

**CITY OF KANKAKEE
CITY COUNCIL MEETING
FEBRUARY 21, 2017 7:00 P.M.**

MAYOR EPSTEIN: Good evening. I'd like to call the meeting to order. Ah, we will not do a prayer tonight and we'll have the City Council please stand and lead in the Pledge.

CITY COUNCIL AND ALL: Pledge of Allegiance

MAYOR EPSTEIN: Thank you. Okay. Roll call.

CLERK DUMAS:

PRESENT: Tetter; Curtis; Baron; Wells-Armstrong; Tall; Faford; Swanson; Crawford; O'Brien; Gall; Kennedy; Davidson (12)

ABSENT: Brown; Osenga (2)

MAYOR EPSTEIN: Thank you. Department Heads.

CLERK DUMAS:

PRESENT: Regnier; Perkins; Kubal; Bohlen; Power; Doyle; Tyson; Cross; Bertrand; Yohnka; Schmitz (11)

MAYOR EPSTEIN: Moving onto the minutes. I'll entertain a motion to approve the minutes of the February 6, 2017, meeting.

ALDERMAN CRAWFORD: I motion.

MAYOR EPSTEIN: Motion by Alderman Crawford.

ALDERMAN DAVIDSON: Second.

MAYOR EPSTEIN: Seconded by Alderman Davidson. Are there any corrections or additions to the minutes? Hearing none, all those in favor, aye. Opposed, same sign. The minutes are approved. There are no Petitions. Moving onto Communications. Our first item on the agenda is a flag presentation by Alderman O'Brien and Alderwoman Gall for the library. Mr. Bertrand.

ALDERMAN O'BRIEN: Allison, you have got to come up here, too. It's our pleasure to be here tonight. Stacy and I have the privilege of representing the people of the 2nd Ward. We also have the unique opportunity to represent much of the downtown area which, of course, is home to our wonderful public library. And, ah, in light of all that they do for the community and the various roles that they play so well, we thought it appropriate to some way, somehow, honor them. So, we asked our Representative in Congress, Robin Kelly, to fly a flag above the United States Capitol in honor of the Kankakee Public Library and she kindly agreed to do that. So, we're here tonight to present a certificate to that affect as well as the actual flag. So, Alderman Gall, would you please read the certificate that we have here?

ALDERWOMAN GALL: Okay, this is the Certificate of Authenticity for your flag. It says, "This is to certify that the accompanying flag was flown over the United States Capitol Building on December 20, 2016, at the request of the Honorable Robin L. Kelly, Member of Congress. This flag was flown in recognition of the Kankakee Public Library. The Kankakee Public Library serves all the people of Kankakee. The library staff is outstanding." Very true. "And, provides quality programming and events. We express our thanks and appreciation for the library." You guys are wonderful.

ALDERMAN O'BRIEN: So, here is the actual flag and you can do with it what you see fit.

STEVE BERTRAND: Thank you, Stacy and Mike. I just, very briefly, would like to say that, ah, one of the things that makes the library great is that we get constant support from our City officials. Ah, there.....as you may or may not know, many libraries don't have an official relationship with their City and we do. We're a Department of the City. And, I don't know what I'd do without having all of you behind this, supporting us and, ah, giving us a wonderful honor such as these. So, thank you for your support.

MAYOR EPSTEIN: Thank you. Moving on, Allison, I believe you wanted to do a presentation on our Black History Celebration that's going to occur Thursday evening.

ALLISON BEASLEY: Thank you. We're a little library heavy tonight. Just wanted to thank you all for letting me speak this evening. Ah, we wanted to invite all of you, formally and officially to the 2017 Black History Celebration of Education. This is our scholarship program. This is something that the City of Kankakee's been doing for many, many years. And, I wanted to let you all know that it is this Thursday at 7:00 P.M. at the Kankakee Public Library. Ah, I also wanted to give a little bit of information to the Aldermen. Since Mayor.....and as a personal thanks to Mayor Epstein. Since Mayor Epstein has, ah, become Mayor, she decided she wanted to put the emphasis on education for this event. We used to give out one or two scholarships and, since 2011, we have given out.....we've been averaging about 22 a year. We've averaged 154.....we've got 154 recipients since 2011. That's a total of \$69,300.00. That is 100% from business sponsorships. It's not taxpayer money at all. So, we just want to thank Mayor Epstein and we are honored to be a part of this program.

MAYOR EPSTEIN: Thank you. I think it's really important as a community—and I say this over and over—that we put the focus on education. It truly is the ticket, the ticket out for many students and in this global economy that we face today, a high school education is a start. But, we need to support our youth as they go on to life. This year, we were fortunate that we've raised \$15,000, which is the most we've raised and we will have 24 scholarships. We do Kankakee (*High School*), Bishop McNamara and Trinity because all three of those schools are in the City of Kankakee and it's just a, ah, it's a wonderful opportunity to tell the kids we support you, we recognize you and your parents and we want to give you a bit of a start. So, we'll be doing \$500.00 scholarships to each of the 24 students on Thursday. And, we have, tonight, as part of our agenda, one of our former students, Julian Hill, who has had an extraordinary career and, ah, we're recognizing him. And, again, it's a Kankakee School District graduate. So, thanks, Allison.

ALLISON BEASLEY: Thank you Mayor.

MAYOR EPSTEIN: Okay. Next item. Rotary Club of Kankakee is requesting use of the Farmer's Market that will.....could have been open already had we known the weather was going to be this nice for May 7, from 8:00 A.M. until 4:00 P.M. for a game of Kankakee area community Monopoly. I have no idea what that is, but I'm sure it'll be a fun day. So, do I have a motion to approve the request from the Kankakee Rotary Club?

ALDERMAN O'BRIEN: So moved.

MAYOR EPSTEIN: Motion by Alderman O'Brien.

ALDERWOMAN GALL: I'll second.

