

Elmhurst City Council
October 6, 2008
7:41 to 9:40 p.m.

None Absent
Public: (ca.) 20
Mary Costello, Observer

Public included (ca.) residents of unincorporated Bensenville concerned re. Elmhurst threat to cancel fire protection to unincorporated area south of Grand Ave. Residents were unaware of the problem. More below.

Mayor Marcicci present a Valor Award to Elmhurst detective Paul Carney, who rescued a teenager from flood waters during severe storm three weeks ago.

Tom Thrall, District 205 school board member, spoke to explain reasons why the District is pursuing eminent domain action to acquire building at 162 S. York St., to house offices.

Accounts Payable dated September 30, 2008, totaled \$2,363,354.21. Highlights included:

- Advantage 2, sidewalk repairs, \$24,675.
- Arrow Road Construction, resurfacing, museum lot, asphalt patching, \$441,640.42.
- Elmhurst City Centre, tax distribution, contributions, \$201,854.
- Elmhurst Claims Acct., claims services, \$156,700.
- Fifth Third Bank, payment line of credit, \$300,000.
- Healthcare Service Corp., health insurance, \$229,627.
- HNTB, Great Lakes Div., professional services, \$25,733.
- Kings Point General Cement, watermain improvement program, \$226,322.
- Lakota Group, professional services, \$26,052.
- Midwest Operating Engineers, Health insurance, \$63,945.
- Texor Petroleum Co., fuel, \$24,420.
- Winkler's Tree Service, DED tree removal, \$25,821.

Consent Agenda included:

- Request to review lack of cable access to City Council meetings by customers of AT&T.
- Request for review of traffic problems in two highly trafficked areas – Armitage and Van Auken and Emroy and Frontage Road.
- Request for review of maintenance and safety concerns at vacant buildings, with possibility of an Ordinance to force owners to care for vacant property.
- Phase III engineering proposal for 2008 streetscape improvements, including brick pavers, tree wells and ornamental street lights in CBD, at City Centre plaza, police station plaza, and York street from Second to North Ave., cost not to exceed \$105,984.
- Increase in fees for reconnection of water services for failure to pay following warnings, from \$20 to \$50.
- Purchase of 190 W. Park Ave. property, \$1,250,000.

Council discussed shortfall (\$204,566) in payment of fire protection services by unincorporated Bensenville Dist. #1, south of Grand Ave. Residents only recently became aware of the problem, and want to work with the City to correct it. After strong disagreements, Council voted 9 to 5 to extend contract one year, with a plan of action in place in 6 months. Voting Nay

were Regan, Leader, Nybo, Morley and Lomnicki. Mayor Marcucci addressed the Bensenville residents in the audience, suggesting they may want to consider annexing to Elmhurst.

Announcements:

- Mayor Marcucci announced that FEMA will be taking applications for disaster relief.
- Between 300 and 400 homes have water damage.
- Elmhurst Public Library was recently ranked 5th nationally and 1st in Illinois in its population category by the 2008 Hennon American Public Library Rating Index.
- City Attorney Ken Kubiesa was recently recognized by the International Municipal Lawyers Assn. As a Local Government Fellow, their highest award.
- Ald. Rose thanked the League for its part in high school “elections.” Clerk Spencer mentioned that young people have come in to register in record numbers.