



## 3<sup>RD</sup> WARD MEETING MINUTES – ALDERMAN DENISE RODD

March 9, 2016

### AGENDA

- Economic “Spring” Development
- Follow up on Monday’s Council Meeting
- Other questions

### WELCOME

We will do a follow up discussion from last Council Meeting and what Des Plaines is doing this spring to improve the city.

### HEALTH AND DENTAL BENEFITS

Council decided to have an ordinance allowing Council Members the opportunity to have healthcare benefits. There are 2 readings for the ordinance and once passing the first reading, it then goes through a second reading.

- Can the Mayor veto? Needs six votes to veto. It is now a matter of record, which is in accordance with State statute.
- Can we get this on a ballot? It would need to be a referendum to be put on a ballot and 1,600 signatures are required

It comes down to philosophical differences. Insurance benefits may term out, then by attrition go away. Denise will continue to speak up and fight for no insurance benefits.

- When is the next election? Odd Ward #s in 2017 and that includes the Mayor.
- Who determines Wards? County and State

### CHARITIES

Budget time is when the city plans contributions; it is our moral responsibility to help. If we are giving casino money, what happens when the casino money stops or runs out? Casino money is already being divided up among several needy communities.

### FIRE DEPARTMENT

Council gave approval for the Fire Department to go out for bid on the 3<sup>rd</sup> ambulance. City runs with 3 full time ambulances. This new ambulance would be replacing an ambulance within our fleet. Department had 4 ambulances at one time and due to budget cuts went down to 3. Because we can have all 3 ambulances out at one time, we are using outside help for calls 27 to 30 times a month.

- Is there a charge if not transported? No charge.

The future of paramedics may be assisting with homecare services, which would be separate from emergency services.

- How does using cell phone 911 service if eliminating landlines? Depends on cell network. Calls triangulate through cell towers. Sometimes we only get the address of the cell tower.

### ECONOMIC ‘SPRING’ DEVELOPMENT

- Mariano’s: Location Golf and Mt. Prospect. Demolition is completed and starting permit process. Building is on track to start this year. Occupancy 2017
- Littlefuse Site: Now called Buckingham Place. Applied for permits. Approval of plat is scheduled.
- Pedestrian Crossing: Feasible study is needed. Next Council meeting will have recommendations from Engineering Firm with a study to follow. Federal funds/grants will be used to cover the cost of the building crossing --- expensive but Engineering Group will do to keep cost down. The crossing will be one way to connect two sides of the town.
- Caputo’s: Financial trouble. Des Plaines, Palatine and Elk Grove stores closed. Not sure what will happen to current property.

- Dominick's property (owned by Caputo) is listed for lease, there have been inquiries. Most likely to be a grocery store.
- Italian Specialty Store: Moving in next to Dollar Store on Oakton.
- Townhouses:
  - Lexington Development on Lee Street. Planning is approved.
  - Development Over the Rainbow on Graceland. Zoning letters are being sent. Development to reapply for finance because it took too long to get approval.
- Metropolitan Square Circle: There is a design project in place. Council makes their decision on the design then it will go to the tenants of Metropolitan Square for input. Design to provide more of a plaza for pedestrians. A nice design – but expensive. This particular section of land belongs to the city.
- Lee and Prospect: City Manager said council to negotiate on sale of property.
- 7 Eleven Building-Thacker/Dempster: What is going on at the location? Looking at repairs being done.
- Prairie Chicken: Doing Good.
- Ozinga: Company got the O'Hare expansion contract. Resident says dusty again. Wall is up. Requested for Denise to visit Ozinga to bring up the note of last year to improve property for neighborhood.
- Salvation Army Property: Some interest

### CITY ISSUES

- Des Plaines Theatre: City is looking at recommendations.
- Vacant Buildings: 2 store fronts owned by the city on Miner Street --- analyzing a development of these 2 vacant stores (could include Des Plaines Theatre).
- Spring is wild animal breeding season. If you see foxes or coyotes don't approach and remember they are more scared of us than we are of them.
- Giordano's: Very busy: tip – order online and pick up to avoid wait!
- Hot Dog Stand at Wolf and Algonquin: Scheduled to open April 1. There will be a drive through window.

### NEXT MEETING

April 13, 2016

Guest Community Economic Development Manager

Prairie Lakes – 7:00 p.m.

### TO CONTACT DENISE

- Phone: 847-514-6318
- Email: [denise@3rdward.org](mailto:denise@3rdward.org)
  - Facebook: DP3
  - Twitter: @Denise Rodd
  - [www.3rdward.org](http://www.3rdward.org)