on a whole new mission. He is now starting to get calls from other CWLP employees stating they have also been having problems. He urged the Council to adopt a zero tolerance policy regarding this type of behavior immediately. Mr. Williams is asking the City to please do the right thing.

Archie Lawrence, NAACP President, addressed the Council. He stated he has come before the Council with an extremely heavy heart. It appears we are heading in the wrong direction. When one hangs a noose before African Americans in this country, it is the ultimate insult. If this is taken lightly, one day someone will be hanging by a noose. This is something that should not be tolerated. These employees should be terminated and charged with a hate crime.

Ald. Edwards asked when the Alderman will be briefed on this situation.

Mayor Davlin stated there is a certain order in which things need to be handled. The union contract has to be followed exactly in terms of discipline. The City is following the contract and the disciplinary procedures called for in the contract.

Ald. Lesko stated everyone on this Council cares and are very interested in seeing what the outcome will be. This is something that we will stay on top of.

Ald. Kunz Moved To Adjourn The Meeting At Approximately 6:26 P.M. Ald. Cimarossa Seconded. The Motion Carried 10/0 Via Voice Vote. Ald. Edwards, Simpson, Kunz, Lesko, Cahnman, Mahoney, Cimarossa, Theilen, Dove, & Griffin Voted Yes.

Cecilia K. Tumulty

Cecilia K. Tumulty, C.M.C
City Clerk