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

ROTARY CLUB OF KANKAKEE IS REQUESTING USE OF THE FARMERS'
MARKET PARKING LOT ON SUNDAY MAY 7, 2017, FROM 8:00 A.M. UNTIL

MAYOR EPSTEIN: The request is approved. Okay, Standing Committees. License and Franchise. Alderman Brown is absent this evening.

ALDERWOMAN GALL: I can give the report.

MAYOR EPSTEIN: That's great. Thank you.

ALDERWOMAN GALL: Sure. Well, we had a meet and greet style meeting downstairs in the training room this month with all of our utility managers. We had representation from Nicor, Comcast, Aqua and Republic Waste. And the updates for the most part from all the companies were very standard at this time of year. But, it was nice to have that relationship and keep that communication going. There are a couple things I wanted to point out. Comcast Cares Day is April 22, and they're still looking for a 501(c)3 to work with to host a project. So, if you have any ideas, you can contact Comcast for that. Normally their projects consist of clean up day, painting, landscaping, things of that nature. Ah, if you have something in mind, you can contact them. And, lastly, if you look at the third page of the meeting minutes, I included an up-to-date contact sheet with all of the utility managers' information for 2017. So.

MAYOR EPSTEIN: Thank you, Alderman. The next item. Budget Committee minutes. Alderman Baron.

ALDERMAN BARON: The committee meeting from February was, ah, as the Comptroller says from time to time, standard and ordinary. And, I think that's good news. Ah, there's not a lot of huge deviancies from revenue or expenditures from the Budget Meeting. And, that's the charitable gains tax for the month of January was \$29,000.00 which is solid. Ah.

MAYOR EPSTEIN: It's an all time high.

ALDERMAN BARON: An all time high. That's good and bad, but that's good in terms of revenue. Public safety tax is on target. Year-to-date, we have taken in through the public safety tax \$651,468.00 and that's an incredible amount as far as the revenue goes. And, our ambulance fees are strong year-to-date. \$542,000.00. So, in spite of that, there's nothing... there's nothing terrible to report and it's all according to budget at this point.

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

ALDERMAN FAFORD: Your honor, I move we approve the Report of Officers, place the money in the proper accounts and pay the bills in the amount of \$525,432.74.

MAYOR EPSTEIN: Motion by Alderman Faford. Do I have a second?

ALDERMAN TALL: Second.

MAYOR EPSTEIN: Second by Alderman Tall to pay the bills. Are there any questions on any of the bills? Okay. Roll call.

CLERK DUMAS:

AYE: Tetter; Curtis; Baron; Wells-Armstrong; Tall; Faford; Swanson; Crawford; O'Brien
(Although I abstain on check #71523.); Gall; Kennedy; Davidson (12)

ABSENT: Brown; Osenga (2)

REPORT OF OFFICERS APPROVAL OF BILLS - \$525,432.74

MAYOR EPSTEIN: Motion carries. Thank you. There's no Unfinished Business. Moving onto New Business, we have an Ordinance establishing a Handicapped Parking spot at 885 N. Schuyler. Do I have a motion to Suspend the Rules that would interfere with the passage of this Ordinance?

ALDERMAN DAVIDSON: So moved.

MAYOR EPSTEIN: Motion by Alderman Davidson.

ALDERWOMAN KENNEDY: Second.

MAYOR EPSTEIN: Seconded by Alderwoman Kennedy. Roll call.

CLERK DUMAS:

A YE: Tetter; Curtis; Baron; Wells-Armstrong; Tall; Faford; Swanson; Crawford; O'Brien; Gall; Kennedy; Davidson (12)

ABSENT: Brown; Osenga (2)

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: Seconded by Alderwoman Kennedy. Are there any questions at this time? Roll call.

CLERK DUMAS:

A YE: Tetter; Curtis; Baron; Wells-Armstrong; Tall; Faford; Swanson; Crawford; O'Brien; Gall; Kennedy; Davidson (12)

ABSENT: Brown; Osenga (2)

ORDINANCE AMENDING CHAPTER 32, SECTION 231 ESTABLISHING HANDICAPPED PARKING AT 885 NORTH SCHUYLER AVENUE

MAYOR EPSTEIN: The motion carries. The next item is an Ordinance declaring certain property surplus from the Kankakee Police Department. Do I have a motion to Suspend the Rules that would interfere with the passage of this Ordinance?

ALDERWOMAN SWANSON: So moved.

MAYOR EPSTEIN: Motion by Alderwoman Swanson.

ALDERMAN TETTER: Second.

MAYOR EPSTEIN: Seconded by Alderman Tetter, ah, to Suspend the Rules. Roll call.

CLERK DUMAS:

A YE: Tetter; Curtis; Baron; Wells-Armstrong; Tall; Faford; Swanson; Crawford; O'Brien; Gall; Kennedy; Davidson (12)

ABSENT: Brown; Osenga (2)

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

ALDERWOMAN SWANSON: I so move.

MAYOR EPSTEIN: Motion by Alderman Swanson.

ALDERMAN TETTER: Second.

MAYOR EPSTEIN: Seconded by Alderman Tetter. Any questions? Roll call.

CLERK DUMAS:

AYE: Tetter; Curtis; Baron; Wells-Armstrong; Tall; Faford; Swanson; Crawford; O'Brien; Gall; Kennedy; Davidson (12)

ABSENT: Brown; Osenga (2)

ORDINANCE DECLARING CERTAIN PROPERTY SURPLUS OF THE CITY OF
KANKAKEE – KANKAKEE POLICE DEPARTMENT – AND
AUTHORIZING THE SALE THEREOF

MAYOR EPSTEIN: Motion carries. Next item on the agenda is an Ordinance amending Chapter 4 by adding a liquor license #40 at the location of 150 E. Station Street. This is the rehabbed building on Station. This is a new restaurant that is going to be relocating to that location. It is a full service restaurant and pizza café. The owners are the people who are now running Cream and Sugar. That location is currently up for sale and they will be moving as of April to this location. Do I have a motion to Suspend the Rules that would interfere with the passage of this Ordinance?

