

**MINUTES OF REGULAR HARVEY CITY COUNCIL MEETING
MONDAY – February 12, 2024 – 7:00 P.M**

Shirley Drewenski, Mayor Pro Tem called the City of Harvey Regular Council Meeting to order Monday – February 12, 2024, at 7:00 p.m.

Mayor Pro Tem Drewenski stated that Mayor Clark had a family emergency so she said that she would be chairing the meeting. She stated that the only dialogue would be between the elected and city officials. She continued to say that it is next to impossible to take accurate notes when there is open dialogue going back and forth between the public and the elected officials. So, she kindly asked if someone needed to express themselves during the meeting to kindly escort themselves out so that there would not be any interruptions during the meeting. She asked Ms. Davis, city administrator, if all the aldermen had contacted her through email for any questions. Ms. Davis said that they had contacted her.

Mayor Pro Tem Drewenski asked City Clerk Rosa M. Arambula to call the roll of Council members.

Present: Alderwoman Shirley Drewenski, Alderwoman Telanee Smith, Alderman Tracy Key, Alderman Tyrone Rogers, and Mayor Pro Tem Shirley Drewenski.

Absent: Alderwoman Colby Chapman, Alderman Dominique

Reverend Gladys James Watson gave the Invocation.

The Pledge of Allegiance was led by Mayor Pro Tem Drewenski.

Alderman Dominique Randle-El came into the meeting at 7:06 p.m.

Approval of Minutes Dated: January 22, 2024.

Alderwoman Smith made the motion to approve the Minutes.

The motion was seconded by Alderman Rogers.

Voting Aye: Aldermen Randle-El, Rogers, Alderwomen Smith, Drewenski.

Voting Nay: Alderman Key

Abstain: None

Absent: Alderwoman Colby Chapman

MOTION CARRIED

Approval of Bills for Payment: January 8, 2024, January 22, 2024, February 12, 2024.

Alderman Rogers made the motion to approve all Bills for Payment.
The motion was seconded by Alderman Randle-El.

Voting Aye: Aldermen Randle-El, Key, Rogers, Alderwomen Smith, Drewenski.

Voting Nay: None

Abstain: None

Absent: Alderwoman Colby Chapman

MOTION CARRIED

ORDINANCES AND RESOLUTIONS FOR THE CITY OF HARVEY

Old Business- None

New Business

Resolution # 3068– A Resolution Approving and Authorizing an Intergovernmental Agreement by and between the City of Harvey and the Metropolitan Water Reclamation District of Greater Chicago for the Property Acquisition, Design, Construction, Operation, and Maintenance of Central Park Stormwater Detention Basin and Separate Storm Sewer Improvements in Harvey, Illinois.

Alderwoman Smith made the motion to approve the Resolution.
The motion was seconded by Alderman Randle-El.

Voting Aye: Aldermen Randle-El, Rogers, Alderwomen Smith, Drewenski.

Voting Nay: Alderman Key.

Abstain: None

Absent: Alderwoman Chapman.

MOTION CARRIED

Resolution # 3069 –A Resolution Approving and Authorizing the Execution of an Agreement for the Community Hubs Project by and Between the City of Harvey and Cortex Construction Group, LTD

Alderman Rogers made the motion to approve the Resolution.
The motion was seconded by Alderman Randle-El.

Voting Aye: Aldermen Randle-El, Rogers, Alderwomen Smith, Drewenski.
Voting Nay: Alderman Key.
Abstain: None
Absent: Alderwoman Chapman.

MOTION CARRIED

Ordinance # 3486 –A Ordinance Appointing City Council Standing Committees.

Alderwoman Smith made the motion to approve the Ordinance.
The motion was seconded by Alderman Rogers.

Voting Aye: Aldermen Randle-El, Rogers, Alderwomen Smith, Drewenski.
Voting Nay: Alderman Key.
Abstain: None
Absent: Alderwoman Chapman.

