

**CITY COUNCIL
MEETING MINUTES
February 23, 2021**

Mayor Gallo called the Council meeting via Zoom Teleconferencing to order at 7:31 p.m.

The Pledge of Allegiance

ROLL CALL:

Present: McHale, Budmats, O'Brien, Vinezeano, Bisesi, D'Astice, Sanoica

Absent: 0

With 7 present and 0 absent there is a quorum.

Members of the virtual audience are reminded that these proceedings are being recorded for current and future broadcast.

Staff Members Present Remotely: City Manager Barry Krumstok, Finance Director Melissa Gallagher, Deputy City Clerk Judy Brose, Assistant to the City Manager Lori Ciezak, Police Chief John Nowacki, Fire Chief Jeff Moxley, Deputy Fire Chief Rick Acosta, Director Public Works Rob Horne, Business Advocate Martha Corner, City Attorney Melissa Wolf

Public comment will be afforded to the public who are joining us on this conference line as long as they provided their contact credentials and the subject matter for which they would like to speak about before the deadline as noted on tonight's agenda.

Members of the public present in the City Council Chambers listening to the meeting will be afforded the opportunity to provide public comment in accordance with the procedures applicable to public comment at an in-person meeting of the City Council. Namely, members of the public must have signed-in before the start of the meeting. In addition, any written comments that were submitted prior to the meeting will also be read.

MOTION TO APPROVE MINUTES:

The first order of business is to approve the minutes from the *February 9, 2021 City Council Meeting*. Is there a motion to approve these minutes? Alderman O'Brien made the motion and it has been seconded by Alderman Sanoica. Are there any corrections, additions, or deletions to the minutes? Seeing none, will the Clerk please call the roll?

AYES: D'Astice, Sanoica, McHale, Budmats, O'Brien, Vinezeano, Bisesi

NAYS: 0

ABSENT: 0

With 7 in favor; 0 opposed, the minutes are approved.

MOTION TO DEVIATE: None

MAYOR'S REPORT: None

WARD REPORTS: None

MEETING OPEN TO THE PUBLIC FOR 20 MINUTES:

The next step is to open the meeting to the public and there is a signature on the sign in sheet. In order to secure the rights of the citizens of the City to a fair and just representation before their elected officials, and to guarantee to the elected officials an order and dignified form in which to conduct the City's business, no person shall be allowed to engage in any activity that will disturb or disrupt the orderly proceedings of the City Council.

Per Rules of Procedures the public is to address the City Council, and the fact that no member of the City Council responds does not mean that the City Council or any member thereof agrees or disagrees with the comment.

In order to attain this objective the following rules of conduct are hereby established:

1. Any person who seeks to address the City Council at this time for public comments, shall be permitted to speak only upon recognition of the Presiding Officer and such person shall adhere to the following provisions:
 - a. Each person addressing the City Council shall state their name for the record.
 - b. Each person shall be granted no more than 5 minutes of the allotted 20 minutes in order to address the City Council.
 - c. Questions and/or commentary shall be limited to City business. Comments supporting or opposing a nominated person's candidacy for elective office of the City shall be out of order.
 - d. Commentary shall be directed to the Presiding Officer unless the Presiding Officer permits the individual to address the Council Members or other City officers present.
 - e. Discussion shall take place in a professional manner which displays mutual respect.
 - f. Profanity shall not be used in any form or manner.

Dale Engelking – I was just wondering, I'm here in the Council Chambers and I see there is plastic partitions in between all the seats, I was just curious on when the City plans on coming back to live meetings. Seeing how everybody wants schools to open up and such things as that, I was just wondering when the City is going try to open up to have in person meetings. If it's okay to have schools opened up and businesses to start opening up, I was just curious. I also have a question, I don't know if it's for you

Mr. Mayor or Rob Horne, I know you guys have been wanting us to clean around fire hydrants around town which is an excellent idea. I was just curious on the water mains that they put in new this year on South Street and on Plum Grove Drive, maybe in the future they might want to consider where placing these new fire hydrants. The placement of some these new fire hydrants is close as 3 feet and most of them 4 feet off the curb where they used to be 8 feet, 9 feet and sometimes even further on the streets with no sidewalks. I think it behooves the City to maybe take into consideration when the engineering is done for the new streets that are going to be done that they look at where they're placing the fire hydrants. When the City comes by and plows them before the snow started to melt there were some that were almost completely buried because they're just too close to the road. Maybe they can look at that with future projects that they do.