ALDERWOMAN GALL: Motion to Suspend the Rules.

MAYOR EPSTEIN: Motion by Alderman Gall.

ALDERMAN O'BRIEN: Second.

MAYOR EPSTEIN: Seconded by Alderman O'Brien. Roll call

CLERK DUMAS:

AYE: Tetter; Curtis; Baron; Wells-Armstrong; Tall; Faford; Swanson; Crawford; O'Brien; Gall; Kennedy; Davidson (12)

ABSENT: Brown; Osenga (2)

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

ALDERWOMAN GALL: So moved.

MAYOR EPSTEIN: Motion by Alderman Gall.

ALDERMAN O'BRIEN: Second.

MAYOR EPSTEIN: Seconded by Alderman O'Brien. Are there any questions? Roll call.

CLERK DUMAS:

AYE: Tetter; Curtis; Baron; Wells-Armstrong; Tall; Faford; Swanson; Crawford; O'Brien; Gall; Kennedy; Davidson (12)

ABSENT: Brown; Osenga (2)

ORDINANCE AMENDING CHAPTER 4, SECTION 13 BY ADDING LIQUOR LICENSE
NUMBER 40 AT THE LOCATION OF 150 EAST STATION STREET

MAYOR EPSTEIN: Motion carries. It is a pleasure to bring this next item to you on the agenda. It's an Ordinance providing for the vacation of a public right-of-way located within the City. It's a portion of the block of (North) Washington Avenue. This vacation was done before the Planning Board and it is because Millipore, one of our industries that is located in that area, is expanding. A million and a half dollar expansion of their facility and by vacating this portion of the street, it allows them to expand onto that property. Scott Chase who is the plant manager is here this evening and at this time I would like a motion to Suspend the Rules that would interfere with the passage of the Ordinance.

ALDERMAN DAVIDSON: So moved.

MAYOR EPSTEIN: Motion by Alderman Davidson.

ALDERWOMAN KENNEDY: Second.

MAYOR EPSTEIN: Seconded by Alderwoman Kennedy. Roll call.

CLERK DUMAS:

AYE: Tetter; Curtis; Baron; Wells-Armstrong; Tall; Faford; Swanson; Crawford; O'Brien; Gall; Kennedy; Davidson (12)

ABSENT: Brown; Osenga (2)

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: Seconded by Alderwoman Kennedy. Are there any questions?

ALDERMAN DAVIDSON: Is it possible.....anyone have something to say?

MAYOR EPSTEIN: Scott, would you like to just briefly describe the expansion?

SCOTT CHASE: Thank you. To begin with, I'm not really used to speaking to this group, so you'll have to give me a second. Ah, but, this expansion is going to allow us to protect the business and the jobs that we have here in Kankakee. It's \$1.5 million as Mayor already said, but it's part of a larger, almost \$5 million effort this year to better protect our product and service our market going forward. So, thank you to the City, ah, for all your help in working with us throughout this project. And, if you have any other questions, please reach out.

MAYOR EPSTEIN: Okay. Alderman Baron.

ALDERMAN BARON: How many employees are there at Millipore?

SCOTT CHASE: Just under 70 today.

ALDERMAN BARON: Just under 70.

SCOTT CHASE: Yes, sir.

ALDERMAN BARON: Will the expansion add any to the work force?

SCOTT CHASE: Not at this time. We added, two years ago, as a result of the initial effort and this is protecting those jobs.

MAYOR EPSTEIN: Any other questions? Okay, thanks Scott.

ALDERMAN CURTIS: Mayor, I'd just like to make a comment real quick.

MAYOR EPSTEIN: Alderman Curtis.

ALDERMAN CURTIS: I think this is an ideal situation for helping out our local industry to make sure that, ah, they stay in the City. I do know they have a second location out at Eastgate, also. Ah, so this is a very vital industry. This seems like a very easy thing to do to help them prosper in Kankakee.

MAYOR EPSTEIN: Thank you. Did I already do the.....we did the second. Okay, roll call.

CLERK DUMAS:

AYE: Tetter; Curtis; Baron; Wells-Armstrong; Tall; Faford; Swanson; Crawford; O'Brien; Gall; Kennedy; Davidson (12)

ABSENT: Brown; Osenga (2)

ORDINANCE PROVIDING FOR THE VACATION OF A PUBLIC RIGHT-OF-WAY
LOCATED WITHIN THE CITY OF KANKAKEE (A PART OF WASHINGTON AVENUE
ADJACENT TO BLOCK 119 OF THE ASSOCIATES ADDITION TO THE
TOWN OF KANKAKEE)

MAYOR EPSTEIN: Motion carries. Thank you. And, I know Millipore thanks you. The next item on the agenda is a proposal from the Illinois Fire Chiefs' Association. As you are aware, Chief Young retired in November and it has been the practice of this administration whenever we replace an individual of this caliber that we do a search. Ah, we did that for the Police Chief and we did it for, ah, the Comptroller. So, I'm asking your approval of this proposal in order for us to begin the process of selecting a new Fire Chief for the City of Kankakee.

ALDERMAN CRAWFORD: So moved.

MAYOR EPSTEIN: Motion by Alderman Crawford.

ALDERMAN DAVIDSON: Second.

MAYOR EPSTEIN: Seconded by Alderman Davidson. Are there any questions?

ALDERWOMAN KENNEDY: I have a question. Since I'm new to the process, explain to me exactly how much do they do for us? Do they, you know, recruit? What?

MAYOR EPSTEIN: Yes. They do, ah, in the proposal, Alderman, you'll see the outline of all of the responsibilities. They will do, ah, recruitment. They will publish in professional publications this position. They will collate all of the applications that come in. They will select the top applications that meet the specific requirements as far as education, experience, etc. Then, when we've selected the top five or six, they will actually do an assessment centered here in the City of Kankakee where they will put these candidates through their paces. That is a public process so the Aldermen are certainly welcome to watch, ah, as well as the community. We did that when we did the Police Chief and then after the assessment center we will probably narrow it down again and do an interview process and then make a final selection.