MOTION CARRIED

Public Comment:

- 1. Chappell Hooks-** Ms. Hooks would like to know how the intergovernmental agreement was not explained to the people when the responsibility is being passed on to them. She states that the residents should vote on the project. She does not think it's fair that ultimately the residents are the ones paying for it.
- 2. Pastor Ron Cummings –** Mr. Cummings mentioned that he was the first Black established business in downtown Harvey. He said his property was next to the community center and that they took it from him to make a basketball court. He appreciates the mayor speaking with him and says that Harvey still has hope.
- 3. Carlita Poole-Tingle –** Ms. Tingle is a resident who is being affected by the Water Reclamation Project. She said her father is 88 yrs. old and said her parents have been decent residents who pay their taxes. She continued to say that it is sad that they are losing their home especially in their late years of life.
- 4. Mauzkie Ervin –** Mr. Ervin mentioned that he does not agree with the way the city is doing business. He states that the city looks bad when the residents don't know what the

- alderman are voting on. He thinks it is not fair that Alderman Key was denied his point of information. He also states he has an issue with the bidding process in the city.
5. **Jackie Clark** – Ms. Clark said she was representing the former city clerk, Nancy Clark. She states that they have been residents for the past 50 yrs. at 15238 Loomis. She mentioned that they have repeatedly, in the past 12 months, talked to the mayor about the house on the north side of theirs that had collapsed onto their property. She would like to know what actions are going to be taken by the city to help with this situation.
 6. **Ryan Sinwelski**- Ryan mentioned that he was from the Historical Society. He states that his family turned their farm stand into Wasso's grocery store. He believes Harvey is a great city with a lot of history. He states that he doesn't agree on how Harvey is doing business. He continues to say that as an African American dominated administration that it's not right they are kicking their own people out of their homes.
 7. **Bonnie Rateree**- Ms. Rateree states she came to the meeting regarding her concerns and knows she's not going to get answers during the meeting but will speak to her alderperson about the abandoned buildings in her ward. She believes that it is not fair that the Water Reclamation project will remove residents out of their homes who actually paid taxes and took care of their homes.
 8. **Melville King Jr.** – Mr. King is concerned with the way the city is voting and deciding on their decisions. He believes there should be more communication with the residents and that is why he attends second ward meetings because they are informative. He would like to keep raising awareness about the crime going on around his ward. He is upset because there is no treasurer report.

Alderman Key appreciates everyone who came out. He hopes no one is confused about the answers that were given or not given. He states he will continue to raise his concerns and questions about the Water Reclamation project. Also is raising concerns about the Hub project stations and the money that is going to them.

Pro Tem Drewenski makes a comment about the questions the residents have about the ordinances. She states that she does read the agenda packet and if anyone in her ward has a question about it that they can reach out to her. If their alderpersons do not have the answers, then they should reach out to the mayor's office in an email. The aldermen receive their packet 1 week before the meeting. She states that the City Council meeting's purpose is for voting aye or nay only, do we move forward or not. She continues to say that the meetings are not for discussion. She mentioned that the Hubs had to start from scratch for potential legal obligations. These are questions and answers that the aldermen can request in an email and will be answered by the mayor in writing. She continued to say that they take the vote sincerely and respectfully and do are due diligence to answer and reflect what each ward represents and needs. She stated that she has nothing to lose except for the residents' respect and that means more to her than sitting in her seat. She pointed out that the residents are welcome to attend her meetings. She mentioned that the alderpersons, the majority of them, read and comprehend these packets. She commented on how if she did not comprehend, she would seek out, but not the day of the council meeting because this administration has put in methods, so as not to waste the public's time by arguing back and forth.

ADJOURNMENT: 7:48 p.m.

Alderman Randle-El made the motion to adjourn meeting.
The motion was seconded by Alderwoman Smith.

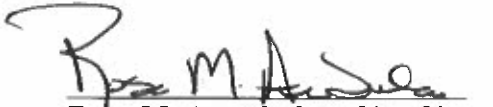
Voting Aye: Alderwomen Drewenski, Smith, Aldermen Key, Randle-El, Rogers.

Voting Nay: None

Abstain: None

Absent: Alderwoman Chapman

MOTION CARRIED


Rosa M. Arambula
Rosa M. Arambula - City Clerk

