

**JOURNAL OF THE PROCEEDINGS OF THE BLUE ISLAND CITY
COMMITTEE OF THE WHOLE MEETING
APRIL 12, 2023**

1) Call to Order

The Committee of the Whole Meeting of the City of Blue Island was called to order by Mayor Bilotto at 6:04 p.m. on April 12, 2023.

2) Pledge of Allegiance

3) Roll Call

Roll Call indicates the following:

Present:	5	Rita, Montoya, McGee, Carr, Roll
Absent:	2	Johnson, Fahrenwald
Present Also:	4	Raeann Cantelo-Zylman, City Clerk Erin Blake, City Attorney Thomas Wogan, City Administrator Mark Patoska, Deputy City Administrator

4) Presentation of Journal of Proceedings

Motion by Alderman McGee, second by Alderman Roll to approve the Committee of the Whole Meeting Minutes of March 15, 2023.

Ayes:	5	Rita, Montoya, McGee, Carr, Roll
Nays:	0	
Absent:	2	Johnson, Fahrenwald
Abstention:	0	

There being five (5) Affirmative Votes, the Mayor declared the motion carried.

5) Public Comment

No comment.

6) **New Business**

a. Presentation by Alex Esparza – VISIM.

The Mayor stated that Alexis Esparza presented to City Council last year regarding his business' services. VISIM will actively promote existing unoccupied property, including commercial and industrial properties, throughout the city. Some of the addresses for available land to market are 12500 Western gas station, 12300, 12400, 13800 Western empty lots, 80 acres on 119th Vincennes, 135th and Mozart, and areas of Olde Western. VISIM will track outside firms in order to completely assist the City of Blue Island with strategic planning. VISIM will also provide available funding resources to existing businesses. The Mayor noted that VISIM is asking for a retainer fee and a six-month trial period. He noted that at the moment, the City did not have a staff member dedicated to economic development.

Alderman Rita asked if the \$3,500 retainer was a monthly charge or if there would be any additional fees. The Mayor indicated that they just receive the retainer and no further payments.

Alderman Roll requested that VISIM return to give another presentation.

7) **Mayor's Report**

a. **Street Lighting LED Conversion on State Routes – Blue Island.**

Deputy City Administrator, Mark Patoska, notified City Council that bids for LED conversion of street lighting on 127th Street, Western, Vermont, and Broadway came in under budget. Utility Dynamic Corporation's bid is \$241,830 and H&H Electric's bid is \$276,297.12. The engineers recommended awarding the bid to Utility Dynamic Corporation. With an early discount, ComEd would reimburse the City \$56,000-\$60,000 of the aforementioned cost.

Alderman Rita asked who handled the prior LED light conversion project for the City. Deputy City Administrator, Mark Patoska, stated they that the City has worked with both vendors, and Utility Dynamic performed the LED conversion in the City's parking lots and H&H Electric converted the lights in the residential neighborhoods.

b. **Resident Permit Parking Only on North and South Side of the 2900 Block of Everett.**

No comments.

c. **Ordinance 2023-___: An Ordinance of the City of Blue Island, Cook County, Illinois, Amending Title III ("Administration"), Chapter 39 ("Fee and Fine Schedule") of the Code of Blue Island.**

The City Attorney, Erin Blake, stated the fee/fine schedule was previously tabled so that additional information could be gathered and provided to the Aldermen regarding fees in comparable municipalities.

Alderman McGee's concern is the issue with the parkway/sidewalk and doubling fees for residents.

City Administrator, Thomas Wogan, stated that Michael Schroeder was the catalyst to the new fees/fines and that he reviewed fee/fine schedules in communities like Crestwood; but that he was on vacation and unable to respond to the Aldermen's specific inquiries at this time.

d. Ordinance 2023-___: An Ordinance of the City of Blue Island, Cook County, Illinois, Illinois, Regarding the Sale of Personal Surplus Property Owned by the City.

The Mayor noted that part of the surplus property includes the 1987 GMC Sierra, 1993 Kubata R 510 Loader, 1997 Ford F-150, and 1998 Ford F-150, among others.

e. Mayor's Announcements/Comments.

No comments.

8) City Clerk's Announcements/Reports/Comments

a. City Clerk's Announcements.

