

CITY OF KANKAKEE  
CITY COUNCIL MEETING  
APRIL 3, 2017                      7:00 P.M.

MAYOR EPSTEIN: Good evening. I'd like to call.....thank you. Good evening. I'd like to call the meeting to order. At this time, I would like to ask Rev.Dave Robinson from Genesis Community Ministries to come forward and lead us in prayer.

REVEREND ROBINSON: Good evening to all. Let us all stand as we pray this evening. And, if you have not prayed in recent times, I'm asking you to join me in prayer because tomorrow is elections. Amen. So, Father, we come before You and even before we bring our own City, we think about the people who lost their family in Columbia tonight. All 200 of them. Lord, hear our prayer. Hear our prayer for those families. For those who lost their lives in Russia due to that bombing on the subway. We say Father, hear our prayer this evening for those who lost loved ones. And, for the starving children in Somalia and Sudan tonight, who do not know where the next piece of bread is coming from. Lord, all I can say tonight and we can say is hear our prayer. And, as we go into elections tomorrow, dear God, let us thank You for our blessings that we have in this City. That we are able to sustain a budget, that we are able to employ officials and the majority of us, dear God, know where our next meal is coming from. So, Your blessings on our City, our Mayor as she runs for reelection and the two other candidates who will be running against her. We pray for all of them, that at the end of it all, we would live peaceable lives and live a life that reflects the light and salt of the earth. So, I thank You for the privilege of being able to pray here tonight and I ask that Your mercy be upon us as we continue to serve our City. In Jesus' name I pray. Amen and amen.

MAYOR EPSTEIN: Thank you, Pastor. At this time I would like to ask Mrs. Kiefer's 4<sup>th</sup> Grade class from Kennedy Middle Grade School to come forward and lead us in the Pledge of Allegiance. Right up here at the front.

MEMBERS OF MS. KIEFER'S KENNEDY MIDDLE  
SCHOOL FOURTH-GRADE CLASS AND ALL:                      Pledge of Allegiance

MAYOR EPSTEIN: Okay. Thank you very much. Moving on. Roll call.

CLERK DUMAS:

PRESENT: Tetter; Brown; Curtis; Baron; Tall; Faford; Swanson; Crawford; Osenga;  
O'Brien; Gall; Kennedy; Davidson (13)  
ABSENT: Wells-Armstrong (1)

MAYOR EPSTEIN: Department Heads.

CLERK DUMAS:

PRESENT: Regnier; Perkins; Kubal; Bohlen; Simms; Tyson; Cross; Bertrand; Yohnka;  
Schmitz (10)  
ABSENT: Power (1)

MAYOR EPSTEIN: Thank you. Moving on, I would like a motion to approve the minutes of the March 20, 2017, meeting.

ALDERMAN OSENGA: So moved, Mayor Epstein.

MAYOR EPSTEIN: Motion by Alderman Osenga.

ALDERMAN CRAWFORD: Second.

MAYOR EPSTEIN: Second by Alderman Crawford. Are there any additions or corrections to the minutes? Hearing none, all those in favor, aye. Opposed.

MOTION TO APPROVE CITY COUNCIL MEETING MINUTES OF MARCH 20, 2017

MAYOR EPSTEIN: The minutes are approved. There are no Petitions. At this time, we will move to Communications. It is my pleasure this evening to welcome to our Council meeting, Diane Lantz. Diane is a CPA and she is the Executive Director of the Illinois Government Finance Officers Association, known as GFOA. She is here tonight to present the City, as well as Elizabeth Kubal our Comptroller, with a Certificate of Excellence. Diane I'll turn it over to you.

DIANE LANTZ: Thank you, Mayor. I am honored to be here today on behalf of the Government Finance Officers Association to present the Certificate of Achievement for Excellence in Financial Reporting to the City of Kankakee. The Certificate of Achievement Program has been in operation since 1946. The purpose of this program is to encourage and assist governments to prepare financial reports of the highest quality for the benefit of citizens and other parties with a vital interest in the government finances. The program has gained widespread recognition as the premier indicator of excellence in governmental accounting and financial reporting. To earn the Certificate of Achievement for Excellence in Financial Reporting, the City of Kankakee had to substantially conform to the programs' demanding criteria which go well beyond the minimum requirements of generally accepted accounting principles. Program participants submit copies of their Comprehensive Annual Financial Report to the Certificate of Achievement Program for an in depth review and evaluation. The review and evaluation is performed by two members selected from an impartial panel comprised of government finance officers, independent certified public accountants, educators and others with specialized expertise and experience in governmental accounting and financial reporting. Reports also are reviewed and evaluated by members of the GFOA's professional staff. Only those reports that are judged by all reviewers to have substantially met the Program's criteria are awarded the Certificate of Achievement for Excellence in Financial Reporting. The receipt of this award reflects the professionalism, commitment as well as many hours of hard work by Elizabeth Kubal and her staff. It also reflects a high degree of dedication, leadership and support on the part of Mayor Epstein and the entire Kankakee City Council. The Government Finance Officers Association hopes that this award to the City of Kankakee will serve as an example and encourage others to strive for the same high standards in their own financial reports. And, Mayor Epstein, if you would come down and join us please. I'll give you this.