Mayor Gallo closed the floor.

➤ **PENDING:**

A) Ordinance No. 21-07 – Approve an Ordinance Confirming and Extending the State of Emergency within the City of Rolling Meadows Due to the COVID-19 Pandemic (2nd Reading)

Is there a motion to adopt this Ordinance? Alderman Sanoica has made the motion and it has been seconded by Alderman O'Brien. Is there any discussion? See none, the question is shall the Ordinance be adopted, will the Clerk please call the roll?

AYES: Sanoica, McHale, Budmats, O'Brien, Vinezeano, Bisesi, D'Astice
NAYS: 0
ABSENT: 0

With 7 in favor and 0 opposed this Ordinance is adopted.

B) Ordinance No. 21-08 – Amend Section 6-37, Entitled “Restriction on Number and Classification”, of Article II, Entitled “Licenses” of Chapter 6, Entitled “Alcoholic Beverages” of the City Code in Order to Reduce the Number of Approved GA (Gaming Accessory) Licenses in the City of Rolling Meadows (Anna’s Red Apple - 2121 South Plum Grove Road) (2nd Reading)

Is there a motion to adopt this Ordinance? Alderman Sanoica has made the motion and it has been seconded by Alderman McHale. Is there any discussion? See none, the question is shall the Ordinance be adopted, will the Clerk please call the roll?

AYES: McHale, Budmats, O'Brien, Vinezeano, Bisesi, D'Astice, Sanoica
NAYS: 0
ABSENT: 0

With 7 in favor and 0 opposed this Ordinance is adopted.

C) Ordinance No. 21-09 – Amend Article IV, Entitled “Water” of Chapter 110, Entitled “Utilities” of the City Code of the City of Rolling Meadows in order to Differentiate between Public and Private Water Mains and Identify, Ownership Maintenance and Repair Obligations (2nd Reading)

Is there a motion to adopt this Ordinance? Alderman Sanoica has made the motion and it has been seconded by Alderman McHale. Is there any discussion? See none, the question is shall the Ordinance be adopted, will the Clerk please call the roll?

AYES: Budmats, O’Brien, Vinezeano, Bisesi, D’Astice, Sanoica, McHale
NAYS: 0
ABSENT: 0

With 7 in favor and 0 opposed this Ordinance is adopted.

D) Ordinance No. 21-00 – Amend City Pay Plan – Create Part-Time Fire Inspector (1st Reading) (postponed at 2/9/21 City Council Meeting)

Is there a motion to postpone this Ordinance to March 9, 2021 City Council Meeting? Alderman Vinezeano has made the motion and it has been seconded by Alderman McHale. Is there any discussion? See none, the question is shall the Ordinance be adopted, will the Clerk please call the roll?

AYES: O’Brien, Vinezeano, Bisesi, D’Astice, Sanoica, McHale, Budmats
NAYS: 0
ABSENT: 0

With 7 in favor and 0 opposed this Ordinance is postponed to March 9, 2021.

➤ **CONSENT ORDINANCES (1st Reading):**

The next item on the agenda are the Consent Ordinances. It consists of four (4) items, items E thru H. Does any Alderman wish to remove any other item from the Consent Ordinances?

Alderman Budmats – Item H.

Mayor Gallo – Any others? Seeing none, the Chair declares it in order for one motion to consider the remaining three (3) Ordinances in one motion without debate. Is there a motion to consider the Ordinances for 1st Reading? Alderman Sanoica has made the motion and it has been seconded by Alderman O’Brien.

E) Ordinance No. 21-00 – Approve an Ordinance Confirming and Extending the State of Emergency within the City of Rolling Meadows Due to the COVID-19 Pandemic (1st Reading)

- F) Ordinance No. 21-00 – Amending the City Code in order to Reduce the Number of Class A-2 and Class A-3 Liquor Licenses Issued in the City of Rolling Meadows (Anna’s Red Apple (A2), 2121 S. Plum Grove and Bigby’s Pour House (A-3) 1649 W. Algonquin) (1st Reading)**
- G) Ordinance No. 21-00 – Amend the City Code in Order to Reduce the Number of Video Gaming Accessory Licenses Issued in the City of Rolling Meadows (Bigby’s Pour House – 1649 W. Algonquin Road) (1st Reading)**

Again, the question is shall the three (3) Ordinances be moved forward for 2nd Reading? Will the Clerk please call the roll?

