

**JOURNAL OF PROCEEDING OF THE REGULAR MEETING  
March 9, 2021**

**CALL TO ORDER**

The regular meeting of the City Council of the City of Blue Island Held Remotely on Tuesday, March 9, 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:	12	Bilotto, Cazares, Hawley, Fahrenwald, Hill, Mech, Carr, Zylman, Klinker, Stevo, Johnson, Alexander
Absent:	2	Rita, Donahue
Present Also:		Randy Heuser, City Clerk Cary Horvath, City Attorney

**JOURNAL OF PROCEEDINGS:**

**Motion by Ald. Carr, second by Ald. Hawley to approve the Regular City Council Minutes from February 23, 2021.**

Ayes:	12	Bilotto, Cazares, Hawley, Fahrenwald, Hill, Mech, Carr, Zylman, Klinker, Stevo, Johnson, Alexander
Nays:	0	
Absent:	2	Rita, Donahue

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Abstention:

There being Twelve (12) 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 20, 2021.

Carol Greene also asked if the \$6million savings from the 2019 audit is available for the 2021 appropriations.

Ron Bloom reminded the residents of Blue Island that it is election time and asked that the voting public investigate the candidates and ask them questions before voting.

Nancy Thompson expressed her concern that many of the candidates who are running for office in the April election had their petitions challenged, she further stated that this is a democracy and we do not support autocrats and that citizens desire to have a choice of who they vote for.

### **REPORT OF CITY OFFICIALS**

#### **MAYOR:**

Mayor Vargas honored all the women who work for the City of Blue Island during National Women's month.

Mayor Vargas announced that the Blue Island Police Department has hired three new officers; he further stated that we have seen an increase in "tagging" and asked that if you see something say something – report any suspicious activity.

He thanked "the trash brigade" for their help cleaning up the City and asked that everyone help with this effort.

Mayor Vargas gave updates on some of the projects going on in town. Some of them are as follows: Demolition at 19<sup>th</sup> & Vincennes, Western Ave Bridge reconstruction, Lopez Tire moving to Vincennes, Klines building being converted to a banquet hall Three sisters façade improvement, Renovation of the

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Lyric Theatre, Seafood restaurant going in to Imeldas, Edible Passport opening soon.

Mayor Vargas stated that there were going to be 2 CDBG projects in Blue Island this summer, the resurfacing Collins St between Vincennes and Western & 119<sup>th</sup> Place from Irving to the Metra Station

He reminded everyone that severe weather season is upon us and that notifications of coming severe weather would be sent out via Smart 911.

**CITY CLERK:**

**CITY TREASURER:**

**Motion by Ald. Bilotto, second by Ald. Cazares to approve Monthly Treasurer's Report**

Ayes: 11 Bilotto, Cazares, Hawley, Fahrenwald, Hill, Mech, Carr, Zylman, Klinker, Stevo, Alexander

Nays: 1 Johnson

Absent: 2 Rita, Donahue

Abstention:

There being Eleven (11) Affirmative Votes, the Mayor declared the motion carried.

**Motion by Ald. Bilotto, second by Ald. Carr to approve Inter-fund Transfers from Unrestricted and Restricted Accounts.**

Ayes: 10 Bilotto, Cazares, Hawley, Fahrenwald, Hill, Mech, Carr, Zylman, Klinker, Alexander

Nays: 2 Stevo, Johnson

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Absent: 2 Rita, Donahue

Abstention:

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

**CITY ATTORNEY:**

**COMMITTEE REPORTS**

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

**FINANCE COMMITTEE** – next meeting March 15, 2021

**Motion by Ald. Bilotto, second by Ald. Hawley to approve Payroll for March 5, 2021 for \$358,993.55.**

Ayes: 12 Bilotto, Cazares, Hawley, Fahrenwald, Hill, Mech, Carr, Zylman, Klinker, Stevo, Johnson, Alexander

Nays: 0

Absent: 2 Rita, Donahue

Abstention:

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

**Motion by Ald. Bilotto, second by Ald. Alexander to approve Accounts Payable for March 10, 2020 for \$478,300.02.**

Ayes: 12 Bilotto, Cazares, Hawley, Fahrenwald, Hill, Mech, Carr, Zylman, Klinker, Stevo, Johnson, Alexander

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Nays: 0

Absent: 2 Rita, Donahue

Abstention:

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

Auditor Stephanie Blanco from John Kasperek's firm presented the 2019 Audit.

