

**JOURNAL OF THE PROCEEDINGS OF THE BLUE ISLAND CITY  
SPECIAL MEETING - COMMITTEE OF THE WHOLE MEETING  
JUNE 21, 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 June 21, 2022.

**2) Pledge of Allegiance**

**3) Roll Call**

Roll Call indicates the following:

Present:                   6       Johnson (7:04 pm), Fahrenwald, Rita (7:07 pm), Montoya, Carr, Roll

Absent:                    1       McGee

Present Also:               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 Roll, second by Alderman Fahrenwald to approve the Committee of the Whole Meeting Minutes of May 11, 2022.**

Ayes:                    4       Fahrenwald, Montoya, Carr, Roll

Nays:                    0

Absent:                  3       Johnson, Rita, McGee

Abstention:            0

There being four (4) Affirmative Votes, the Mayor declared the motion carried.

**5) Public Comment**

Sandy Quinn invited everyone to come celebrate the 50<sup>th</sup> anniversary of the City bicycle route on 7/23/22 at 10 am starting at Memorial Park.

Jane Healy is a bicycle safety instructor and reported certain issues with potholes that pose a dangerous condition for the bike route that will be held on 7/23/22. She also asked the Aldermen to support the event. Each Alderman offered to donate 50 water bottles.

A longtime resident stated that the homes at 2745 and 2754 Des Plaines Street are falling apart, garbage is all over the place, and there is overgrown grass on the properties.

The Mayor stated that Jim was working on the potholes but that the asphalt plants are on strike.

The Mayor asked for a moment of silence for Jim Poelsterl. He reported that Jim suddenly passed away last week. The Mayor noted that Jim had worked in Blue Island for eight years, was always on call, and never missed an event.

6) **New Business**

No new business.

7) **Mayor's Report**

**a. Discussion regarding City Garbage Contract.**

The Mayor stated the City negotiated an extension with Lakeshore for the current garbage contract which expires soon. He asked the Aldermen for input regarding the next garbage contract – specifically if the Aldermen preferred to issue an RFP or if they preferred to appoint a vendor pursuant to statute. The Aldermen requested the City administration negotiate first with Lakeshore regarding a new term, as the Aldermen reported being happy with the service.

**b. Discussion regarding Ambulance Billing Rates.**

Fire Chief, David Haywood proposed increasing ambulance rate fees that have not been increased in Blue Island for several years. His proposal includes a base fee increase and then a yearly percentage increase to get the City in line with other communities.

Alderman Rita asked if base fee increase would catch the City up with other communities. She also asked Chief Haywood why he modeled his proposal after Mokena's ambulance rates and not Calumet Park, which is closer to the City and has lower income families. Fire Chief Haywood stated Calumet Park is private entity and surrounding areas are ALS.

Alderman asked regarding the change in the base fee and yearly percentage increases. Fire Chief Haywood stated the base fee change is to catch up and 5% yearly is the industry's standard cost.

Alderman Fahrenwald stated the base rate increase was a high number and he expressed concern for constituents that maybe uninsured. He asked how uninsured residents would be impacted and Chief Haywood responded regarding the same.

**c. Discussion regarding Purchase of Ambulance.**

Fire Chief Haywood stated that one of the Fire Department's ambulances was in an accident six weeks ago (not the City's fault); and a new ambulance is needed. He explained that if the City were to order a new ambulance today, it would take two years to receive it; and so he was suggesting the purchase of a used fire ambulance.

Alderman Carr asked if the ambulance was new or used. Fire Chief Haywood stated it was a demo truck with 3,000 miles on it.

Alderman Johnson asked if the ambulance will be ALS equipped? Fire Chief Haywood stated it was ALS equipped.

Alderman Rita asked if it was already part of the appropriation ordinance and Fire Chief Haywood responded that it was.

**d. Mayor's Announcements/Comments.**

The Mayor stated that the asphalt companies are on strike.

The Mayor stated that the bucket truck and dump truck are being repaired.

