

**JOURNAL OF THE PROCEEDINGS OF THE BLUE ISLAND CITY
SPECIAL MEETING - COMMITTEE OF THE WHOLE MEETING
FEBRUARY 9, 2022**

1) Call to Order

The Committee of the Whole Meeting of the City of Blue Island was called to order by Mayor Bilotto at 6:00 p.m. on February 9, 2022.

2) Pledge of Allegiance

3) Roll Call

Roll Call indicates the following:

Present: 6 Fahrenwald, Rita, Montoya, McGee, Carr,
Roll

Absent: 1 Johnson

Present Also: Raeann Cantelo-Zylman, City Clerk
Erin Blake, City Attorney
Tom Wogan, City Administrator
Mark Patoska, Deputy City Administrator

4) Presentation of Journal of Proceedings

Motion by Alderman Fahrenwald, second by Alderman Carr to approve the Committee of the Whole Meeting Minutes of January 11, 2022.

Ayes: 6 Fahrenwald, Rita, Montoya, McGee, Carr, Roll

Nays: 0

Absent: 1 Johnson

Abstention: 0

There being six (6) Affirmative Votes, the Mayor declared the motion carried.

5) Public Comment

No comment.

6) **New Business**

No new business.

7) **Mayor's Report**

1. **Retiree Insurance.**

The Mayor stated he consulted with other municipalities, and they do not offer anything close to what the City offers in terms of retiree health insurance. He informed Council that the City is spending \$600,000 a year for insurance coverage for approximately 70 retired employees.

City Attorney, Erin Blake stated the City would seek to enforce prior ordinances relating to retiree health insurance. Those ordinances offered retirees a basic medical insurance plan with individual coverage and standardized contributions by the retiree. Enforcement of these laws would reduce monthly expenses significantly.

2. **Project Green Environmental Solutions, Inc. Quotes**

The Mayor stated they will be redoing lighting at the fire station, city hall, old city hall, and the East Annex.

3. **Mayor's Report.**

8) **City Administrator's Report**

1. **Employee Handbook Revision.**

The City Attorney, Erin Blake stated the last time the handbook was updated was in 2014. The handbook updates certain policies based on laws that have been passed since 2014, including the Illinois Cannabis Act and Sexual Harassment updates.

2. **Golf Course Equipment.**

The City Administrator, Thomas Wogan stated there is a piece of equipment essential for the upkeep of the greens at the Golf Course. He indicated that no matter what the future of the golf course is going to be, the City will be responsible for equipment.

Alderman Fahrenwald stated that he will vote against the purchase of new equipment until the golf course is insured.

Alderman Roll stated that this is a big expense and requested the City explore other options.

3. Public Works Truck Sales Order.

The Mayor and Jim Poelsterl met with Monroe & International and signed a contract on January 24, 2022 which will hopefully allow for the delivery of two trucks by December 2022. The City plans to finance the truck purchase over five years.

4. City Administrator's Report.

Nothing to report.

9) City Clerk's Report

The City Clerk, Raeann Cantelo-Zylman invited everyone to attend the Black History Month event on Saturday, February 26th at 4 p.m.

The City Clerk, Raeann Cantelo-Zylman stated that she distributed information regarding a St. Benedict event.

The City Clerk, Raeann Cantelo-Zylman, informed the Council that the committee clean-up would like for each alderman to participate and form a group.

The City Clerk, Raeann Cantelo-Zylman stated that it is her goal to have 50 flags for the Hometown Heroes program.

10) City's Attorney's Report

- 1. Ordinance 2022-___: An Ordinance of the City of Blue Island, Cook County, Illinois, Amending Chapter 110 "General Licensing Provisions" of the Code of Blue Island.**

This ordinance provides language cleanup for businesses licensing.

- 2. Ordinance 2022-___: An Ordinance of the City of Blue Island, Cook County, Illinois, Amending Title IX, Chapter 92, "Fair Housing" of the code of Blue Island, Illinois.**

The Mayor stated this ordinance relates to intent to sell inspections and streamlining the process for the same.