AYES: Vinezeano, Bisesi, D’Astice, Sanoica, McHale, Budmats, O’Brien
NAYS: 0
ABSENT: 0

With 7 in favor and 0 opposed, the Ordinances will be moved forward for 2nd reading.

Item H was pulled by Alderman Budmats.

- H) Ordinance No. 21-00 – Amend Chapter 2, Article III of the Code of Ordinances to Authorize the City Manager to Execute Agreements Pertaining to Administrative Zoning Code Matters (1st Reading)**

Mayor Gallo - Is there a motion to consider this Ordinance for 1st Reading? Alderman Budmats has made the motion and it has been seconded by Alderman Sanoica.

Alderman Budmats you pulled this so you have first comments.

Alderman Budmats – I just received information clarifying this item around 5:30 tonight in an email. I don’t feel there’s adequate time to disseminate that and discuss it with my fellow Aldermen so I’m going to make a motion to postpone this item to the next meeting.

Mayor Gallo – Fair enough. Is there a second to Alderman Budmat’s motion to postpone? Alderman McHale has made the second. Is there any discussion on postponing this matter?

Alderman D’Astice – I read the information that was submitted and I think it was pretty clear so I will be voting no to postpone because I think the explanation was adequate.

Alderman O’Brien – I am similar to Alderman D’Astice. I just happened to have time to read it, I received the email as it came across based on my work schedule and talking to staff in the past about it, I am comfortable going forward as written but understand the motion to postpone but I am comfortable moving forward.

Mayor Gallo – I, on the contrary, not that I get a vote on this matter but my work schedule did not allow me to read it. I saw it come through and I haven’t been able to address that. I would like the liberty of looking at it and following up with staff to see some of the future ramifications and the impact of this. I

do have a previous understanding of the intention but I feel like I'm pressured on time as well so I can empathize with that side of the coin.

Alderman Vinezeano – I didn't even know about this email until other Aldermen just mentioned it. I did not read it and I want to go a step further on that, I believe that we have asked staff in the past that if there is going to be additional information on an agenda item that we have before the day of the meeting so it does give us adequate time to review it for a perfect example like this. With that being said, I believe postponing is appropriate so that we all have time to review it.

Alderman McHale – Alderman Vinezeano just pretty much summed up the same for me. I did not get a chance to review this email adequately so I would like to postpone.

Mayor Gallo – Any further comments? Seeing none, the question is shall the item be postponed, will the Clerk please call the roll?

AYES: Bisesi, D'Astice*, Sanoica, McHale, Budmats, O'Brien**, Vinezeano
NAYS: 0
ABSENT: 0

*Note: Alderman D'Astice voted with the following statement: "Based on what I've heard, that the Council hasn't had time, I will say yes."

**Note: Alderman O'Brien voted with the following statement: "Since the majority of peers didn't have time to review."

With 7 in favor and 0 opposed, this Ordinance is postponed to March 9, 2021 and I believe staff will be inundated with questions after reading the email.

➤ **NEW BUSINESS:**

I) MOTION TO APPROVE PAYMENT OF BILLS ON WARRANT 2/23/2021

The next item of business is a motion to approve the Warrant from February 23, 2021 as presented by the Finance Department. Is there a motion to approve the Warrant? Alderman O'Brien made the motion and it has been seconded by Alderman McHale. Is there any discussion?

Alderman Budmats – One of the items in the Warrant is for the Next Level Northwest payment of \$10,000. I would like the Council to be aware that we're paying \$10,000 for what in the past three years has amounted to helping two businesses in Rolling Meadows and I think our total expense to date is about \$45,000. I really think this item is included in the Budget but I think it needs to be reassessed in the next Budget if it's bringing value to the citizens of Rolling Meadows that we should just be spending this kind of money for this value. I know that last month it was briefly discussed but what the Next Level Northwest is doing etc. but I don't know if it was clear to me, maybe it was to other Aldermen that there was a considerable expense that Rolling Meadows is incurring. It shows up under dues in the Budget but inasmuch as it is not something we ever voted on as an expenditure other than it shows up in the Warrants, it's never like we had an Ordinance to approve the expenditure of \$45,000, I would really hope that we take a serious look at this when the Budget comes out next year. I'm just making it known about this particular expense so that it doesn't get missed next time we go through the Budget.

