

**JOURNAL OF PROCEEDINGS OF THE MEETING
JUNE 10, 2014**

CALL TO ORDER

The regular meeting of the City Council of the City of Blue Island was called to order by Mayor Vargas at 7:12 p.m. on June 10, 2014.

PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE

ROLL CALL

Roll Call indicates the following:

Present: 12 Ald. Johnson, Frausto, Buckner, Hawley, Vieyra, Bilotto, Rita, Donahue, Stone, Carr, Ostling, Pittman

Absent: 2 Ald. Thompson, Johanson

Present Also: Randy Heuser, City Clerk
ShawnTe Raines, City Attorney
Carmine Bilotto, City Treasurer

JOURNAL OF PROCEEDING

Moved by Ald. Carr, second by Ald. Stone the Journal of Proceedings of the Appropriation Hearing from May 27, 2014 is accepted as printed.

Ayes: 12 Johnson, Frausto, Buckner, Hawley, Vieyra, Bilotto, Rita, Donahue, Stone, Carr, Ostling, Pittman

Nays: 0

Absent: 2 Thompson, Johanson

Abstain: 0

There being Twelve (12) Affirmative Votes, the Mayor declared the motion carried.

Moved by Ald. Rita, second by Ald. Hawley the Journal of Proceedings of the Regular Meeting on May 27, 2014 is accepted as printed.

Ayes:	12	Johnson, Frausto, Buckner, Hawley, Vieyra, Bilotto, Rita, Donahue, Stone, Carr, Ostling, Pittman
Nays:	0	
Absent:	2	Thompson, Johanson
Abstain:	0	

There being Twelve (12) Affirmative Votes, the Mayor declared the motion carried.

CITIZENS WISHING TO ADDRESS THE COUNCIL
REGARDING THIS EVENINGS BUSINESS

Willie Scott of 11917 Longwood Drive wanted to know what is going to happen to the Recreation Center. Mr. Scott also stated that there is not nor has there been an African American working in the City Clerk's Office.

Allan Stevo of 2324 Union Street noted that there is not a line item in the appropriations for the Recreation Center. Mr. Stevo wanted to know what happened to the \$75,000 grant to cut grass for vacant homes. Mr. Stevo stated that city business is not limited to things on the agenda for that night, it is the past and the future.

Apolonia Alvarado of 13434 Western Ave needed clarification. Ms. Alvarado felt there was a business that was approved that does not meet certain standards.

REPORT OF CITY OFFICIALS

MAYOR:

The Mayor presented the families of the following elected officials with plaques in appreciation for their dedication and commitment to the City of Blue Island: Dale Elton, Pete Vazquez, James Rauch, Mike Janko, and Andy Botte.

The Mayor announced there will be fireworks on July 3rd at Eisenhower High School. He thanked CSX for their contributions for the fireworks. There will also be the second annual 4th of July Community Parade on Friday. The first TGIF Picnic will also be held on the 4th.

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The Mayor invited everyone to attend and participate in Driving to Dixie on Saturday, June 21.

BIDS:

No Bids.

CITY CLERK:

Motion by Ald. Buckner, second by Ald. Donahue to approve a request from Dan Cunningham of Mackenzie's Place to host a block party on Saturday, June 14, 2014 from 1:00 p.m. until 10:00 p.m. Location 12759 S. Lincoln.

Ayes: 12 Johnson, Frausto, Buckner, Hawley, Vieyra, Bilotto, Rita, Donahue, Stone, Carr, Ostling, Pittman

Nays: 0

Absent: 2 Thompson, Johanson

Abstain: 0

There being Twelve (12) Affirmative Votes, the Mayor declared the motion carried.

Motion by Ald. Rita, second by Ald. Donahue to approve a request from St. Donatus Church to play music at the Feast of the Sacred Heart being held on Sunday, June 29, 2014 from 10:00 a.m. until approximately 8:00 p.m.

Ayes: 12 Johnson, Frausto, Buckner, Hawley, Vieyra, Bilotto, Rita, Donahue, Stone, Carr, Ostling, Pittman

Nays: 0

Absent: 2 Thompson, Johanson

Abstain: 0

There being Twelve (12) Affirmative Votes, the Mayor declared the motion carried.