**Resolution No. 2021-006** A Resolution Approving and Authorizing a Memorandum of Understanding with the Village of Thornton to Jointly Collaborate and Participate in the Illinois Statewide Auto Theft Task Force (ISATT).

**Motion by Ald. Bilotto, second by Ald. Cazares to approve Resolution No. 2021-006**

Ayes: 12 Bilotto, Cazares, Hawley, Fahrenwald, Hill, Mech, Carr, Zylman, Klinker, Stevo, Johnson, Alexander

Nays: 0

Absent: 2 Rita, Donahue

Abstention:

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

**Resolution No. 2021-007** A Resolution Authorizing Execution of an Agreement with Wermer, Rogers, Doran & Ruzon, LLC for Financial Consulting Services for the City of Blue Island.

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**Motion by Ald. Bilotto, second by Ald. Hawley to approve  
Resolution No. 2021-007**

Ayes: 12 Bilotto, Cazares, Hawley, Fahrenwald,  
Hill, Mech, Carr, Zylman, Klinker, Stevo,  
Johnson, Alexander

Nays: 0

Absent: 2 Rita, Donahue

Abstention:

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

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

**MUNICIPAL SERVICES** – Next Meeting April 13, 2021

**Ordinance No. 2021-003** An Ordinance Restricting a Portion of a Certain  
Street for Handicapped Parking Only at or near 2512 Grove Street within the  
City of Blue Island, County of Cook and State of Illinois and Providing Penalties  
for the Violation Thereof.

**Motion by Ald. Carr, second by Ald. Stevo to approve Ordinance  
No. 2021-003**

Ayes: 12 Bilotto, Cazares, Hawley, Fahrenwald,  
Hill, Mech, Carr, Zylman, Klinker, Stevo,  
Johnson, Alexander

Nays: 0

Absent: 2 Rita, Donahue

Abstention:

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

**Ordinance No. 2021-004** An Ordinance Restricting a Portion of a Certain Street for Handicapped Parking Only at or near 12221 Artesian Avenue within the City of Blue Island, County of Cook and State of Illinois and Providing Penalties for the Violation Thereof.

**Motion by Ald. Carr, second by Ald. Stevo to approve Ordinance No. 2021-004**

Ayes: 12 Bilotto, Cazares, Hawley, Fahrenwald, Hill, Mech, Carr, Zylman, Klinker, Stevo, Johnson, Alexander

Nays: 0

Absent: 2 Rita, Donahue

Abstention:

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

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

**ALDERMANIC ANNOUNCEMENTS/COMMENTS**

Alderman Hill asked about conversations with the Mayor's office

Alderman Mech stated that area residents are trying to locate places to get a COVID vaccine. He further stated that he has enjoyed being an Alderman in the City of Blue Island. Alderman Mech reiterated the concern about the amount of money spent on election challenges. He further stated that anyone doing business with the City stay neutral during the election process. Mike also thanked Gabe McGee for getting the tot lot renovation funding.

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Alderman Fahrenwald stated that the City spent approximately \$50,000 to defend petition challenges in an attempt for a group to suppress voter rights.

Alderman Hawley stated he has heard that residents looking to get a COVID vaccination have had success contacting Walgreen’s to get vaccinated.

**ADJOURNMENT**

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

Ayes: 12 Bilotto, Cazares, Hawley, Fahrenwald, Hill, Mech, Carr, Zylman, Klinker, Stevo, Johnson, Alexander

Nays: 0

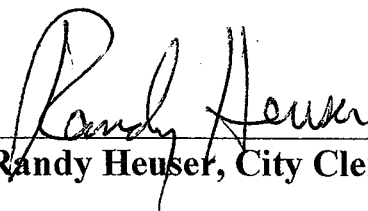
Absent: 2 Rita, Donahue

Abstention:

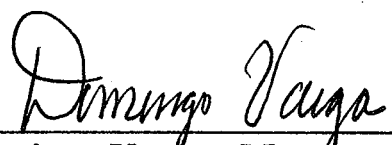
There being Twelve (12) Affirmative Votes, the Mayor declared the motion carried.

The meeting was adjourned at 8:25 p.m.

The next regular meeting of the City Council is scheduled for March 23, 2021 at 7:00 p.m.

  
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Randy Heuser, City Clerk

**APPROVED BY ME THIS  
23<sup>rd</sup> DAY OF MARCH 2021.**

  
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Domingo Vargas, Mayor