**8) City Clerk's Announcements/Reports/Comments**

**a. Bid Opening for Sale of City Owned Property.**

13826 Chatham – Robbins Development \$6,500  
13826 Chatham – RNA, Corp. \$18,000  
2418 James – Robbins Development \$6,500  
3127 W. 141<sup>st</sup> Street – Robbins Development \$6,500  
13159 Artesian – Olde New Renovations Corp. \$51,000

**b. City Clerk Announcements.**

City Clerk, Raeann Cantelo-Zylman, stated that the shredding at City Hall will take place tomorrow. She thanked everyone for their hard work in putting the documents together.

City Clerk, Raeann Cantelo-Zylman, informed the Aldermen there are new block party forms at the clerk's office with the new City logo.

City Clerk, Raeann Cantelo-Zylman, informed the City Council that are currently 36 Hometown Heroes and that she extended the deadline for applying for the same for an additional two weeks.

City Clerk, Raeann Cantelo-Zylman, mentioned that TGIF is in full swing and thanked Jim Polesterl for buying her picnic tables.

City Clerk, Raeann Cantelo-Zylman, mentioned that the Farmer's Market is this Saturday starting at 8 am.

City Clerk, Raeann Cantelo-Zylman notified the City that the 7/3/22 Fireworks celebration is progressing. She stated that there will be more food and craft vendors and a touch a truck event for kids.

City Clerk, Raeann Cantelo-Zylman, reminded the Alderman to go pick up their municipal badge when they purchase their city sticker.

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

**a. Attorney's Announcements.**

No comments.

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

**a. Discussion regarding Alliant Motor Vehicle Insurance Proposal.**

City Administrator, Thomas Wogan stated he will present proposals for motor vehicle insurance at the next council meeting.

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

City Administrator, Thomas Wogan stated Public Works has big shoes to fill; however, they are doing everything to need short -term needs.

City Administrator, Thomas Wogan informed the Aldermen regarding the City newsletter.

City Administrator, Thomas Wogan stated Local 150 was on strike and all concrete and asphalt, needed by the City for street repairs, was difficult to obtain. The City administration will be monitoring this closely.

City Administrator, Thomas Wogan stated the City is in position to purchase the ambulance but will need final approval for the same on the 29<sup>th</sup> of June.

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

a. **Alderman Roll – Discussion regarding Amendment to Zoning Code, Section 166.025.**

Alderman Roll proposed changing zoning code to be in alignment with the state statute.

b. **Aldermanic Announcements/Reports/Comments**

Alderman Rita requested the City staff provide her with information relating to the revenue collected from garbage cans and impact on it would have on the city to remove the charge. She also thanks everyone for a moment of silence for Jim Polesterl and reiterated that the City will have big shoes to fill.

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 Fahrenwald, second by Alderman Rita to go into Executive Session.**

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

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

**Motion by Alderman Rita, second by Alderman Carr to resume regular meeting.**

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

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

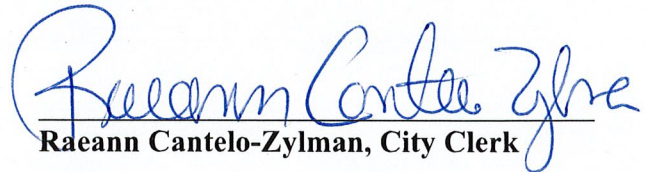
Mayor stated ongoing litigation was discussed in executive session.

13) **Motion for Adjournment**

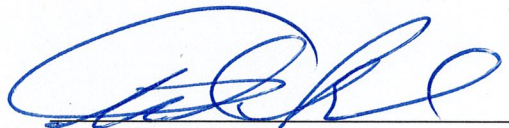
**Motion by Alderman Roll, second by Alderman Johnson to adjourn the regular meeting.**

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

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

  
Raeann Cantelo-Zylman, City Clerk

**APPROVED BY ME THIS  
21ST DAY OF JUNE 2022**

  
Fred Bilotto, Mayor