Motion by Ald. Johnson, second by Ald. Pittman to approve a request to have the 8th Annual Yard Sale on the Hill on Saturday, June 21, 2014 from 8:00 a.m. until 3:00 p.m.

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Ayes: 12 Johnson, Frausto, Buckner, Hawley, Vieyra,
Bilotto, Rita, Donahue, Stone, Carr, Ostling,
Pittman

Nays: 0

Absent: 2 Thompson, Johanson

Abstain: 0

There being Twelve (12) Affirmative Votes, the Mayor declared the motion carried.

Motion by Ald. Hawley, second by Ald. Ostling to approve a request from the Blue Island Church of Christ to have its annual Vacation Bible School from June 23rd to June 27, 2014 from 9:30 a.m. until 2:00 p.m.

Ayes: 12 Johnson, Frausto, Buckner, Hawley, Vieyra,
Bilotto, Rita, Donahue, Stone, Carr, Ostling,
Pittman

Nays: 0

Absent: 2 Thompson, Johanson

Abstain: 0

There being Twelve (12) Affirmative Votes, the Mayor declared the motion carried.

CITY TREASURER:

Motion by Ald. Stone, second by Ald. Hawley to table the Financial Statement ending May 31, 2014 for review.

Upon a vote, the Mayor declared the motion carried.

CITY ATTORNEY:

RESOLUTION NO. 2014-030

A RESOLUTION AUTHORIZING EXECUTION OF AN AGREEMENT BETWEEN AMAUDIT AND THE CITY OF BLUE ISLAND TO PERFORM UTILITY AND FRANCHISE AUDITS.

A representative from AmAudit gave an overview of their services and answered questions.

Motion by Ald. Buckner, second by Ald. Vieyra to approve.

Regular Meeting – June 10, 2014

Ayes: 12 Johnson, Frausto, Buckner, Hawley, Vieyra,
Bilotto, Rita, Donahue, Stone, Carr, Ostling,
Pittman

Nays: 0

Absent: 2 Thompson, Johanson

Abstain: 0

There being Twelve (12) Affirmative Votes, the Mayor declared the motion carried.

Motion by Ald. Rita, second by Ald. Vieyra to include the remaining items under City Attorney business in the Consent Agenda as items 4, 5, 6, and 7.

Ayes: 12 Johnson, Frausto, Buckner, Hawley, Vieyra,
Bilotto, Rita, Donahue, Stone, Carr, Ostling,
Pittman

Nays: 0

Absent: 2 Thompson, Johanson

Abstain: 0

There being Twelve (12) Affirmative Votes, the Mayor declared the motion carried.

COMMITTEE REPORTS

Community Development– Ald. Hawley, Chairman

Next Meeting – Wednesday, June 11, 2014, 7:00 – East Annex

Finance Committee – Ald. Rita, Chairman

Finance Committee Meeting
Minutes 6-3-14

The meeting was called to order Tuesday, June 3, 2014 at 6:32 p.m. in the East Annex of City Hall, 2434 Vermont Street, Blue Island, Illinois with proper public notice given. Roll call taken of the committee with only Alderman Nancy Thompson and myself being present. Alderman Kevin Donahue, Alderman Tom Hawley and Alderman Chrissy Buckner absent. Also present were Finance Director Matt Anastasia, Director Robert Haulf, Director John Rita, Jr., Mr. Allen Stevo and Mr. Clay Putnam of ServiScape for the golf course landscaping contract.

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The committee did not have a quorum so no action was taken.

Since Mr. Putnam drove in from Michigan City, Indiana for the finance committee meeting we went forward and discussed the golf course.

SUMMARY OF DISCUSSION:

Many questions that Alderman Nancy Thompson and the rest of the committee previously asked were answered.

SeriviScape has been the golf course maintenance provider since 1997. Since supplies are purchased in bulk there is a savings passed on to Blue Island plus there is a zero mark up. They make their money through the management fee. In season, they provide ten employees and low season December through March two to three employees. During the low season, employees are working on equipment and general routine tasks to prepare for the golf season. They also do the payroll and provide liability insurance for their employees. There has been no budget increases since 2005. Blue Island has their own equipment and because we allow Alsip to use the equipment, we receive a credit. One-third is not billed to Blue Island which is approximately \$33,000 back to Blue Island. The reason March 2014 bill was so high was due to 3 pay periods within that month. The employees salaries are above minimum wage and they are from Blue Island and the surrounding area.