ALDERWOMAN KENNEDY: Okay. So, the public, as far as putting in the ads so that The Journal, City News.

MAYOR EPSTEIN: Oh, yes. Oh, yes. But, then they do well beyond that and you'll see a listing in the proposal of all of the places. Oh, yeah, it'll be local as well as other publications, too.

ALDERWOMAN KENNEDY: Okay. And, how does that cost us?

MAYOR EPSTEIN: It's going to cost about \$19,000.00 for the entire process.

ALDERWOMAN WELLS-ARMSTRONG: And, that'll come out of what fund?

MAYOR EPSTEIN: That'll come out of the Fire Department's budget. Any other questions?

ALDERMAN TETTER: Mayor.

MAYOR EPSTEIN: Alderman Tetter.

ALDERMAN TETTER: You know, my concern is always that we look locally.

MAYOR EPSTEIN: Of course.

ALDERMAN TETTER: And, do we have any interested parties from our City that we know of?

MAYOR EPSTEIN: Anyone who is currently with the Fire Department who has the qualifications are certainly encouraged to apply. So, this is not just excluding anyone locally. This is expanding the search so we can find the best qualified person for the position.

ALDERMAN TETTER: Okay. Thank you.

MAYOR EPSTEIN: You're welcome. Okay. I think we have a motion and a second?

CLERK DUMAS: Yes.

MAYOR EPSTEIN: Roll call.

CLERK DUMAS:

AYE: Tetter; Curtis; Baron; Tall; Faford; Swanson; Crawford; O'Brien; Gall; Kennedy; Davidson (11)

ABSTAIN: Wells-Armstrong (1)

ABSENT: Brown; Osenga (2)

ILLINOIS FIRE CHIEFS ASSOCIATION'S PROPOSAL TO ASSIST THE
CITY OF KANKAKEE IN PENDING SEARCH FOR A NEW FIRE CHIEF

MAYOR EPSTEIN: Motion carries. Thank you. Ah, next on the agenda, we have a Resolution recognizing and honoring Attorney Julian Hill for his accomplishments in honor of Black History Month. Would Mr. and Mrs. Hill please come to the microphone and we'll present this. Good evening. This is ***RESOLUTION NO. 2017 - 02 RECOGNIZING AND HONORING ATTORNEY JULIAN HILL FOR HIS ACCOMPLISHMENTS IN CELEBRATION OF BLACK HISTORY MONTH. WHEREAS, for Attorney Julian Hill, a journey that began at Aroma Park Elementary School and led to Harvard Law School and the beginning of a distinguished and successful career as an attorney; the son of Sylvester and Calimas Hill, Julian was educated in Kankakee public schools and credits teachers there with inspiring him. He graduated with a degree in philosophy from Northwestern University, where he revitalized For Members Only, the university's black student organization and was highly involved in numerous advocacy and volunteer roles. He spent two summers at the Institute for Responsible Citizenship, a Georgetown University program for African-American men. While in Washington he also interned with the Department of Labor and the Criminal Justice Clinic at Georgetown's Law Center. WHEREAS, in 2008, Julian was admitted to the extremely competitive Harvard Law School. Before he began his studies at Harvard, he took a year off to teach Spanish at Compton High School in California as part of the "Teach for America" program. WHEREAS, during his time at Harvard, Julian completed advocacy work for displaced families in Colombia; returned to East Africa to undertake projects to support African practitioners to work more effectively in a global world; and spent a semester abroad at Tsinghua University in Beijing, (I don't think anyone here can correct me if I'm wrong.) where he analyzed China's approach to foreign direct investment; and WHEREAS, Julian served as a judicial intern for the Eastern District of New York for two months in 2012 and as a summer associate with Cleary Gottlieb Steen & Hamilton LLP for four months in 2013. He returned to Cleary Gottlieb Steen & Hamilton in 2014 to work in the Latin American practice group, focusing on private companies interested in raising capital in the United States, and currently still practices***

there. Julian has been consistent throughout his lifetime in his commitment to helping people as an individual and personal as well as professional level and has shone brightly as an activist, volunteer, motivator, and leader. Kankakee is proud to call Julian Hill one of her sons; and THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED, by Mayor Nina Epstein and the City Council of the City of Kankakee, Illinois, to recognize Kankakee native Attorney Julian Hill for his accomplishments, his achievements and his commitment to excellence in his chosen field of law, in commemoration of this year's Black History Month. Do I have a motion to approve?

ALDERMAN TETTER: So moved.

MAYOR EPSTEIN: Motion by Alderman Tetter.

ALDERWOMAN KENNEDY: Second.

MAYOR EPSTEIN: Seconded by Alderwoman Kennedy. All those in favor, aye. Opposed.

RESOLUTION RECOGNIZING AND HONORING ATTORNEY JULIAN HILL FOR HIS ACCOMPLISHMENTS IN HONOR OF BLACK HISTORY MONTH

MAYOR EPSTEIN: Motion carries. It's really an honor. I knew Julian when I worked at Kankakee School District and he is a credit to his family, the community and wonderful things come out of Kankakee School District. So, he's been.....it's just an honor to present this to you. And, if you'd like to say a few words.

SYLVESTER HILL: Well, first of all, Julian couldn't make it tonight. He's in New York. He couldn't get away. But, I'd like to thank Alderman Tetter because I know he's the driving force behind this Resolution. I'd also like to thank the Mayor.....and Julian speaks highly of you. I don't know if this an endorsement or not, but he speaks highly of you. But, I'd like to thank you and all the City Council members for this excellent acknowledgment. It's, ah, it makes you.....when you go to Harvard and to think that this kid come from a small town and he's there around people that's multi-millionaires and the fact that he could compete.....did compete, did very well, it makes you feel like you're ten feet tall. And, I want to tell a little story if.....it'll just take a few seconds.

