

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 25, 2016

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

ROLL CALL

Deputy City Clerk Pickering called the roll.

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

Also present: Deputy City Clerk Pickering, Attorney Orr, City Administrator Olson, and Interim City Administrator Willrett.

QUORUM

A quorum was established.

CITIZEN COMMENTS

None.

BUSINESS

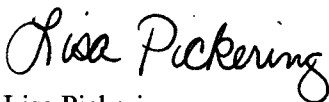
Home Rule Discussion

City Administrator Olson gave a PowerPoint presentation on Home Rule (*see attached*). The City has a referendum on the November 8, 2016 ballot asking residents if the City should become a home rule unit of government and the purpose of the presentation was to provide general information on home rule municipalities. The presentation explained what home rule is, what changes would occur if the City became home rule, the concerns about being a home rule municipality, and also the possibilities for the City if it became home rule. After the presentation, city resident Rachael LaRue spoke in favor of the City becoming a Home Rule municipality.

ADJOURNMENT

Mayor Golinski adjourned the City Council meeting at 6:01 p.m.

Minutes submitted by:



Lisa Pickering,
Deputy 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