The meeting was adjourned at at 7:48 p.m.

The next Finance Committee meeting will be held on Tuesday, June 17, 2014 at 6:30 p.m. in the East Annex of City Hall, Blue Island, Illinois.

Respectfully submitted by,
Alderman Nancy Rita, Chair

Next Meeting – Tuesday, June 17, 2014, 6:30 – East Annex

Public Health & Safety Committee – Ald. Carr, Chairman

Public Health & Safety Committee Report for the Meeting of June 4th , 2014

Present were Director John Rita, Fire Chief Mark Luety, Deputy Police Chief Michael Cornell, Deputy Fire Chief James Klinker, Jim McGeever, Don Marchbanks, Alderman Vieyra, Alderman Marcia Stone as a guest, and myself. Absent were Alderman Johanson, Alderman Johnson, and Alderman Buckner. We did not have a quorum, but as no votes were to be taken, we continued with the monthly reports. The meeting was called to order at 7:00.

Citizens Concerns

No citizens were present at the start of the meeting. Mr. Allan Stevo arrived at 7:37 but had no comments.

Fire Department Report

The Fire Department had 333 calls in May, 212 were EMS calls

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184 Patients were treated
174 Patients were transported
36 Patients refused transport

Average call to patient response time 5.1 minutes

They responded to 25 general fire alarms, and 27 minor fire alarms.

They responded to 28 auto aid calls, most calls were from Calumet Park.

They had 40 calls to man the station.

They received 1 mutual aid response call.

Calls of interest for May: A kitchen fire at 12737 Division, the CSX Bridge Railroad Tie fire, assisted the Blue Island Police Department with a suicidal subject at 1933 Vermont Street.

Medical Reimbursement Services for May \$32,757.21.

Fire Recovery submitted 18 claims for a total amount of \$7328.00

General

Probationary Firefighter Adam Marcolini started May 5th, 2014 and has been working day shift until his initial training is completed at which time he will be put on a permanent shift. The next candidate will be starting June 9th 2014.

The new sidewalk at Station #2 from Canal Street at the driveway entrance around to Division and on Division to the side drive has been completed.

Marine One has been fixed and is moored at Fay's Point. It is in service for the boating season. Firefighter Abbatacola will be conducting the training for the boat operations and is also setting up combined training sessions with the United States Coast Guard.

The roof over the water tower at Station #1 has been repaired.

Maintenance

Diversified Inspections will be testing all ladders including the Tower Ladder on the ladder truck per NFPA standards within the next few weeks.

Training

The training division has completed 350.25 hours of training for the month of May.

Firefighter Abbatacola attended a Specialized Swift Water Rescue Class in Romeoville and is certified through the State Fire Marshal's Office.

The proposed training tower at Station #2 has been put on hold. Midwest Water Reclamation District has explained that the site is considered undeveloped land and would require a yearly lease of \$2500.00.

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Grants

No information has been received on the AFG grant for 2 new ambulances.

House Fire on Ann Street

Fire Chief Luety

Chief Luety announced that he will be retiring on July 16th, 2014, after 30 years of service.

Police Department Report

Summer Assignments

Officers will be assigned to foot and bicycle patrol on Western Avenue. The Police Department goal is to eliminate physical barriers and be an active part of the community. Officers will be required to get out of their squad cars in the residential neighborhoods or business district during their shift and walk around the block to make contact with citizens beginning next week. This will allow officers during their shift to see things from a different perspective with the intent of building personal relationships with our citizens.

Reports

The Police Department answered 2275 calls including 192 business premise checks. 93 liquor establishment checks were done.

Stats/Cases of Interest

- 124 Alarm Calls (all unfounded)
- 4 Armed Robberies (2 unfounded)
 - 1 Robbery
 - 2 Commercial Burglaries
- 16 Residential Burglaries
- 11 Shots Fired (5 unfounded)
- 123 Domestic Disputes

Detective Division

48 cases were assigned in April, 43 cases were closed.

