

MINUTES OF THE SPECIAL MEETING OF THE CITY COUNCIL
OF THE UNITED CITY OF YORKVILLE, KENDALL COUNTY, ILLINOIS,
HELD IN THE CITY COUNCIL CHAMBERS,
800 GAME FARM ROAD ON
TUESDAY, OCTOBER 11, 2016

Mayor Golinski called the meeting to order at 5:30 p.m. and led the Council in the Pledge of Allegiance.

City Clerk Warren called the roll.

Ward I	Koch	Present
	Colosimo	Absent
Ward II	Milschewski	Present
	Kot	Present
Ward III	Frieders	Present
	Funkhouser	Present
Ward IV	Tarulis	Absent
	Teeling	Absent

Also present: City Clerk Warren, City Attorney Orr, City Administrator Olson, Police Chief Hart, EEI Engineer Sanderson, Community Development Director Barksdale-Noble, Director of Parks and Recreation Evans

QUORUM

A quorum was established.

BUSINESS

Home Rule - Presentation

City Administrator Olson introduced himself. He stated that the City put together a ten slide power point presentation. After the presentation, the meeting will be opened up to the audience for discussion and Alderman may discuss the home rule issue, as well. After that, the meeting will be an open format where citizens may show up and discuss this issue. City Administrator Olson presented the formal presentation about home rule. At the end of the presentation, City Administrator Olson showed a sample of what the ballot would look like on November 8th. He stated that there will be another meeting in this same format two weeks from now.

CITIZEN COMMENTS

Tom Gilmour, 1345 Chestnut Circle, discussed statistics about residents wanting to leave the state. He expressed concerns that the home rule would promote more deficit spending and therefore increase the tax burden to the residents. Mr. Gilmour also discussed other implication of home rule.

Kris Mikuta, Realtor Association of Fox Valley, had a couple questions. One was in regards to a referendum, and another was in regards to certain taxes once a community becomes a home rule community. City Attorney Orr answered her questions. Kris Mikuta and City Attorney Orr discussed that once a community is home rule there are certain taxes that the City is authorized to immolate. Kris Mikuta asked if the citizens will know how those taxes will be used. City Attorney Orr stated there is an annual budget and the City has to demonstrate what taxes are used to what purposes. She deferred to City Administrator Olson to explain this in more detail. Kris Mikuta discussed credibility in regards to the City Council.

Home Rule - Discussion

Mayor Golinski asked if there were more citizen comments and no one came forward. City Administrator Olson stated that the intent was to keep this meeting open ended and keep the audio running so if any other resident showed up and had questions then the Council would be there to answer. Mayor Golinski asked if there were any comments from the Council.

Alderman Kot asked City Administrator Olson what his population was based on when he mentioned having 25,000 people. City Administrator Olson stated that was based on a very brief calculation. Alderman Frieders wanted a brief clarification on adding more alderman in regards to how home rule would affect that decision. City Administrator Olson and Alderman Frieders discussed home rule in further detail. City Attorney Orr and City Administrator Olson discussed non home rule verses home rule. Alderman Funkhouser stated that the one thing that being home rule would give the City of Yorkville is for the City to get out of the oppressive thumb of the state of Illinois. Alderman Frieders, Community Development Director Barksdale-Noble, and City Administrator Olson discussed percentages.

Mayor Golinski stated if anyone thinks of anything else, feel free to jump in. The Council is present to listen.

ADJOURNMENT

Mayor Golinski stated since there is no further business in the home rule referendum meeting he will adjourn that meeting. Mayor Golinski stated meeting adjourned.

Meeting adjourned at 6:46 p.m.

Minutes submitted by:



Beth Warren,
City Clerk, City of Yorkville, Illinois

UNITED CITY OF YORKVILLE
**HOME RULE
INFORMATION
SESSION**

UNITED CITY OF YORKVILLE
HOME RULE REFERENDUM
NOVEMBER 8, 2016

“Shall the United City of
Yorkville, become a home
rule unit of government
pursuant to Article VII,
Section 6 of the
Constitution of the State of
Illinois?”

What is Home Rule?

- ◉ Established by the adoption of the 1970 Illinois Constitution, Article VII, Section 6: Powers of Home Rule Units: Home Rule shifts greater responsibility and authority for local government decision making from the state level to the local level.
- ◉ Municipalities with a population of more than 25,000 are automatically Home Rule Units. Municipalities that do not meet that requirement require approval by referendum to achieve Home Rule status.
- ◉ The United City of Yorkville's 2010 Census Population was 16,921

Who has Home Rule?

Nearby Home Rule Municipalities:

- ◉ Aurora
- ◉ Bolingbrook
- ◉ Carol Stream
- ◉ Downers Grove
- ◉ Joliet
- ◉ Kankakee
- ◉ Manhattan
- ◉ Oswego
- ◉ Plainfield
- ◉ Romeoville
- ◉ Shorewood – 2015 by referendum

What does Home Rule Change for the City?

- The City will have more flexibility and authority to address local issues as they present themselves, and can selectively opt out of unfunded state mandates.
- The Mayor and the City Council agreed to pledge to exercise any of the Home Rule Powers only to the extent deemed necessary with a view to the long term impact upon the community.
- The City Council has approved broad restrictions on the use of home rule authority, including but not limited to:
 - limiting the power to incur debt;
 - holding a public hearing prior to the adoption of any new tax or increase in existing tax;
 - and continuing to follow property tax caps under the Property Tax Extension Limitation Law (PTELL).

Possible Concerns

- Increased Taxing Powers
 - The City Council agreed to follow the same non-home rule procedures to hold a public hearing prior to any increase in existing tax or when implementing a new tax.
- Increased Property Taxes
 - The City Council agreed to follow the current practice to levy property taxes, which is to follow property tax caps under PTELL.
- More regulations on businesses

New Possibilities for the City

- Improve the City's bond rating.
 - Thus saving dollars in interest costs on future bond issuances.
- Incur debt beyond 20 years
 - Stretching out payments over several years lowers the burden on residents.
- Reduce property tax burden on residents by shifting tax burden to non-residents.
 - Increases of amusement taxes could shift tax burdens to visitors.
- Changing the size of the City Council.
 - Saving costs by authorizing a referendum to permanently set any number of wards and alderman.

New Possibilities for the City continued...

- Administrative Adjudication improvements.
 - A monthly hearing process would save City dollars.
- Reduce residential speed limit default to 25 mph.
 - This is one of the most requested ordinances by residents. Under Home Rule Authority the City could reduce its default speed limit.
- Opt out of state unfunded mandates as they are created.
 - Mandates affect City coffers as there is no authority to opt out of them.
- Modify the zoning and planning process.
 - Setting up special commissions to address new issues. Establishing criteria for hardships based on local specific criteria, rather than state and case law.

Moving Forward

- There are limits on Home Rule

Municipalities

- Issued debt may not have a maturity period longer than 40 years
- The General Assembly can also vote to impose additional limits on Home Rule units.
- Home Rule status can be reversed through referendum, in the same way that it was created

Sample Ballot November 8, 2016

Shall the United City of Yorkville become a home rule unit of government pursuant to Article VII, Section 6 of the Constitution of the State of Illinois?

YES

NO

Next Meeting

- Tuesday, October 25, 2016 at 5:30 pm
City Council Chambers, 800 Game Farm
Road, Yorkville, IL

More Information

- www.yorkville.il.us/2016homerulereferendum
- General Questions can be directed to Bart Olson, City Administrator:
 - 630-553-4350
 - bolson@yorkville.il.us