Alderman Vinezeano – Alderman O’Brien and myself sitting on EDC, this was a topic that was brought up to EDC. We did have presentation from this organization and the EDC did have a table talk on this very topic and there was no resolution to it and I believe it will be one of our goals this year is re-evaluating that as well. It was my perception that it will be moving forward this year to present to Council an EDC recommendation to either to move forward or disband from this organization.

Mayor Gallo – I’m appreciative that you brought that up. As you know, during the time of that presentation back in October or maybe early November timeframe, I had also asked a handful of the EDC members to find out specifically what is the local value and the specific local benefits that our City gets from contributing with our membership fees to this organization vs. something general. It’s in a broader conversation as we move out of this post pandemic economy, we’re going to really need to be very precise in our financial expenses and looking at what’s necessary and where we get specific value and specific benefit vs. broad value and benefit and make sure we do the most with the money we have instead of essentially coming back to residents and asking for more if we can just shuffle the deck a bit. Any further discussion on this? Seeing none, the question is shall the Warrant be approved, will the Clerk please call the roll?

AYES: D’Astice, Sanoica, McHale, Budmats, O’Brien, Vinezeano, Bisesi
NAYS: 0
ABSENT: 0

With 7 in favor and 0 opposed. This Warrant is approved.

➤ **CONSENT RESOLUTIONS:**

The next items on the agenda are the Resolutions. It consists of one (1) item, item J. Does any Alderman wish to remove any item from the Consent Agenda for Resolutions?

J) Resolution No. 21-R-16 – Authorize the Application for 2021 Cook County Community Development Block Grant (CDBG) Funds and Certification of Matching Funds Availability

Is there a Motion to adopt this Resolution? Alderman Sanoica has made the motion and it has been seconded by Alderman McHale. Is there any discussion?

Alderman Sanoica – I just want to vocalize my support for this grant project that will directly affect the infrastructure of the Arbor Drive area of Ward 7. I will be voting in favor of this.

Mayor Gallo – Is there any further discussion? Seeing none, the question is shall the Resolution be adopted? Will the Clerk please call the roll?

AYES: Sanoica, McHale, Budmats, O’Brien, Vinezeano Bisesi, D’Astice
NAYS: 0
ABSENT: 0

With 7 in favor and 0 opposed, the Resolutions are adopted.

OTHER BUSINESS & REPORTS:

Mayor's Appointments: None

Mayor's Proclamations: None

City Clerk's Report: None

City Staff Reports:

Barry Krumstok, City Manager went over the following:

1) Community Items of Interest

- 1) As mentioned during the January City Council meetings, at this time, due to COVID-19 continuing in the area, the February and March City Events, namely the Taste of the Town that was scheduled for February 27th and the St. Patrick's Day Dinner that was scheduled for March 13th are being cancelled.
- 2) The City and Vitalant have scheduled another Blood Drive for Thursday, February 25th from 1:00 pm to 7:00 pm in City Hall (Council Chambers). Due to the need for social distancing, appointments are really needed for this event and may be scheduled by contacting Vitalant at 877-258-4825. Wearing of a face covering (mask) is required. Walk-ins will only be accommodated if no scheduled appointments are present in the Council Chambers.
- 3) March 14th – daylight savings time begins. Remember to spring forward one hour and it is also a smart idea to change the batteries in your smoke alarm & carbon monoxide detectors. [It is also a good time to test the devices you own and make sure they are working properly.]
- 4) The Rolling Meadows Fire Department continues to offer home safety surveys to the City's Senior Citizens. This Senior Safety Program is for City residents aged 65 and older. Trained Fire Department personnel will perform a safety survey, provide guidance to minimize the risk of fire & injury and install free smoke and carbon monoxide detectors to residents who request this home program. This program is funded by a FEMA Fire Prevention and Safety Grant. Seniors, who would like to participate, please contact the Fire Department at 847-397-3352.
- 5) First Installment Cook County property tax bills are out and property owners have until May 3rd to pay without any late charges. (The first installment is actually due on March 2nd, but thanks to an ordinance passed back in November by the Cook County Board of Commissioners, property owners can pay without any interest charge through May 3rd).
- 6) Kung Fu Tea, located at 1643 Algonquin Road, opened to the public on Friday, February 12th. They are bubble tea specialist with a selection of hot & cold drinks, including coffee & slushes. Each drink is customized and you can choose from classic teas, milk teas, fruit teas, slushies' and more. You also get to pick your toppings, sugar levels, and ice levels. Toppings range from bubbles and milk cap to different types of beans and jellies. They also offer seasonal flavors and toppings!