Calls of Interest

On May 1st, 2014 Officers responded to an Armed Robbery call that occurred in the 2300 block of 121st Street. The victim stated that he was approached by two male subjects.

There were several catalytic converter thefts, including May 2nd, May 28th, and May 29th.

On May 6th, 2014 Officers responded to an Armed Robbery in the 2000 block of Union. The victim was walking and was approached by one offender who produced a handgun.

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On May 11th, 2014 there was a reported burglary at the Forge Pub. It appears that entry may have been made through a window. Approximately \$2000.00 in cash is reported missing.

On May 14th, 2014 Officers responded to a call of SHOTS FIRED in the area of Centennial Park. The witness told dispatch that the offender's vehicle was travelling north on Wood Street, leaving the area. Officer King observed the vehicle on Wood Street and began to follow. Other Officers picked up on the vehicle and a short chase ensued. The offender drove erratically and crash into landscaping blocks in front of a residence at 127th and Harvard. The offender fled on foot and Officers gave chase. Officer Colone took the offender into custody, despite being injured as he jumped a fence to apprehend the suspect. Chris Sobczak from the Blue Island Park District assisted the Officers. The weapon was located at 127th and Wood Street where the offender threw the weapon out of his vehicle.

On May 20th, 2014 at approximately 9:00 pm Officers responded to 2213 W 120th Place for a gun-shot victim. Detectives have interviewed the victim and it appears he may not be forthcoming with information.

On May 21st, 2014 at approximately 10:00 pm Officers were called to 1933 Vermont Street for a suicidal subject call. The caller initially told dispatch that he took 10-20 pills. Officers responding to the scene were advised by dispatch that the caller's 21 year old daughter was on the scene and he was not allowing her to talk on the phone. This call completely engaged the 911 Center, since they could not put the caller on hold or allow him to hang up. A negotiator was called in. The caller also indicated that he had a bomb inside the residence. The caller was a 44 year old male with psychiatric issues and may have been off his medication. The South Suburban Emergency Response Team was called to the scene as a precaution. BIEMA assisted at the scene. At approximately 12:45 am officers entered the house and took the person into custody without incident. Director Rita praised the Police Department, Fire Department, BIEMA, and the 911 dispatchers. There was a wrap up meeting held with Tim Johnson of SSERT.

On May 31st, 2014 Officers responded to the 2200 block of Grove for domestic disturbance. Officers arrested the female half of the disturbance for domestic battery. When the Officers were processing the arrestee, they observed child pornography on the cell phone. Officers went back to the residence and arrested the owner of the phone.

Overtime Paid

Supervisors:	120	hours
Patrol Officers:	107	hours
Court:	114	hours
Detectives:	143	hours
Late calls/Paperwork:	21.5	hours

Liquor Establishment Calls

6 disturbance calls were received in May on liquor establishments.

Training

Tim Sisk and John Miller attended a 40 hour Truck Enforcement Program.

Supervisors are receiving updated information on various issues on a quarterly basis.

Miscellaneous

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Code Red is up and running.

The Boot Program should begin this week.

Facebook has added 110 followers in the last month, and is up to 783 likes.

Kid/Cop Day was held June 7th.

911 Center

The 911 Center received 13,911 calls in May. Calls are slightly down from last year. One trainee has left the program.

The air conditioning unit for the 911 Center needs repair to keep the call stations running.

BIEMA

Total dollar value of hours submitted is \$7925.18.

Events: First Midwest Bank 10K, the fire on the CSX bridge in April, multiple inclement weather situations, and assisting other municipalities.

Several vehicles need repair, and uniforms are needed.

Braniff was contacted to perform yearly service on the sirens, but due to bad weather they have had to reschedule.

Public Health

Tom Mailhiot received 1 complaint about food establishments which was unfounded and performed 23 health inspections on businesses in the month of May. He will begin checking businesses for current licenses.

Aldermen's Concerns

Ald. Vieyra asked about changes in the Detective Division.

Ald. Vieyra expressed concern about the noise at Raven's Place.

Ald. Vieyra expressed concern over the number of reports of shots fired.

Ald. Vieyra asked about the upcoming contract negotiations. They are just beginning.

Ald. Vieyra asked about the Public Health report being part of Public Safety.