MAYOR EPSTEIN: Oh, it's heavy.

DIANE LANTZ: It is heavy. That's why I'm going to let you hold it. Elizabeth. Therefore, it is my privilege on behalf of the Government Finance Officers Association to present to Mayor Epstein and Elizabeth Kubal, the City's 20<sup>th</sup> Certificate of Achievement of Excellence in Financial Reporting for the 2016 Comprehensive Annual Financial Report. Congratulations.

ELIZABETH KUBAL: Thank you.

MAYOR EPSTEIN: Thank you.

ELIZABETH KUBAL: Thank you so much, Diane, for presenting this Certificate of Achievement for Excellence in Financial Reporting to our City for FY16. On behalf of the City of Kankakee, please let me extend our great appreciation to have you, the Executive Director of the IGFOA, as our honored guest here tonight. Thank you for everything you do on behalf of all cities and villages in the State of Illinois as you

promote excellence in the governmental financial sector through education, skills and performance. Thank you. This certificate is accomplished by a collaboration of many, many people across the City of Kankakee. I want to thank the Mayor and, of course, the City Council for their support as we work to maintain the high standards within the management of the City of Kankakee's finances. Next, I would like to thank the Department Heads and my team consisting of Maureen Kambic, please stand, Tamie Seedorf and Jeannette Holden for their consistent efforts throughout the year. Finally, I would like to thank our auditing firm of Groskreutz, Abraham, Eshleman and Gerretse represented here tonight by lead auditor, Dan Brough, for their professionalism, expertise and assistance in the preparation of our financial report. Thank you, Dan. Without these people, this certificate would not be attainable. I'm very excited to have received the 20th. Thank you.

MAYOR EPSTEIN: Thank you, Elizabeth. Thank you, Diane for being here. This is really an extraordinary achievement for the City to be 20 years. Ah, it shows the dedication and the continued professionalism in the Comptroller's office and Elizabeth has followed the patterns set by her predecessors and, of course, the help and the support that she gets from the Council as well as the Department Heads. So, thank you to all of you who made this possible. Ah, moving on, we have under Communications, the Jackson Family is requesting a school block party and so they would like some street closures and I would like, on August 19, I think—is this what I went to last year, Glenn?

ALDERMAN DAVIDSON: Yes.

MAYOR EPSTEIN: It was very well done and I would like a motion to approve.

ALDERMAN DAVIDSON: So moved.

ALDERWOMAN KENNEDY: Second.

MAYOR EPSTEIN: Motion by Alderman Davidson, seconded by Alderwoman Kennedy. All those in favor, aye. Opposed.

DANTAYA ROBERTSON AND THE JACKSON FAMILY COMMUNITY OUTREACH ARE REQUESTING STREET CLOSURE OF EAST WILLOW STREET TO NORTH CHICAGO AVENUE (INTERSECTING ROADWAYS OF WILLOW STREET AND GREENWOOD AVENUE) FOR THEIR ANNUAL BACK-TO-SCHOOL BLOCK PARTY ON SATURDAY, AUGUST 19, 2017, FROM 8:00 A.M. UNTIL 6:00 P.M.

MAYOR EPSTEIN: The motion carries. Ah, KC-CASA is also requesting permission to conduct their 10<sup>th</sup> Annual Walk-A-Mile In Her Shoes on April 21, at noon and I would like a motion to approve.

ALDERMAN BROWN: So moved.

MAYOR EPSTEIN: Motion by Alderman Brown.

ALDERMAN TETTER: Second.

MAYOR EPSTEIN: Seconded by Alderman Tetter. All those in favor, aye. Opposed.