- 7) Public Works has started a Facebook page and a Twitter account. This is a page for the Public Works Department to provide useful information to residents, businesses and friends of the Department, though not to engage. Please like Public Works on Facebook, and follow them on Twitter.
- 8) Community Development is starting a pre-submittal consultation program, where residents can meet with Staff for up to half an hour to discuss spring/summer/fall projects. This will help residents be prepared with all the right materials for their project submissions. This is a new “annual project” that will run from December 1st to April 1st and is now open at this time.
- 9) Have you seen the February electronic “News & Views” or “e-News & Views?” If not, visit, www.cityrm.org and click on News & Views tab. This is the sister publication to the printed newsletter.
- 10) ***Please Shop, Dine and Order in Rolling Meadows (it is more important than ever). During these times, it is significant to remember our big boxes, restaurants and small businesses.***
- 11) Important Dates for the April 6th Election:
 - March 10th – Early voting begins;
 - March 21st – Deadline to register to vote;
 - April 1st – Final day to request a mail ballot; and
 - April 5th – Early voting ends.
- 12) As the restaurant industry continues to be impacted by the lasting effects of the COVID-19 pandemic, the Illinois Restaurant Association Educational Foundation (IRAEF) has developed the **Restaurant Employee Relief Fund** to provide financial support to restaurant workers in need. (The IRAEF is a non-profit organization 501 (c) (3) created to prepare Illinois' hospitality workforce through career exploration, professional development, industry training, and scholarships. We have expanded our efforts to ensure a strong future for the restaurant community. The development of industry professionals remains a top priority, and we are proud to support the restaurant workers during this time of crisis.) Funding for the **Restaurant Employee Relief Fund** comes from various sources, including personal donations, corporate partnerships, and proceeds from the Go Gourmet Dining and Virtual Event Series. For any additional questions, please reach out to Kristen Hodges, IRAEF Executive Director, at khodges@illinoisrestaurants.org. OR visit <https://www.illinoisrestaurants.org/page/IRAEFReliefFund>
- 13) Future topics at March Committee meetings:
 - Economic Development Committee: (*Monday, March 1st at 6:00 pm*): Tentative items scheduled for this meeting consist of: 1) Economic Development 2020 Recap & Look Ahead, 2) Business List feedback and distribution of new lists for contact, 3) Business Advocate Update, 4) City Events for 2021, 5) Goal 2021 Discussion, 6) Other items of interest, and 7) a Chamber of Commerce update.
 - Planning and Zoning Commission (*Tuesday, March 2nd at 7:00 pm*): This is tentatively a Public Hearing and Consideration of a special use pursuant to Section V-4-A-3 of City Code Chapter 122 (City of Rolling Meadows Zoning Ordinance) to operate an “Indoor Athletic Facility” in an M-1 Zoning District, and other relief necessary to accommodate the indoor bicycle studio, 1225 Carnegie St. #108,

Derek Oberg, Ascend Bike Studio, Petitioner and there is to be a discussion regarding office buildings in the manufacturing zoning districts.

- 14) The “Snow Much Fun” Sculpting Contest is still going on. Email a picture of your sculpture to ciezakl@cityrm.org. You now have until Monday, March 1, 2021 to submit your picture. Now that the snow is melting it might be easier to make your sculpture.
- 15) With the snow melting, please watch your sewers, make sure there is free flow of water. Also, please help the Rolling Meadows Fire Department by cleaning the snow around the fire hydrants.

Barry Krumstok, City Manager went over the following:

2) January 2021 New Businesses

- 1) Rosati’s Pizza – Pizza Establishment
- 2) Mattress Depot – Online Mattress Sales
- 3) Teriyaki Madness – Food Establishment
- 4) Spacelite Inc. – Computer Programming

Melissa Gallagher, Finance Director went over the following:

3) 2022 Budget Calendar

In the packet tonight is our Budget and Capital Planning Calendar for the upcoming Budget year but we also include Capital so it’s the FY 2022 Budget Planning Calendar. The Budget process has started here in the City of Rolling Meadows began in January of this year. From February to July a lot of the back end work is done with City Staff and Capital Projects Committee meetings. Just a couple highlights on the Budget Planning Calendar of note, June 15th Committee of the Whole meeting will be our 2020 Audit Presentation and Year-End Fund Balances Presentation. Following past practices and schedules, June is always the month where we present to the City Council and to the public and residents and businesses the City’s Audit. Our Auditors will be here to present the audit and we will also have a full audit presentation that evening. For the June Committee of the Whole meeting we will also have the Citizens Annual Financial Report as well and then we also conclude that evening with 2022 Budget Parameters and Tax Levy discussion to start the budget planning process with the City Council and our community. Police and Fire Pension Fund Actuarial Tax Levy discussion also takes place. Moving through quickly for a couple of highlights, at the July 20th Committee of the Whole, if needed, we’ll continue the discussion. At the August 17th Committee of the Whole meeting the Capital Improvements Program (CIP) is presented to the City Council for discussion and review. When we submit the 2022 proposed Budget it is released to the City Council and the public with September 14th Council agenda packet. In September, the City Manager and Finance Director provide one-on-one meetings with the City Council. Throughout September all the way through November is the budget process. We have every single month all the way to November are Committee of the Whole meetings for budget discussion, we have a public hearing on the Tax Levy and a public hearing for the City Budget and Library Budget. Always as a footnote, budget filings must be completed before the December deadline to Cook County for the Tax Levy. That is the budget planning calendar draft review.

Melissa Gallagher, Finance Director went over the following:

4) FY 2021 Capital Improvement Committee Dates

Pursuant to Ordinance No. 21-04, the Capital Improvements Committee is now called Capital Projects Committee. Our first meeting was scheduled for tonight but we didn't have a quorum so we cancelled that meeting. Agendas and packets will be posted on the City's website as soon as our pages are updated to reflect the name change.

January 2021 – No meeting scheduled
Tuesday, February 23, 2021 at 6:30 PM
Tuesday, March 23, 2021 at 6:30 PM
Tuesday, April 27, 2021 at 6:30 PM
Tuesday, May 25, 2021 at 6:30 PM
Tuesday, June 22, 2021 at 6:30 PM
Tuesday, July 27, 2021 at 6:30 PM
August 2021 – No meeting scheduled
Tuesday, September 28, 2021 at 6:30 PM
Tuesday, October 26, 2021 at 6:30 PM
November 2021 – No meeting scheduled
December 2021 – No meeting scheduled

MATTERS NOT ON THE AGENDA:

Alderman Budmats - I have a habit of reading the packet on the weekend. On Sunday, I sent emails off to staff with questions regarding item number H. As you're aware, we received an email at 5:30 PM tonight about item number H and clarification. It seems that there's just not enough time to adequately disseminate, ask questions of staff, get answers from staff prior to a Council meeting. I would like to make a motion and we've discussed this in the past that we change the date of the agenda that it should come out no less than seven days prior to a City Council meeting.

Mayor Gallo - Okay, I agree with you on a lot of that. Is there a second to Alderman Budmats motion?
Alderman Sanoica has seconded the motion.

Melissa Gallagher, Finance Director - I just wanted to provide a little more information on the Accounts Payable/Warrant side that will change some things. In addition to that and I'm just speaking for myself in terms of Council Packets and I'm thinking also budget processes and other things to add to the mix, is there a possibility for a little more research to be brought back to Council for this item because of so many different considerations for this type of move?

Alderman Budmats - I'm happy to rescind my motion as long as we get some movement and a greater level of time to review. The problem is that there are several national holidays that fall on Mondays so even if you read your packet on the weekend there sometimes you just can't expect staff to answer emails on a Monday when it's a holiday. It gives you very little time for the staff to react and to provide additional information. I'm sure there's a happy medium someplace but at this time it seems that the Friday distribution of the packet does not provide ample time for everybody to adequately review, respond and get questions answered about the packet.

Barry Krumstok, City Manager - We can look at it and get back to you. I know that you said that you would rescind your motion but let us see what we can do.

Alderman Budmats - Thank you very much, I rescind my motion.

