

**City Council Meeting
City of Richmond Heights
February 10, 2009**

Council President, David Roche, called the meeting to order at 8:45 PM

Pledge of Allegiance to the Flag

Roll Call:

Present: Gambatese, Keyerleber, Morgan, O'Toole, Roche

Excused: Alexander, Henry

O'Toole motioned to excuse Alexander and Henry for tonight's meeting and Gambatese seconded. Motion passed 5-0.

Consent Agenda:

1. Minutes of the City Council Meeting from January 27, 2009
2. Resolution No. 8-2009: Introduced by Mayor & Council, First Reading: A Resolution of Congratulations and Commendation to the Rotary Club of Hillcrest on its 50th Anniversary.
3. Resolution No. 9-2009: Introduced by Mayor & Council, First Reading: A Resolution in Support of the American Red Cross 12th Annual "Give From the Heart" Blood Drive on February 10, 2009.

Motion to accept the Consent Agenda by Gambatese, seconded by Morgan.

Motion passed 5-0.

REPORTS:

Mayor Ursu: Presented Lynda Rossiter with Res 8-2009, since she is quite involved with the Rotary Club. He also thanked employees for helping out with starting the 35 hr work week which was instituted this week.

Fire Chief Cek: YTD 147 alarms, 107 EMS and misc. Last week there was a residential fire that cost \$10K in damage. We've responded to about 6 working fires so far this year, and all of them had residents trying to fight the fires themselves. Please call the Fire Dept when/if there is a fire! It will save on damage and possibly your life.

Gambatese thanked Chief Cek on the Dept's help in the apt fire, since it was her daughter's apt building.

Police Chief Rowe: Since Police car was totaled, they've been short one car. He called to find out when it will be delivered and they said soon. He discussed the article on the Suburbs and said the stats are scewed. Even though thefts are up 28%, it does not mean the City is a dangerous place.

The Mayor added that the article does not serve the cities well and pits communities against each other. The stats do not portray communities as they are.

Building Commissioner, Rodic: No report.

Finance Director, Rossiter: Working on the budget, met with Unions and got information to them. We are looking to move forward with this soon.

Development Director, Gase: Gave report on new businesses coming into Richmond Hts. There will be a new pizza parlor at the old Lentine's building, Ararat Restaurant moved into where Finamore's used to be and Transzonics is moving into a building on Alpha Drive. This will be the headquarters for this company.

Service Director, Lazar:

- Asked about the flower hanging baskets- are we going to have them this year? Rossiter added that the City has received 2 donations of \$100 each for these baskets. Lazar said Middleridge Gardens needs to know ASAP.
- Also, he asked about keys to the Lodge- will they be made available to groups using the Lodge?
- Elevator Contract- Rossiter recommended the lower end service agreement, as routine maintenance is \$875/year.
- Salt info- Morgan asked about calcium chloride and where it is used. Lazar said that it is a liquid that is injected into the salt by a spinner and heats up the snow. Roche said the good part about salt reduction is that it helps the ecology. Lazar said they try their best to control the ice issues with the salt shortage.

City Engineer, Chris Courtney: Thanked Lazar for the lower salt usage. This is a huge feather in our cap for the storm water report. Discussed Phase II changes in permits. With warmer weather we will be doing more inspections at the sites, before it freezes again.

Recreation Director, Drda: We are half way through basketball season and Spring training baseball will start this Saturday. She discussed the Community Recycling Grant, and thanked John Keyerleber for all his help on this. She asked about the pool and wanted to know if it will re-open this summer. If so, she needs to let the lifeguards know soon. She went to a school meeting where busing, school programs and community issues were discussed. There was a lot of positive feedback from the audience at the meeting.

Audience: -no comments-

OLD BUSINESS: -none-

NEW BUSINESS:

ORDINANCE NO.: 10 -2009, INTRODUCED BY MAYOR URSU & COUNCIL, FIRST READING

AN ORDINANCE AMENDING ORDINANCE NO. 107-2008 TO DEFINE BENEFITS FOR NON-COLLECTIVE BARGAINING UNIT EMPLOYEES OF THE CITY; AND DECLARING AN EMERGENCY.

- MOTION WAS MADE BY O'TOOLE AND SECONDED BY GAMBATESE TO SUSPEND THE RULES OF THE CODIFIED ORDINANCE AS PROVIDED IN SEC. 121.22 OF THE CODIFIED ORDINANCE. THE MOTION PASSED 5-0.
- MOTION WAS MADE BY GAMBATESE, SECONDED BY O'TOOLE TO PASS ORDINANCE NO.: 10-2009. THE MOTION PASSED 5-0.

ORDINANCE NO.: 11-2009, INTRODUCED BY MAYOR AND COUNCIL, FIRST READING

AN ORDINANCE AMENDING SECTION 955.02(A) TO PROVIDE FOR OPERATING EXPENSES OF THE DIVISION OF FIRE FROM THE AMBULANCE BILLING SERVICE FUND; AND DECLARING AN EMERGENCY.

- MOTION WAS MADE BY O'TOOLE AND SECONDED BY GAMBATESE TO SUSPEND THE RULES OF THE CODIFIED ORDINANCE AS PROVIDED IN SEC. 121.22 OF THE CODIFIED ORDINANCE. THE MOTION PASSED 5-0.
- MOTION WAS MADE BY MORGAN, SECONDED BY O'TOOLE TO PASS ORDINANCE NO.: 11-2009. THE MOTION PASSED 5-0.

ADDITIONS: -NONE-

CORRESPONDENCE: -none-

ADJOURNMENT: Motion was made by Morgan, seconded by Roche to adjourn this February 10, 2009 City Council Meeting at 9:16 PM

Betsy Traben, Clerk of Council

David H. Roche, Council President