KC-CASA (KANKAKEE COUNTY CENTER AGAINST SEXUAL ASSAULT) IS REQUESTING PERMISSION TO CONDUCT THE 10<sup>TH</sup> ANNUAL "WALK A MILE IN HER SHOES" ON FRIDAY, APRIL 21, 2017, BEGINNING AT 12:00 NOON AT THE KANKAKEE VALLEY PARK DISTRICT RECREATION CENTER, 150 NORTH INDIANA AVENUE

MAYOR EPSTEIN: The motion carries. Moving onto Standing Committees. Public Safety, Alderman Osenga.

ALDERMAN OSENGA: Mayor, since my computer is not working very well, I'm just going to say the information's in the report because there's nothing here.

MAYOR EPSTEIN: Well, we have it here.

ALDERMAN OSENGA: Hello.

MAYOR EPSTEIN: Well, I have it I should say.

ALDERMAN OSENGA: Where's my paper at?

MAYOR EPSTEIN: I still like paper. Ah, Economic Development. Alderman Curtis.

ALDERMAN CURTIS: Thank you, Mayor. I had that problem last time. Ah, I did want to report a couple things. Ah, as Bill mentioned at our last City Council meeting on April 11, 12 and 13, the ArtSpace will be in town. There is a meeting for the general public on the night of the 12<sup>th</sup> at 7:00 P.M. at the Kankakee Public Library. So, we encourage everybody to attend there. Ah, we also continued our month of identifying retailers and industry that we want to reach out and contact. We have set some site plans together for the upcoming ICSC. That's the International Council of Shopping Centers convention in Las Vegas. So, we're getting those plans out, ready for May. We also, I asked, ah, each person or each Alderman that was at the committee if they could identify two or three economic development goals for each of their wards that we can work on in the next, ah, coming month. So, we should bring that back. One last thing, is if you remember two years ago, ah, we did several ward projects where the Aldermen got together with, ah, other City officials. We worked on some stuff in the 2<sup>nd</sup> Ward and the 5<sup>th</sup> Ward. It was.....I thought it was a good time to bring everybody together. It was good productive things for the community so we'd like to try to do a couple more of those again this summer. And, on the Spring Clean Up Day in April, the 6<sup>th</sup> Ward will be doing a Spring Clean Up Day along Osborn and Lincoln. And, it's one of those areas where the neighbors want to get together and try there are some things, overgrown brush and debris and we're going to try and make it look good for the upcoming summer. So.

MAYOR EPSTEIN: So, should the Aldermen bring their ideas to you? Is this part of.....

ALDERMAN CURTIS: I would like them to bring it to the next Committee meeting. So, bring it with your ideas of what you'd like to see in your ward in 2017 and we'll work on those.

MAYOR EPSTEIN: Okay. Thank you.

NANCY SMITHBERG: Mayor, what did he say the date was for the 6<sup>th</sup> Ward, please?

MAYOR EPSTEIN: April 6, I believe. Did you say?

ALDERMAN CURTIS: The Spring Clean Up?

MAYOR EPSTEIN: Right.

ALDERMAN CURTIS: April 22.

MAYOR EPSTEIN: But for the 6<sup>th</sup> Ward.

ALDERMAN CURTIS: Oh, the 6<sup>th</sup> Ward will be the same day, also. We're going to tie it in with the Spring Clean-Up. We'll just do a section there.

MAYOR EPSTEIN: Okay. Thank you. Okay, moving onto Report of Officers, I would like a motion to pay the bills please.

ALDERMAN FAFORD: Your honor, I would move we approve the Report of Officers, place the money in the proper accounts and pay the bills in the amount of \$492,167.63.

ALDERMAN TALL: I'll second the motion.

MAYOR EPSTEIN: Motion by Alderman Faford, seconded by Alderman Tall to pay the bills totaling \$492,167.63. Are there any questions on any of the bills? Roll call.

CLERK DUMAS:

AYE: Tetter; Brown; Curtis; Baron; Tall; Faford; Swanson; Crawford; Osenga; O'Brien; Gall; Kennedy; Davidson (13)

ABSENT: Wells-Armstrong (1)

#### REPORT OF OFFICERS APPROVAL OF BILLS – \$492,167.63

MAYOR EPSTEIN: Motion carries. There is no Unfinished Business this evening. Moving onto New Business, we have an Ordinance that establishes two handicapped parking spaces on 606 E. Court Street. Do I have a motion to Suspend the Rules?

ALDERWOMAN KENNEDY: So moved.

ALDERMAN DAVIDSON: Second.

MAYOR EPSTEIN: Motion by Alderwoman Kennedy, seconded by Alderman Davidson to Suspend the Rules that would interfere with the passage of this Ordinance. Roll call.