MAYOR EPSTEIN: Alright.

SYLVESTER HILL: Ah, when he graduated, he was going from.....he was trying to get on to different firms. He wanted different firms. And, he went to Chicago and met David Baron. He graduated from Harvard--went to his firm and David interviewed him.

MAYOR EPSTEIN: Small world.

SYLVESTER HILL: Yeah. And, they actually offered him a position. They did. But, he decided to stay in New York. But, we thank you, again, we thank you.

MAYOR EPSTEIN: Okay. Where were we? Okay. We have a Proclamation recognizing Tuesday, April 4, as Mayor and County Recognition Day for National Service. Do I have a motion to approve?

ALDERWOMAN SWANSON: I so move.

MAYOR EPSTEIN: Motion by Alderman Swanson.

ALDERMAN TALL: Second.

MAYOR EPSTEIN: Seconded by Alderman Tall. All those in favor, aye. Opposed, same sign.

PROCLAMATION RECOGNIZING TUESDAY, APRIL 4, 2017 AS MAYOR AND COUNTY
RECOGNITION DAY FOR NATIONAL SERVICE

MAYOR EPSTEIN: The motion carries. Resolution accepting a grant that the Community Development Agency has received in the amount of \$160,500.00 for accessibility improvements to residences in the City of Kankakee. I need to accept this. We need to accept the grant. So, do I have a motion to accept?

ALDERMAN DAVIDSON: So moved.

MAYOR EPSTEIN: Motion by Alderman Davidson.

ALDERMAN CRAWFORD: Second.

MAYOR EPSTEIN: Seconded by Alderman Crawford. Do we need to do a roll call?

CLERK DUMAS: Yes.

MAYOR EPSTEIN: Roll call.

CLERK DUMAS:

AYE: Tetter; Curtis; Baron; Wells-Armstrong; Tall; Faford; Swanson; Crawford; O'Brien; Gall; Kennedy; Davidson (12)

ABSENT: Brown; Osenga (2)

RESOLUTION AUTHORIZING THE ACCEPTANCE AND EXECUTION OF A GRANT
AGREEMENT FROM THE ILLINOIS HOUSING DEVELOPMENT AUTHORITY FOR THE
TRUST FUND ACCESSIBILITY PROGRAM

MAYOR EPSTEIN: Motion carries. Thank you. The next item is an intergovernmental agreement between the City of Kankakee and the Village of Bradley to administer our lead-based grant program to include residences within the Village of Bradley. The City has been very fortunate. For multiple years we have received this grant. Most recently we have rehabbed more than 247 houses within the City of Kankakee to abate lead. As you know, lead is a very dangerous situation for young children. The first criteria in the program when we analyze different homes is, are there young children present? And, you know the environmental impact of children ingesting lead can have lifelong detrimental effects. In order to keep being competitive and getting this grant we needed to expand beyond our borders because they like to see cooperation between government agencies. So, Mr. Cross contacted the Village of Bradley. He attended their Village Board meeting and they are very excited to partner with us in this program. So, I need a motion to accept this intergovernmental agreement with the Village of Bradley.

ALDERMAN DAVIDSON: So moved.

MAYOR EPSTEIN: Motion by Alderman Davidson.

ALDERMAN BARON: Second.

MAYOR EPSTEIN: Seconded by Alderman Baron. Are there any questions?

ALDERWOMAN KENNEDY: Yes.

MAYOR EPSTEIN: Alderwoman Kennedy.

ALDERWOMAN KENNEDY: When our residents here in the City.....how does that affect the residents in the City when they apply for the lead program? Is it first come, first serve? How does that happen?

MAYOR EPSTEIN: No, it's a scale. It's a criteria-base depending on whether there are young

children in the house. There's a.....the grant requires you to do an assessment and then to put it all in a matrix.

ALDERWOMAN KENNEDY: Um huh (affirmative).

MAYOR EPSTEIN: And, that's how the decisions are made on which properties qualify first.

ALDERWOMAN KENNEDY: So, I'm sayin' when you have families in Kankakee versus family in Bradley that are on the same level on that matrix, how does that work?

CLIFF CROSS: There's several additional factors that come into play. We still have homes in the City of Kankakee.....

ALDERWOMAN KENNEDY: I know.

CLIFF CROSS:that have lead hazzards. The problem is many of them are too large to use these funds for 'cause we're only allowed to use so much per residence. So, one of the issues we are having is, we're starting to find homes that are not qualified and it's not because of the fact that it may have small children in it, but it's because of the fact that there's just too much that we cannot address it with the funding that we have available. So, what we've had to do is, we've had to identify another community as well that has a similar housing stock so we can treat that as well to remain competitive with this grant. So, long story short, we've got.....I mean, there's still plenty out there for the City of Kankakee, but we've administered this program so long and done such a good job with it, we're starting to run out of some lead in some areas and another factor is, we have the Healthy Homes component as well so, ah, obviously we haven't broken down numbers that said we're gonna' do this number of units in Kankakee, this number in Bradley. Now, bear in mind, when we get ready to write another round, we will start to talk about those numbers and how we will break it up. Number of rentals. Number of owner-occupied. Number of vacants. How many will we handle in the Village of Bradley. How many will we handle in the City of Kankakee. 'Cause, obviously, Kankakee is our first priority. But, we just need those numbers to remain competitive. And, HUD, as the Mayor said, they have gone to a more of a regional type of approach in working with your neighboring communities. And, they are definitely encouraging that. And, I think this gives us a.....a step in the right direction when we get ready to apply for our next round as well.

MAYOR EPSTEIN: Our fear is, Alderwoman, that if we don't make some of these changes, we won't get the grant again.

ALDERWOMAN KENNEDY: Okay. I understand that. I'm just trying to figure out where Kankakee fits in. And, the other question is, did we reach out to any other communities other than Bradley?