City Clerk, Raeann Cantelo-Zylman, informed City Council that Blue Cap is having a golden brick dedication on 5/12/23. Please contact Jill Hart for additional information.

City Clerk, Raeann Cantelo-Zylman, reminded everyone that the Community Cleanup will be on April 29, 2023. She noted that the City currently has 25 sponsors. Both the Mayor and the State Representative will be cooking for everyone after the cleanup.

City Clerk, Raeann Cantelo-Zylman, informed City Council that the City added an additional 20 banners this year to the Hometown Heroes program. She noted that the banners will be hung on Memorial Day.

City Clerk, Raeann Cantelo-Zylman, invited everyone to the Flower Sale and Chalk Walk on 5/20/23 and 6/3/23 at York and Western.

City Clerk, Raeann Cantelo-Zylman, encouraged everyone to attend TGIF/Farmer's Market and music in the park on Fridays beginning June 9th.

City Clerk, Raeann Cantelo-Zylman, advised City Council that the first citywide garage sale will be held the first weekend of August.

9) **City's Attorney's Report**

a. **Attorney Announcements.**

No comment.

10) **City Administrator's Announcements/Reports/Comments**

a. **City Administrator's Announcements/Comments**

City Administrator, Thomas Wogan, announced that the community clean-up and Rebuilding Together Metro Chicago event, would be taking place on 4/29/23. He noted that the Carpenters Union is carrying out the work for approximately 20 homes in the City, while the Building Department is ensuring that all permits are obtained.

City Administrator, Thomas Wogan, notified everyone that city stickers will go on sale on 5/1/23 and the deadline to buy city stickers is 6/30/23.

City Administrator, Thomas Wogan, noted that bulk pickup continues to be a concern for about 20 homes. He noted that there is a direct line of communication between residents and Public Works and if the Alderman have any concerns, they can contact Hortencia, Mark, or himself.

Alderman Rita asked for addresses by ward for the work being done by Rebuilding Together Metro Chicago. She also inquired about the selection process for the program. City Administrator, Tom Wogan, indicated he would give her the information as soon as it was made available to him. He added that the homes were chosen by Cook County.

The Mayor remarked that residents may be unaware that they should place their mattresses or other objects near the garbage can rather than on the parkway on garbage day.

City Administrator, Thomas Wogan, stated the city sticker notifications will be sent on 4/28/23. The system was updated with the Secretary of State, which hadn't been done since 2013.

11) **Aldermanic Announcements/Reports/Comments**

a. **Aldermanic Announcements/Reports/Comments**

No comments.

12) **Executive Session.**

- a. Executive session pursuant to 5 ILCS 120/2(c)(11) to discuss Litigation, when an action against, affecting or on behalf of the particular public body has been filed and is pending before a court or administrative tribunal, or when the public body finds that an action is probably or imminent, in which case the basis for the finding shall be recorded and entered into the minutes of the closed meeting.

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

Ayes: 5 Rita, Montoya, McGee, Carr, Roll
Nays: 0
Absent: 2 Johnson, Fahrenwald
Abstention: 0

There being five (5) Affirmative Votes, the Mayor declared the motion carried.

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

Ayes: 5 Rita, Montoya, McGee, Carr, Roll
Nays: 0
Absent: 1 Johnson, Fahrenwald
Abstention: 0

There being five (5) Affirmative Votes, the Mayor declared the motion carried.

The Mayor stated that City Council discussed possible pending litigation.

13) Motion for Adjournment

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

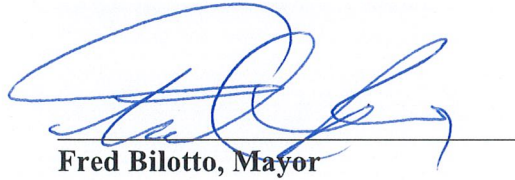
Ayes: 5 Rita, Montoya, McGee, Carr, Roll
Nays: 0
Absent: 2 Johnson, Fahrenwald
Abstention: 0

There being five (5) Affirmative Votes, the Mayor declared the motion carried.



Raeann Cantelo-Zylman, City Clerk

**APPROVED BY ME THIS
9th DAY OF AUGUST 2023**



Fred Bilotto, Mayor