CLERK DUMAS:

AYE: Tetter; Brown; Curtis; Baron; Tall; Faford; Swanson; Crawford; Osenga; O'Brien; Gall; Kennedy; Davidson (13)

ABSENT: Wells-Armstrong (1)

MAYOR EPSTEIN: Motion carries. Motion to place the Ordinance on Final Passage.

ALDERWOMAN KENNEDY: So moved.

MAYOR EPSTEIN: Motion by Alderwoman Kennedy.

ALDERMAN DAVIDSON: Second.

MAYOR EPSTEIN: Seconded by Alderman Davidson. Any questions?

ALDERMAN BROWN: Is this that resale shop?

MAYOR EPSTEIN: It's the, ah, Salvation Army building.

ALDERMAN BROWN: Salvation Army building.

MAYOR EPSTEIN: Yes, so they want one in front and one... ..

ALDERWOMAN KENNEDY: No, the health center.

MAYOR EPSTEIN: Oh, the health center. I'm so sorry. I thought it was the.....

ALDERWOMAN KENNEDY: No, it used to be Speckman Realty and then it was a church and now it's the health center.

MAYOR EPSTEIN: Oh, I'm sorry. I stand corrected. I was on the wrong side of Court. Okay.

ALDERMAN BROWN: *indistinguishable* Thank you.

MAYOR EPSTEIN: Okay, thank you. So we have a motion and a second to put it on Final Passage. Any other questions? Roll call.

CLERK DUMAS:

AYE: Tetter; Brown; Curtis; Baron; Tall; Faford; Swanson; Crawford; Osenga; O'Brien; Gall; Kennedy; Davidson (13)

ABSENT: Wells-Armstrong (1)

ORDINANCE AMENDING CHAPTER 32, SECTION 231 ESTABLISHING TWO (2) HANDICAPPED PARKING SPACES AT 606 EAST COURT STREET: ONE (1) ON THE WEST SIDE OF THE BUILDING ON CHICAGO AVENUE; AND ONE (1) ON THE NORTH SIDE OF THE BUILDING ON COURT STREET

MAYOR EPSTEIN: Motion carries. The next item on the agenda is exactly the same Ordinance that we had last time, vacating part of Washington Avenue for Millipore, but the parcels were not attached—the parcel numbers. So, you'll see a plat of dedication with the parcels attached. So, I just need to go through the Ordinance again so we can have a corrected version. So, do I have a motion to Suspend the Rules?

ALDERMAN DAVIDSON: So moved.

MAYOR EPSTEIN: Motion by Alderman Davidson.

ALDERWOMAN KENNEDY: Second.

MAYOR EPSTEIN: Seconded by Alderwoman Kennedy to Suspend the Rules. Roll call.

CLERK DUMAS:

AYE: Tetter; Brown; Curtis; Baron; Tall; Faford; Swanson; Crawford; Osenga; O'Brien; Gall; Kennedy; Davidson (13)

ABSENT: Wells-Armstrong (1)

MAYOR EPSTEIN: Motion carries. Motion to place the Ordinance on Final Passage.

ALDERMAN DAVIDSON: So moved.

MAYOR EPSTEIN: Motion by Alderman Davidson.

ALDERWOMAN KENNEDY: Second.

MAYOR EPSTEIN: MAYOR EPSTEIN: Seconded by Alderwoman Kennedy. Any questions? Roll call.

CLERK DUMAS:

AYE: Tetter; Brown; Curtis; Baron; Tall; Faford; Swanson; Crawford; Osenga; O'Brien; Gall; Kennedy; Davidson (13)

ABSENT: Wells-Armstrong (1)

ORDINANCE AMENDING ORDINANCE NO. 2017-08 TO VACATE A PUBLIC  
RIGHT-OF-WAY ABUTTING MILLIPORE CORPORATION AND DEDICATING THE  
VACATED PORTION TO THE ADJOINING PARCELS

MAYOR EPSTEIN: Motion carries. Moving onto Motions and Resolutions, it's our pleasure to bring before you tonight two Resolutions for the Community Development Agency. One is a grant—they're both from IDHA—one is a grant for the Trust Fund Home Accessibility Program and that is in the amount of \$236,250.00. The other is for Abandoned Residential Municipal Relief which is the amount of \$77,000.00 and we need to accept—do a Resolution to accept these grants. So, do I have a motion to accept?

ALDERMAN DAVIDSON: Mayor, I make that motion to accept.

