

**JOURNAL OF PROCEEDING OF THE REGULAR MEETING  
February 23, 2021**

**CALL TO ORDER**

The regular meeting of the City Council of the City of Blue Island Held Remotely on Tuesday, February 23, 2021 at 7:00 p.m. by Mayor Vargas as permitted by Executive Order 2020-07 signed by Illinois Governor J.B. Pritzker on March 16, 2020 in response to the COVID-19 pandemic.

**PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE**

**ROLL CALL**

Roll Call indicates the following:

Present:	10	Alexander, Rita, Hawley, Fahrenwald, Hill, Mech, Carr, Klinker, Stevo, Johnson
Absent:	4	Bilotto, Cazares, Donahue, Zylman
Present Also:		Randy Heuser, City Clerk Cary Horvath, City Attorney

Cook County President Toni Preckwinkle called in to update the Council that the Cook County balanced the budget without raising taxes. She also announced that the County Reduced fares on the Metra Electric and Rock Island Line and Halsted Bus line. She further updated the Council on the COVID vaccination program throughout the County.

**JOURNAL OF PROCEEDINGS:**

**Motion by Ald. Johnson, second by Ald. Mech to approve the Regular City Council Minutes from February 9, 2021.**

Ayes:	9	Alexander, Hawley, Fahrenwald, Hill, Mech, Carr, Klinker, Stevo, Johnson
Nays:	0	
Absent:	4	Bilotto, Cazares, Donahue, Zylman

Abstention: 1 Rita

There being Nine (9) Affirmative Votes, the Mayor declared the motion carried.

### **PUBLIC COMMENT:**

Carol DiPace-Greene thanked all of the February Donors and volunteers who braved the cold for the giveaway of Facemask, gloves, hand sanitizer and announced that the next Drive-Thru Event will be in March, 2021.

Randy Heuser reminded the City Council that the non-binding referendum to establish a Road Fund passed nearly a year ago and that the Council has not yet established a Road Fund.

### **REPORT OF CITY OFFICIALS**

#### **MAYOR:**

Motion to approve a request asking that the City of Blue Island partner with the Friends of the Chicago River to hold their annual river cleanup on Saturday, May 8, 2021. (Chicago River Day)

**Motion by Ald. Fahrenwald, second by Ald. Stevo to approve the request.**

Ayes: 10 Alexander, Rita, Hawley, Fahrenwald, Hill, Mech, Carr, Klinker, Stevo, Johnson

Nays: 0

Absent: 4 Bilotto, Cazares, Donahue, Zylman

Abstention: 0

There being Ten (10) Affirmative Votes, the Mayor declared the motion carried.

Motion to Approve the Library using the city parking lot on York Street directly north of the Library for small community events beginning March 20, 2021.

**Motion by Ald. Carr, second by Ald. Hawley to approve the request.**

Ayes: 10 Alexander, Rita, Hawley, Fahrenwald,  
Hill, Mech, Carr, Klinker, Stevo, Johnson

Nays: 0

Absent: 4 Bilotto, Cazares, Donahue, Zylman

Abstention: 0

There being Ten (10) Affirmative Votes, the Mayor declared the motion carried.

Mayor Vargas asked that residents help the City by cleaning the Street Drains so that the melting snow can drain. He also asked that we be diligent in keeping the fire hydrants clear from mounds of snow.

Mayor Vargas asked that we check on our neighbors during these trying times.

Mayor Vargas updated all about the status of projects going on in Blue Island. He thanked the Snow brigade for their help shoveling out local residents.

We have had an increase in graffiti, so if you see something, same something.

The auditors are finalizing the 2019 audit and will be starting the 2020 Audit.

**CITY CLERK:****CITY TREASURER:****Motion by Ald. Hawley, second by Ald. Fahrenwald to approve Inter-fund Transfers from Unrestricted and Restricted Accounts.**

Ayes: 8 Alexander, Bilotto, Cazares, Hawley,  
Fahrenwald, Hill, Mech, Carr, Zylman,  
Klinker, Vargas

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Nays: 2 Rita, Johnson, Stevo

Absent: 2 Bilotto, Cazares, Donahue, Zylman

Abstention: 0

There being Ten (10) Affirmative Votes, the Mayor declared the motion carried.