CLIFF CROSS: Well, yeah, actually we initially thought about the County, but in looking at some of the other communities, quite honestly the Village of Bourbonnais, ah, Manteno, they would not work for us just because of the income numbers that they have over there. So, they were not a good fit and many of their homes are newer homes that were constructed after '78 so they're not gonna' have lead anyway. We talked about Momence, some of the other communities, but right now we felt like, ah, for an efficiency standpoint we needed to keep it with the Village of Bradley at this time. See how this works and then, ah, we can consider other communities in the future. But, right now, the Village of Bradley was the best fit for us to do this.

MAYOR EPSTEIN: And, this program right now is just to finish the grant we have.

CLIFF CROSS: Um huh (affirmative).

MAYOR EPSTEIN: It's really setting the groundwork for the next round that we apply for. So, that's why Cliff can't give you any numbers, Alderwoman. Because it's really to finish out the current grant cycle with what we have so we can start some data collecting for when we write the next grant.

ALDERWOMAN KENNEDY: Oh, I'm sorry. I thought that was for a new grant that we were trying.....

CLIFF CROSS: No, no, no.

MAYOR EPSTEIN: No, this is to finish it.

ALDERWOMAN KENNEDY: Grant that we have.

MAYOR EPSTEIN: That's correct.

ALDERWOMAN KENNEDY: We don't have anyone left on Kankakee's list that does qualify.

CLIFF CROSS: Well, yeah. We don't. Because what happens is when we get a referral, either through Code, from the Health Department, we go out and we do what's known as a LIRA--Risk Assessment--and we actually go out and we identify with the gun--the XRF gun--if there is lead present and the majority of the time it's in the windows because of the friction. We verify the presence of the lead and then what we do is, we coordinate with the individual who does that, we create a job scope to mitigate the lead. And, if it falls within the required numbers, then obviously we want to.....we want to do that. I.....I can tell you now, no one who has lead is going to be--at this point--is at any risk of being turned away. Ah, because we've done such a good administering this and as long as they meet those guidelines, there shouldn't be any issue with using the funds.

ALDERWOMAN KENNEDY: Okay, for the record, it's not that I have anything against Bradley. I'm just trying to figure out if we're taking care of Kankakee first, that's all.

MAYOR EPSTEIN: Absolutely. But, I think our overreaching goal is protecting the grant because if we don't get the grant then we are of no use to anyone. So, when the government starts to change the criteria, those communities that adapt, they like to see that. Those that don't, then they fall off. And, they've been very, very pleased with the way we've administered the lead grants. We've had very high marks. They have a very aggressive number of units that they expect you to complete. You know, it's sort of like the government mentality, you know, if you don't use it all up, you won't get it again. And, but, they do have a cap of what you're allowed to spend per unit and right now we're averaging about \$10,000.00 a residence. And, most of that is windows and interior work because they've added the Healthy Homes component. It used to be you just did the lead. But, now they're saying once you touch a property, if there are other code issues that need to be mitigated, you're obligated to do that, too. And, they're still capping what you can spend per residence.

ALDERWOMAN KENNEDY: Okay. And, so we have several homes that the project is too big, cost too much to.....for them to qualify for the program for lead?

CLIFF CROSS: *indistinguishable* that's really the only drawback of the grant. I mean, you know, and it's like that with any grant. You know, we had that with many of our IHDAs. You know, they put a cap in which you can use it and if you cannot address it, then you have to.....unfortunately cannot do it. Now, fortunately because the lead is present and we find that it's present, many times if it's a rental dwelling and it's too large, we can coordinate with the landlord to get the family with the children out. We work very hard to make

that happen because, obviously, we understand the importance of a child under six not being in the home. So, we try to work with the landlord to make sure that they understand the seriousness of the situation in getting that family out of there.

ALDERWOMAN KENNEDY: Is it just children—I'm sorry—I hate to take up everybody's time.....

MAYOR EPSTEIN: No.

ALDERWOMAN KENNEDY:or it is children and seniors?

CLIFF CROSS: No, not seniors. It's.....the primary priority is children under six because they're at the greatest risk 'cause it's a developmental issue. Ah, children under six, mothers that are pregnant are also a higher priority. Grandparents who have children under six who frequent regularly are also eligible. They meet the requirement. So, the priority is children under six. Now, one of the biggest priorities that we get is we do coordinate with the Health Department and they often get referrals from the school system on children with high-elevated-blood levels. And, those obviously become a major, and extremely high priority for us to address because unfortunately they've already started to be impacted by the presence of lead in their home or wherever they go that has the presence of lead.

ALDERWOMAN KENNEDY: Okay. And, I know marketing is important, so how are we gettin' the word out to the people in the community? Is it just through the newspaper?

CLIFF CROSS: No, we work with the Realtors' Association. We work with the, ah, the school systems. We work with the Health Department. One of the big things in many of our, ah, fellow municipalities that administer this nationally, one of the benefits we have is through our rental license requirements, we've actually coordinated with the Code Department and they are all licensed to visually identify the lead and they often make referrals. That's why we've been so successful in meeting our numbers. Ah, you know, we've never really had a problem finding the units. It's now getting to the point where you get the number of eligible units.

ALDERWOMAN KENNEDY: Right.

CLIFF CROSS: But, we also can do multi-families. We do multi-family dwellings as well. And, that number is based on per unit. So, if we have a four-unit, we can actually use four times what the max is to do that. So, we also encourage any of your constituents who have dwellings that you know to send them our way.

ALDERWOMAN KENNEDY: Okay. Thank you.

CLIFF CROSS: Send 'em our way.

MAYOR EPSTEIN: Okay. Thank you.

ALDERWOMAN WELLS-ARMSTRONG: I have a question. The first one, when you apply for the grant again, will that number for eligibility increase. I think Mayor said it was \$10,800.00 per unit.

CLIFF CROSS: No, the numbers actually, I believe we can go up to \$20,000.00 is the max number before you.....now occasionally you'll go, if you're like at \$22-23,000.00 we can go to them and say okay can you give us an exception on this? Our GTR, who our contact is in D.C. can give us the approval to do that. But, the numbers will not go up 'cause that's the guidelines of the grant program.