MAYOR EPSTEIN: Thank you. Motion by Alderman Davidson.

ALDERWOMAN KENNEDY: Second.

MAYOR EPSTEIN: Second by Alderwoman Kennedy. Are there any questions?

ALDERMAN BROWN: Are we doin' those separately or will we do them together?

MAYOR EPSTEIN: We can do them together.

ALDERMAN BROWN: Okay. So it's motion to do them together.

MAYOR EPSTEIN: Is that all right, Alderman?

ALDERMAN DAVIDSON: Yes.

MAYOR EPSTEIN: Okay. Any questions? Roll call.

CLERK DUMAS:

AYE: Tetter; Brown; Curtis; Baron; Tall; Faford; Swanson; Crawford; Osenga; O'Brien;  
Gall; Kennedy; Davidson (13)

ABSENT: Wells-Armstrong (1)

RESOLUTION ACCEPTING A GRANT FROM THE ILLINOIS HOUSING DEVELOPMENT  
AUTHORITY'S TRUST FUND HOME ACCESSIBILITY PROGRAM

RESOLUTION ACCEPTING A GRANT FROM THE ILLINOIS HOUSING DEVELOPMENT  
AUTHORITY'S ABANDONED RESIDENTIAL MUNICIPAL RELIEF PROGRAM

MAYOR EPSTEIN: Motion carries. The next item is a Proclamation declaring April as Child Abuse Prevention Month which should be, of course every month should be Child Abuse Prevention month. Ah, do I have a motion to approve?

ALDERMAN BROWN: Motion to approve.

ALDERMAN TETTER: Second.

MAYOR EPSTEIN: Motion by Alderman Brown, seconded by Alderman Tetter. All those in favor, aye. Opposed.

PROCLAMATION DECLARING APRIL 2017 AS CHILD ABUSE PREVENTION MONTH

MAYOR EPSTEIN: The Proclamation is approved. There is no Executive Session this evening. Let me look and see. Public Comments. Mr. Snipes has signed up for Public Comment.

ROBERT ELLINGTON SNIPES: Good evening, Mayor, distinguished members of the City Council. Ah, just a point of information, the individuals that deal with this garbage, back and forth, I don't put a lot of garbage in my garbage can and, ah, I *indistinguishable* when other individuals put it in but since those individuals been gone, it's there, but these garbage individuals just take the garbage can and then they fling 'em or whatever and they really destroyed this garbage can. The top is off. The wheel is off and I asked them if they--are they goin' to replace it. Or whatever. Ah, haven't heard from them in over about six months. But, it's at the point now that it's almost.....I mean it's really destroyed. So, if someone can contact them.

MAYOR EPSTEIN: Mr. Snipes, are you talking about Allied has ruined it or someone else has ruined it?

ROBERT ELLINGTON SNIPES: I don't ask ' cause whoever the people are just takes it and throws it.

MAYOR EPSTEIN: Allied?

ROBERT ELLINGTON SNIPES: Yeah, whoever the garbage people are.

MAYOR EPSTEIN: We'll make sure that you get another can.

ROBERT ELLINGTON SNIPES: Okay.

MAYOR EPSTEIN: Not a problem.

ROBERT ELLINGTON SNIPES: But they'll know it. It's sittin' out there.

MAYOR EPSTEIN: Okay.

ROBERT ELLINGTON SNIPES: Thanks

MAYOR EPSTEIN: Thank you.

NANCY SMITHBERG: The regular can or the recycle?

ROBERT ELLINGTON SNIPES: Ah, it's the regular.

MAYOR EPSTEIN: Regular, okay. Thank you.

ALDERMAN BROWN: Mayor.

MAYOR EPSTEIN: Alderman Brown.

ALDERMAN BROWN: Yes, I just want to inform you that, ah, I cancelled the License and Franchise Committee meeting for this month. And, I just figured since election is this week, everybody'd be tired out from that. So, I wanted to give you guys a break.

MAYOR EPSTEIN: Okay. Thank you, Alderman. We're done with Public Comments. Are there any Aldermen comments? Okay. I guess there's a big game on



tonight. Although I need a motion to adjourn.

ALDERWOMAN SWANSON: So moved.

MAYOR EPSTEIN: Motion by Alderman Swanson.

ALDERMAN CRAWFORD: Second.

MAYOR EPSTEIN: Seconded by Alderman Crawford. All those in favor aye. Opposed.

MOTION TO ADJOURN CITY COUNCIL MEETING

MAYOR EPSTEIN: We are adjourned.

7:22 P.M.