

**JOURNAL OF THE PROCEEDINGS
OF THE REGULAR MEETING OF THE CITY COUNCIL OF THE
CITY OF PARK RIDGE, ILLINOIS
AT 505 BUTLER PLACE, PARK RIDGE, ILLINOIS
COUNCIL CHAMBERS
July 16, 2007
CALLED TO ORDER BY Mayor Howard P. Frimark
at 7:30 p.m.**

ROLL CALL

The following indicated their presence at the meeting on roll call vote:
Ald. Schmidt, DiPietro, Bach, Allegretti, Ryan, Carey, Wsol and Mayor Frimark

A quorum was present.

The City Council and guests pledged allegiance to the flag.

APPROVAL OF MINUTES

Mayor Frimark requested approval of the minutes from the Regular City Council Meeting held June 18, 2007. Moved by Ald. Bach. Seconded by Ald. DiPietro.
On voice vote, the motion passed.

CONSENT AGENDA

Mayor Frimark read the following consent agenda items into the record:

- Approval of the Purchase of Fire Hydrants – not to exceed \$45,075
- Approval of the Final Payout for the 2006/2007 Alley Paving Program - \$11,576.58
- Approval of the Change Order for Additional Watermain Work at Farrell Avenue and Dee Road – not to exceed \$70,000
- Approval of the Illinois Department of Transportation (IDOT) Resolution for Alley Paving
- Approve warrants, reviewed by Ald. Carey, for the period ending July 15, 2007 in the amount of \$1,430,675.70

Moved by Ald. DiPietro. Seconded by Ald. Bach.

On Roll Call Vote:

AYES: Ald. DiPietro, Bach, Allegretti, Ryan, Carey, Wsol and Schmidt

NAYS: None

ABSENT: None

The motion carried with 7 favorable votes.

REPORTS OF CITY OFFICIALS

MAYOR (Proclamation – Recognition of Liz Bondi / Proclamation – US Coast Guard Day)

Mayor Frimark welcomed Representative Rosemary Mulligan to the meeting.

City Clerk Henneman read a Proclamation for Liz Bondi recognizing her sport related accomplishments. She also read a Proclamation for the United States Coast Guard

Auxiliary in recognition of their Anniversary. Mayor Frimark presented a Proclamation to each recipient. Each recipient was given an opportunity to say a few words.

Mayor Frimark reported that the Taste of Park Ridge was very successful and that the Taste Committee would present a complete report at a future meeting.

CITY MANAGER

City Manager Schuenke explained that Nicor recently informed the City that liquid was discovered in some gas meters and pipelines within our City. City Manager Schuenke and Mayor Frimark insisted Nicor attend the City Council meeting and report to the community on what they found and how the situation is being addressed. City Manager Schuenke said Nicor, five members of the U.S. Environmental Protection Agency (USEPA), and members of the Illinois States Attorney's office were in attendance at the City Council meeting.

Mr. Rocco D'Alessandro, executive vice-president for Nicor Gas, explained small amounts of PCB's had been discovered in a total of 4 homes, with its initial finding in February 2007. Apparently, pipeline liquids in the meter had obstructed the flow of natural gas into the customer's homes. Upon further investigation, it was determined that the liquids migrated from the meter into the resident's hot water heater and furnace. Nicor replaced the affected appliances, in addition to the meter and gas pipe, at no expense to the customer. All homes involved have been cleaned, tested and retested by an independent environmental service company to verify no traces of PCB's had been left in the home. After the second discovery, Nicor disclosed the matter to the USEPA and other governmental agencies. Mr. D'Alessandro stated an occurrence of this nature is very rare and assured the City Council that the health or safety of Nicor's customers' has not been jeopardized, as guaranteed by experts in the health and PCB field. With the cooperation of the USEPA, Nicor initiated a study on July 9, 2007, involving forty homes in the City of Park Ridge within the parameter of the four homes initially affected. The study is to conclude on July 31, 2007. Another random area study will involve an additional forty homes. Nicor will check their gas lines and selected customer's equipment for pipeline liquids. Thus far, Nicor's investigation has not uncovered any further discovery of pipeline liquids. Appointments are being scheduled at the customer's convenience. Upon arriving at a testing residence, Nicor supplies the resident with a special number to call with questions (630/388-3440). In addition, they are given an "In The Neighborhood" newsletter explaining what Nicor is doing and the reason why it is being done.

Mr. James Jezerol, Jr., general manager of environmental health and safety at Nicor, defined what PCB's are, where they come from and how they affect gas service. Furthermore, he said that the EPA regulates PCB's and that Nicor has never used PCB's in their system. He explained that PCB's traveled into their system via the pipeline transmission companies. The PCB's originated in the compressors of the pipeline, leaked out, dissolved and transformed into liquids, making its way to the Nicor Gas system. Both Nicor and the transmission companies have equipment to remove most liquids from the system. He also mentioned that PCB's tend to duplicate previously traveled areas or "route preference". He explained PCB's are everywhere in the environment, including in wildlife and fish and that everyone carries a body dose of PCB's with a lifelong exposure. He reiterated that PCB's have not been found in the air at resident's homes, nor on any surface contact areas within the homes. Therefore,