ALDERWOMAN WELLS-ARMSTRONG: Okay, and then, the second thing, if you have a home

and it's exceeded the amount that's allowable under the grant, what resources do you have? I mean we have a limited housing stock. We've torn down a lot of houses in the City, so it may not be feasible for a landlord to move a family, to work with your department to get a family moved. What if there's no place to move the family? Are there other options or resources?

CLIFF CROSS: No. Unfortunately there is not. And, you know.....

ALDERWOMAN WELLS-ARMSTRONG: So, that family would just have to stay in the home?

CLIFF CROSS: Yeah. You hope the landlord will work with them because they understand the seriousness of it. Now, obviously, we'll assist any way we can, ah, within our ability to do that.

ALDERWOMAN WELLS-ARMSTRONG: Okay.

CLIFF CROSS: But, unfortunately, no. And, like I say it's one of the things that, you know, its drawback.....numbers are set and if we can't meet those guidelines, it's kind of like, some of our other programs, if you cannot meet the full housing quality standards, you can't do the work type of thing. Kind of like Housing Authority and everything like that.

ALDERWOMAN WELLS-ARMSTRONG: Okay. Thank you.

MAYOR EPSTEIN: And, I think it's important for the Aldermen and the Council to understand that these grants are very highly audited. And, we have to report our numbers multiple times throughout the year and then they also come to the City and audit to make sure that we're following the guidelines and we actually get, ah, notices that you have your red, yellow or green because they're very, very strict on the way these dollars are spent and if you do not spend them properly then you have really eliminated your possibility of getting the grant again. So, it's a very, very strict criteria.

CLIFF CROSS: And *indistinguishable* for the next round so we're gonna'.....we're comin' up to the.....we usually apply a year before our current one runs out. Now, I don't know if the amount we can get in total in terms of the grant..... the last grant was \$3.2 million. I don't know since we brought in another municipality if we can potentially increase that. I'm still looking into that which means we may be able to increase the total numbers so we may not, you know, instead of addressing 200 over the time frame, we might be able to do 250. So, we'll look at every possibility there is and the CRC Committee, you know, we'll keep them apprised of where we are in terms of the application process and how we'll work the numbers 'cause we may have to shift the numbers around. The number of rental units we address to home owner and things like that. We also partner with some of our other grant programs, too. We can sometimes do work on other houses, ah, that is more than the lead amount because we used to, when we have the Single Family Owner-Occupied through IHDA, we could do some of the work with the lead and then part piggyback it with some of the IHDA money as well. So, we used to be able to go ahead and do a little more, but with the current budget and the way they hold it at the State, we don't have that as readily available. That's another way we used to be able to address it.

MAYOR EPSTEIN: Okay. I believe we have.....did we have a motion and a second?

CLERK DUMAS: Yes. Davidson and Baron.

MAYOR EPSTEIN: Okay. Roll call.

CLERK DUMAS:

AYE: Tetter; Curtis; Baron; Wells-Armstrong; Tall; Faford; Swanson; Crawford; O'Brien; Gall; Kennedy; Davidson (12)

ABSENT: Brown; Osenga (2)

RESOLUTION AUTHORIZING AN INTERGOVERNMENTAL AGREEMENT BETWEEN THE CITY OF KANKAKEE, ILLINOIS AND THE VILLAGE OF BRADLEY, ILLINOIS TO ADMINISTER THE 2014-2017 LEAD-BASED PAINT HAZARD CONTROL (LBPHC) WITHIN THE VILLAGE OF BRADLEY

MAYOR EPSTEIN: Motion carries. Thank you. Each year at this time, we present to the Council a Resolution authorizing us to abate certain bonds. When we did the City's tax levy in December, obviously, there are debt service for bonds and the City, ah, uses funds to pay that debt. What we did not put on the tax levy, we abate using other funds, other resources. The City, this year, in order to reduce the burden on the taxpayer, actually used about \$860,000.00 of our cash to pay off some of these bonds. The other abatements that you're going to see tonight are paid from other sources such as TIFs. Ah, Exit 308 has debt service against it for all of the infrastructure work that was done. The money is in the TIF to pay that debt service, so we need to tell the County that that money's not going to be on the levy for the taxpayers. It's going to be paid from another source. So, tonight, you have a series of Resolutions outlining how much we're abating and the source that it's coming from. So, I just need a motion to approve the abatements that the City is placing with the County for the tax levy for this year.

ALDERMAN BARON: And, I would make that motion

ALDERWOMAN KENNEDY: Second.

MAYOR EPSTEIN: Alderman Baron, Alderwoman Kennedy. Are there any questions? If you look at the Resolutions, you'll see one is Indian Meadows, one is coming out of the City funds—\$854,000.00—plus a piece that's coming from the Environmental Services Utility. There's the Downtown TIF. There's the BASF TIF. There's TIF 6 and there's Exit 308. So, all of the monies that have been accumulated in those TIFs are being used to pay off the debt service rather than placing it on the levy for the taxpayer to do so. Okay, so we have a motion and we have a second. Roll call.

CLERK DUMAS:

AYE: Tetter; Curtis; Baron; Wells-Armstrong; Tall; Faford; Swanson; Crawford; O'Brien; Gall; Kennedy; Davidson (12)

ABSENT: Brown; Osenga (2)

RESOLUTION AUTHORIZING THE MAYOR TO CERTIFY THE ABATEMENT OF BOND LEVIES FOR BONDS PREVIOUSLY ISSUED UNDER THE CITY'S FULL FAITH AND CREDIT (GENERAL OBLIGATION) AND TO AUTHORIZE THE CITY CLERK TO DELIVER THE CERTIFICATIONS TO THE CLERK OF KANKAKEE COUNTY

MAYOR EPSTEIN: Motion carries. Thank you. There.....let's see where I am. We have no Executive Session this evening. We do have one person who has signed up to speak. Rebecca Parks from the Teen Mom Program at Aunt Martha's. Rebecca.

