A Century of Progress with Pride

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE
April 12, 2017

CONTACT:
Ruth Volbre
708.749.6433
rvolbre@ci.berwyn.il.us

(Welcoming City press conference held before Berwyn's City Council Meeting)

CITY OF BERWYN INTRODUCES WELCOMING CITY ORDINANCE

Ensure Trust and Good Relationships between Berwyn's Immigrant Communities, Regardless of Immigration Status

BERWYN – At last night's Committee of the Whole Meeting, Mayor Robert J. Lovero preceded over a packed Council Chambers due to a Welcoming City ordinance being brought forth by Aldermen Cesar Santoy and Rafael Avila to be voted upon later in the evening at the City Council meeting.

After a brief summary by Attorney James Vasselli highlighting the main points of the Welcoming City ordinance, Alderman Cesar Santoy introduced representatives from community immigration organizations that collaborated with him in writing the Welcoming City ordinance. He thanked not only the Illinois Coalition of Immigrant and Refugee Rights (ICIRR), West Suburban Action Project (PASO), Interfaith Leadership Project, Berwyn Immigration Working Group, and Ixchel Committee, but also the residents who had pushed for this ordinance.

The audience was given the opportunity to speak. There were a variety of opinions regarding the Welcoming City ordinance – some were against it, but the majority was in favor of the Welcoming City ordinance. Mayor Lovero reminded all that the City of Berwyn's police are here to protect all Berwyn residents and not to do the work of the Federal Government pertaining to immigration.

As the vote was brought forth at the regular City Council meeting, all eight aldermen voted in favor of adopting the Welcoming City ordinance. The Welcoming City ordinance can be viewed at the city's website http://www.berwyn-il.gov/sites/all/files/pdfs/MtgAgendas/2017/20170411-CouAgenda-Full-Packet.pdf .