Ald. Stone asked about the Category and Risk values in the Public Health report.

Other Events

Deputy Chief Klinker gave a report on a house fire on Ann Street which occurred on June 1st. A call was received for a gasoline smell outside the home. When the Fire Department arrived they saw smoke coming from the second floor, and the alarm was upgraded. They were told that there was still a person in the building. When the house was entered, it was clear that this was a hoarder's house. Multiple accelerants had been poured throughout the house. The man inside the house was rescued, and charged with arson. Other Fire Departments that responded were from Posen, Calumet Park, Alsip and

Midlothian. Dispatchers had quickly thought to also call in an ambulance and fire engine from
Merriette Park.

Meeting was adjourned at 7:55 p.m.

Our next regular meeting is July 2nd at 7:00 in the East Annex.

Respectfully submitted,
Candace Carr
4th Ward Alderman

Next Meeting – Wednesday, July 2, 2014, 7:00 – East Annex

Municipal Services Committee – Ald. Johanson, Chairman

Next Meeting – Monday, July 7, 2014, 6:30 – East Annex

Judiciary Committee – Ald. Ostling, Chairman

Next Meeting – Tuesday, June 17, 2014, 6:00 – East Annex

OTIONS

Motion by Ald. Ostling, second by Ald. Rita to approve the Consent Agenda which includes:

1. Approval of Payroll – May 23, 2014 for \$369,455.08
2. Approval of Accounts Payable – June 4, 2014 for \$366,715.13
3. Committee Reports and Recommendations as presented
4. An Ordinance Authorizing Leasing of Certain Property Within the City of Blue Island, Cook County, Illinois, for Use by Soccer Leagues.
5. A Resolution Authorizing Settlement of Certain Pending Litigation Within Certain Terms as Discussed in Closed Session
6. A Resolution Authorizing Execution of all Necessary Documents and Accepting Illinois Housing Development Authority Grant for Abandoned Property Municipal Relief Program
7. A Resolution Authorizing Execution of an Agreement Regarding Electrical Aggregation.

Ayes:	12	Johnson, Frausto, Buckner, Hawley, Vieyra, Bilotto, Rita, Donahue, Stone, Carr, Ostling, Pittman
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Nays:	0
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Absent:	2	Thompson, Johanson
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Abstain: 0

There being Twelve (12) Affirmative Votes, the Mayor declared the motion carried.

CLOSED SESSION

Motion by Ald. Stone, second by Ald. Pittman to go into Executive Session.

Upon a vote, the Mayor declared the motion carried.

*****CLOSED SESSION*****

The Meeting was reconvened at 8:45 pm.

REGULAR MEETING

Motion by Ald. Bilotto, second by Ald. Johnson to reconvene Regular Meeting.

Ayes: 12 Johnson, Frausto, Buckner, Hawley, Vieyra, Bilotto, Rita, Donahue, Stone, Carr, Ostling, Pittman

Nays: 0

Absent: 2 Thompson, Johanson

Abstain: 0

There being Twelve (12) Affirmative Votes, the Mayor declared the motion carried.

Motion by Ald. Carr, second by Ald. Ostling to accept the Financial Statement for the period ending on May 31, 2014.

Ayes: 12 Johnson, Frausto, Buckner, Hawley, Vieyra, Bilotto, Rita, Donahue, Stone, Carr, Ostling, Pittman

Nays: 0

Absent: 2 Thompson, Johanson

Abstain: 0

There being Twelve (12) Affirmative Votes, the Mayor declared the motion carried.

ADJOURNMENT

Motion by Ald. Johnson, second by Ald. Rita to adjourn the meeting.

Upon a vote, the Mayor declared the motion carried.

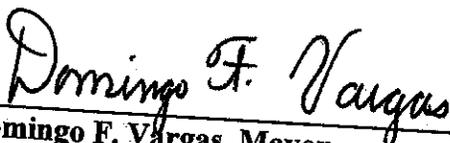
The Meeting was adjourned at 8:47 p.m.

The next regular meeting of the City Council is scheduled for
June 24, 2014 at 7:00 p.m.



Randy Heuser, City Clerk

**APPROVED BY ME THIS
24th DAY OF JUNE, 2014.**



Domingo F. Vargas, Mayor