Alderman McGee stated five days is not enough time for certain requirements within the ordinance; and indicated he would reach out to the City prior to the next Board meeting with his concerns.

Alderman Rita stated she did not know that each time a new tenant moves into a property that an inspection is required.

3. **Ordinance 2022-___: An Ordinance of the City of Blue Island, Cook County, Illinois, Amending Chapter 72, "Parking Regulations" of the Code of Blue Island, Illinois.**

The Mayor stated that the ordinance would only impact the vacant parking lot. It will not affect the apartments.

4. **Ordinance 2022-___: An Ordinance of the City of Blue Island, Cook County, Illinois, Requiring One-Way Vehicular Traffic Within the City and Providing Penalties for Violation of the Same (Veterans memorial Middle School).**

This ordinance would make Greenwood Street one-way for a short period of time during school days. This is a more efficient and safer for kids.

5. **Deceased Transportation Costs.**

The Mayor stated that they were looking into cost savings in relation to this topic; but once researched it is a common municipal cost.

6. **Rebel Ice Cream Proposal.**

The Mayor stated they were asking for \$40,000 from TIF. The agreement is that they will use this money for rehabilitating the actual building.

7. **Attorney's Report.**

No reports.

11) **Alderman Reports**

Alderman Fahrenwald stated there are continuing garbage problems at the Family Dollar and Thornton.

Alderman Carr thanked Jim Poelsterl since this is the first winter that she received no complaints about snow removal.

Alderman Roll stated the IDOT findings should go on the agenda for 2/22/22.

12) **Executive Session: Adjourn to Executive Session pursuant to 5 ILCS 120/2(c)(11) to discuss litigation that has been filed and is pending before a court or an administrative tribunal and actions of probable or imminent litigation.**

Motion by Alderman Roll, second by Alderman Rita to go into Executive Session.

Ayes: 6 Fahrenwald, Rita, Montoya, McGee, Carr, Roll
Nays: 0
Absent: 1 Johnson
Abstention: 0

There being six (6) Affirmative Votes, the Mayor declared the motion carried.

Motion by Alderman Roll, second by Alderman Montoya to resume regular meeting.

Ayes: 6 Fahrenwald, Rita, Montoya, McGee, Carr, Roll
Nays: 0
Absent: 1 Johnson
Abstention: 0

There being six (6) Affirmative Votes, the Mayor declared the motion carried.

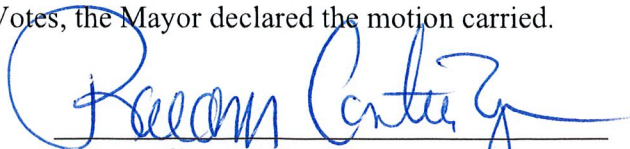
The Mayor stated that they discussed possible pending litigation but no decisions were made.

13) Motion for Adjournment

Motion by Alderman Rita, second by Alderman Fahrenwald to adjourn the regular meeting.

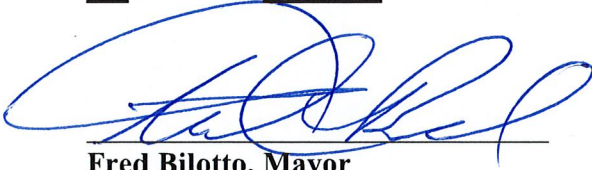
Ayes: 6 Fahrenwald, Rita, Montoya, McGee, Carr, Roll
Nays: 0
Absent: 1 Johnson
Abstention: 0

There being six (6) Affirmative Votes, the Mayor declared the motion carried.



Raeann Cantelo-Zylman, City Clerk

**APPROVED BY ME THIS
9th DAY OF MARCH 2022**

A handwritten signature in blue ink, appearing to read 'Fred Bilotto', is written over a horizontal line.

Fred Bilotto, Mayor