Alderman Sanoica - I think what will end up happening if we can't come to a point where we have enough time to review these items we will likely postpone them anyway. As far as budget planning, I know staff is doing a really great job of making lots of time and space for us to be able to review those materials one-on-one, with each other and at multiple Committee of the Whole meetings. I think we have a really nice track record of demonstrating that when we make time for these large decisions or really any decisions that we could come to a pretty good consensus quite quickly. I would say often times we don't really need that second or third Committee of the Whole that is placed on the calendar. I'm hoping that by having materials at least a week ahead of time we'll find that we're actually more efficient in the long run than trying to catch up, postpone, have only bits and pieces of information and then having to kick the can down the line throughout. I'm hoping that overall if we're more thoughtful with the agenda, not that we have a lot of materials but being able to engage with staff regarding those materials than I think will be probably more efficient in the long term.

Mayor Gallo – I agree with you. I do think that, like staff said, they can come back with maybe a happy medium for this. I see the protocol is if we don't get information with enough time than we postpone but that could largely be detrimental to staff and the community by going down that prescription. Let's hear what staff can provide but I think what staff is hearing from the Council side is that it would be more advantageous for the sake of decision-making, communication and transparency to have it with more than just the weekend. So hopefully staff you can come back with a reasonable timeframe for this.

Alderman O'Brien - I'm glad to say that the EDC is resuming our meetings on Monday, March 1st. Just a reminder that those meetings are on Monday in 2021, the Committee made that recommendation last year to allow more time for the group to talk versus Planning and Zoning coming in right behind us. Those meetings will resume Monday, March 1st at 6:00 PM. Alderman Vinezeano and I attend those so we'll circle back with the Council for updates at our following meeting. I was looking ahead to the EDC and the agenda that we have for next week, there is a topic, along with goals which I'm looking forward to talking about as well, was a Chamber update. Circling back to our discussion in January where there was the affiliation and you said there would be more information provided, is there any additional information from that perspective for awareness purposes before we go into the EDC meeting?

Mayor Gallo – Actually not. There was a Board meeting for the Chamber today. I don't believe that there will be much to share, I think there's still a lot up in the air. Maybe by Monday afternoon there might be some information to come back after the dust has settled. Largely, no updates that can be delivered between now on this platform.

Alderman Vinezeano – I believe I brought it up at our last meeting Matters not on the Agenda to kind of get an update on where we stood on the City properties that were listed for sale. Just hoping that staff can give us a little bit more detail. I did know that I read it in our weekly reports that Colliers had said not much movement. I would just ask staff if we can have a little bit more information than that either from them and/or Colliers as to what that really means. If there's businesses that are looking at it and it just doesn't fit our criteria or just no one looking at all. I'm just looking for a lot more information on the properties that we have listed for sale.

Alderman D’Astice – I just wanted to ask Alderman O’Brien and Alderman Vinezeano, is EDC meet in-person or virtually?

Alderman O’Brien – We are in-person Alderman D’Astice. We haven’t met since September or October but we are in-person at the back table where we have our Committee of the Whole meetings.

Mayor Gallo - For your clarification Alderman D’Astice, I do oppose to that personally as the Mayor. I’ve been encouraging the City Manager to encourage the Chairmen of these Committees to hold remote meetings when possible. I do think it’s in the public’s best interest to maintain a sense of vigilance. Let’s allow for more of the vaccine to get out in the community and then we could take a more controlled measure at coming back in to physical proximity with one another.

CLOSED SESSION:

- 1) **Union Negotiations – 5 ILCS 120/2 (c) (2) of the Illinois Open Meetings Act**
- 2) **Personnel – 5 ILCS 120/2 (c) (1) of the Illinois Open Meetings Act**
- 3) **Personnel – 5 ILCS 120/2 (c) (1) of the Illinois Open Meetings Act**

There is a request to go into closed session for only one item now. It does require a motion and a roll call vote. Is there a motion to go into Closed Session? Alderman Budmats has made the motion and it has been seconded by Alderman O’Brien. Is there any discussion? Seeing none, will the Clerk please call the roll?

AYES: McHale, Budmats, O’Brien, Vinezeano, Bisesi, D’Astice, Sanoica
NAYS: 0
ABSENT: 0

With 7 in favor, 0 opposed. We will now enter into Closed Session. The audience and press are advised that we do not anticipate taking any action upon returning to open session.

ADJOURNMENT:

There being no further business, by unanimous consent the City Council meeting was adjourned at 8:24 p.m.

Respectfully submitted: Judy Brose, Deputy City Clerk

February 23, 2021 City Council Minutes Approved by Council on March 9, 2021.

Judy Brose

Judy Brose, Deputy City Clerk