REBECCA PARKS: I'm gonna' hand these out real quick. I'll be quick and then if anybody has questions feel free to ask—and that's everybody. I'm trying to tackle all of Kankakee County right now. My name is Rebecca Parks. I'm the Program Supervisor for the Healthy Families America program here at Aunt Martha's right on Court Street. Our program services teen moms and dads, if they are present, ages 19 and below. First-time moms and what we do is home visiting services. And, so, the purpose of Healthy Families America, it's a nationwide

program. But, what it is, ah, is statistics show that with teen moms, if you provide home visiting services early on, teaching child development, giving support, giving resources and referrals for their community that, ah, child abuse decreases. And, so that is what our program does and provides to any mom, any dad, who is willing to be involved. It is a completely voluntary and free program. And, so, we are trying to tackle all of Kankakee County 'cause we do service all of Kankakee County and so you are my first City Council to come and share about. But, does anybody have any questions about our program?

MAYOR EPSTEIN: How do the young moms or dads.

REBECCA PARKS: Yeah.

MAYOR EPSTEIN: How do they find you? How do they know about this?

REBECCA PARKS: So, I ask that everybody here spreads our work that we exist. And, we're in the clinic is where we are, but we're in the lower—the basement. Ah, but what we do, we're going to the high schools and meeting with the social workers. We've met with the directors of the OB/GYN units in both hospitals. We've gone to the Health Department. We've gone to all of those places and have given our flyers, have given my business card. If they would call me first, I would see if they're eligible for our program which any first-time teen mom, age 19, pretty much will be eligible for our program because, ah, it is if they're single, so if they're not married and then also if they, themselves, are not able to, ah, have proper income to support their child which at age 19 or below most likely is not what's happening. And, so, we are not DCFS. Sometimes people kind of view us that way, but our sole purpose is to prevent that from coming into the picture and so what we're doing is going into the homes. And, it's not me. I'm the supervisor, so I have wonderful home visitors who are going into the home and they are providing child development skills and supporting these moms and telling them, you can do it and you can, ah, accomplish this and knowing and understanding the importance of it. I will say they enter our program prenatally so as soon as the mom knows she is pregnant, she can enter our program. And, then also, ah, until the child is three years old they can be into our program.

MAYOR EPSTEIN: Is there any fee for the program?

REBECCA PARKS: No, it is completely free. We are grant-based by McVee so it is a federal grant. And, so it is completely free for any of the moms to be a part of. Any of the dads. So far we have six participants so once we have more participants our program will offer parent groups with transportation and then also dad groups as well.

MAYOR EPSTEIN: Okay, thank you.

ALDERWOMAN KENNEDY: Are there.....I have a question.

MAYOR EPSTEIN: You have a question, Alderwoman?

ALDERWOMAN KENNEDY: Are the parents of the teens involved in it? How does that work?

REBECCA PARKS: Yeah, the moms and the dads are the ones who.....or you're talking about the grandparents.

ALDERWOMAN KENNEDY: Um huh (affirmative).

REBECCA PARKS: Ah, yes, it's a holistic approach so if a mom chooses to be a part of our program, then and say her mom is very involved, her dad is very involved, her aunt, anybody who she claims as her family, that is who we'll service. And,

so if they, ah, want them to be a part of it, we will definitely want them to be a part of it. It is a holistic approach, even if mom needs services, we'll help in that as well. I will also say we are looking for a bi-lingual home visitor so if anybody knows, I am hiring.

ALDERWOMAN KENNEDY: Okay.

REBECCA PARKS: Any other.....yeah.

ALDERWOMAN WELLS-ARMSTRONG: Are we seeing an increase in teen pregnancy?

REBECCA PARKS: It has been an increase, yeah. And, so, statistics, the stats show from 2014-15 that there's about about 1,500 in Kankakee County. So, in our schools, we have programs.

ALDERWOMAN WELLS-ARMSTRONG: *indistinguishable*

REBECCA PARKS: Correct. In our schools, we have programs that, ah, go and help these moms while they're in the schools and provide brief home visiting services. But, they do not assist with these mom's prenatally which is what makes our program different than other programs. Ah, but there.....and that's where I have to say Kankakee County because Kankakee County is quite large and so, ah, teen pregnancy is something that, ah, that's on high alert. That's how we received the grant which is, you know, lots of different emotions within that. And, if you guys aren't aware that Erickson Institute has chosen Kankakee County to do early childhood and so we're a part of that as well.

MAYOR EPSTEIN: Thank you very much.

REBECCA PARKS: Thank you very much.

MAYOR EPSTEIN: Okay. That's the only person who has signed up to speak. Ah, we are coming to the end. Are there any Aldermen comments?

ALDERWOMAN SWANSON: Mayor.

MAYOR EPSTEIN: Alderman.

ALDERWOMAN SWANSON: I just wanted to say that we are not going to have an Ordinance Committee meeting next Tuesday. The Sign Ordinance is just not quite ready to come to the committee, but when it is, I'll schedule the meeting and make sure I let everybody know.

MAYOR EPSTEIN: Okay. Motion to adjourn.

ALDERMAN CURTIS: Mayor.

MAYOR EPSTEIN: Alderman Curtis.

ALDERMAN CURTIS: We will be having an Economic Development meeting on Thursday.

MAYOR EPSTEIN: Okay. Motion to adjourn.

ALDERWOMAN SWANSON: So moved.

MAYOR EPSTEIN: Motion by Alderman Swanson.

ALDERWOMAN WELLS-ARMSTRONG: Second.

MAYOR EPSTEIN: Seconded by Alderwoman Wells-Armstrong. All those in favor, aye. Opposed.

MOTION TO ADJOURN CITY COUNCIL MEETING

MAYOR EPSTEIN: We are adjourned. Thank you.

7:53 P.M.