**CITY ATTORNEY:**

## **COMMITTEE REPORTS**

**COMMUNITY DEVELOPMENT** – next meeting March 10, 2021

**Resolution No. 2021-004** A Resolution of the City of Blue Island, Cook County, Illinois Supporting the Renewal of a Class 6B Real Estate Tax Assessment Classification for 2347 W. 136<sup>th</sup> Street. (Samco Building Corp.)

**Motion by Ald. Alexander, second by Ald. Carr to approve Resolution No. 2021-004.**

Ayes: 9 Alexander, Rita, Hawley, Fahrenwald, Hill, Mech, Carr, Klinker, Stevo, Johnson

Nays: 1 Stevo

Absent: 4 Bilotto, Cazares, Donahue, Zylman

Abstention: 0

There being Nine (9) Affirmative Votes, the Mayor declared the motion carried.

**FINANCE COMMITTEE** – next meeting March 8, 2021

**Motion by Ald. Alexander, second by Ald. Rita to approve Payroll for February 19, 2021 for \$364,551.53.**

Ayes: 10 Alexander, Rita, Hawley, Fahrenwald, Hill, Mech, Carr, Klinker, Stevo, Johnson

Nays: 0

Absent: 4 Bilotto, Cazares, Donahue, Zylman

Abstention: 0

There being Ten (10) Affirmative Votes, the Mayor declared the motion carried.

**Motion by Ald. Alexander, second by Ald. Fahrenwald to approve Accounts Payable for February 10, 2020 for \$244,973.89.**

Ayes: 9 Alexander, Hawley, Fahrenwald, Hill, Mech, Carr, Klinker, Stevo, Johnson

Nays: 1 Rita

Absent: 4 Bilotto, Cazares, Donahue, Zylman

Abstention: 0

There being Nine (9) Affirmative Votes, the Mayor declared the motion carried.

Auditor Stephanie Blanco from John Kasperek's firm announced that the 2019 Audit is complete and will be presented at the March 8, 2021 Finance Committee Meeting and the March 9, 2021 City Council meeting.

**Resolution No. 2021-005** A Resolution Approving the Application for the Community Development Block Grant Program Year 2021 and Authorizing the Mayor to Execute the Application and do all things necessary to complete the Application.

**Motion by Ald. Alexander, second by Ald. Carr to approve Resolution No. 2021-005.**

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Ayes: 10 Alexander, Rita, Hawley, Fahrenwald,  
Hill, Mech, Carr, Klinker, Stevo, Johnson

Nays: 0

Absent: 4 Bilotto, Cazares, Donahue, Zylman

Abstention: 0

There being Ten (10) Affirmative Votes, the Mayor declared  
the motion carried.

**PUBLIC HEALTH & SAFETY** – Next Meeting is March 16, 2021

**MUNICIPAL SERVICES** – Next Meeting March 9, 2021

**JUDICIARY COMMITTEE** – Next Meeting is March 16, 2021

**ALDERMANIC ANNOUNCEMENTS/COMMENTS**

Alderman Hill had a resident without heat in the Vincennes apartments and asked that the Building Department follow up with the landlord.

Alderman Fahrenwald stated that he has gotten many complaints about the alley's not being plowed.

Alderman Hill asked what we can do about the lack of garbage pickup during the snow storm.

Alderman Stevo asked that we have a public hearing about the hospital status.

Alderman Johnson thanked Public Works for helping a local resident get out of their street to be able to go to dialysis.

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Several Aldermen discussed the possibility of an odd/even parking plan to help with snow plowing and street cleaning. It was brought up that every ward is different and that some areas it might work but not in other areas.

Alderman Klinker stated that the Appropriations is due next month and there has been nothing presented to the Finance Department. Mayor Vargas stated that he would help move it along.

## **ADJOURNMENT**

**Motion by Ald. Alexander, second by Ald. Mech to adjourn the meeting.**

Ayes: 10 Alexander, Rita, Hawley, Fahrenwald,  
Hill, Mech, Carr, Klinker, Stevo, Vargas

Nays: 1 Johnson

Absent: 4 Bilotto, Cazares, Donahue, Zylman

Abstention: 0

There being Ten (10) Affirmative Votes, the Mayor declared the motion carried.

The meeting was adjourned at 9:12 p.m.

The next regular meeting of the City Council is scheduled for March 9, 2021 at 7:00 p.m.

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**Randy Heuser, City Clerk**

**APPROVED BY ME THIS  
9<sup>th</sup> DAY OF MARCH 2021.**

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**Domingo Vargas, Mayor**