

**JOURNAL OF PROCEEDING OF THE  
COMMITTEE OF THE WHOLE MEETING  
SEPTEMBER 8, 2021**

**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 September 8, 2021.

**2) PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE**

**3) ROLL CALL**

Roll Call indicates the following:

Present: 5 Johnson, Fahrenwald, McGee, Carr, Roll

Absent: 2 Montoya, Rita

Present Also: Raeann Cantelo-Zylman, City Clerk  
Jairo Frausto, City Treasurer  
Erin Blake, City Attorney  
Tom Wogan, City Administrator  
Mark Potaska, Deputy City Administrator

**4) JOURNAL OF PROCEEDINGS:**

**Motion by Alderman McGee, second by Alderman Roll to approve the Committee of the Whole Minutes of the August 11, 2021.**

Ayes: 4 Johnson, McGee, Carr, Roll,

Nays: 0

Absent: 2 Montoya, Rita

Abstention: 0

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

**5) PUBLIC COMMENT**

1. None.

6) **PRESENTATIONS**

**1. APPROPRIATION AMENDMENT**

Both City Administrator and Alderman Roll are working closely to try and make accurate appropriations for next year with basic priorities.

**2. CITY HEARING OFFICER APPOINTMENT**

Mayor Bilotto announced his intention to appoint Shawnte Raines to City Hearing Officer. He indicated the City has seen a vast improvement in ticketing and the hearing officer will be paid approximately \$700 a month.

Alderman Fahrenwald firmly disagrees with this appointment and will vote against it.

**3. DEPUTY CLERK/COLLECTOR APPOINTMENT**

The City Clerk Raeann Cantelo-Zylman appointed Reyna Alvarado for Deputy Clerk. In addition, the Mayor indicated his intention to appoint Reyna Alvarado as the Collector.

**4. CITY LOGO – RESPONSES TO REQUEST FOR PROPOSALS**

The City Administrator selected the top three companies and narrowed it down to ALIADO, a marketing company based out of Detroit, to do the city logo. They gave a quote of \$10,000 and it is within city budget. The City sought bids publicly; but there was not a lot of interest. The Administrator also indicated that the City was not in a rush to make any decisions.

Alderman Fahrenwald said he agreed that we needed a new logo, but noted that the streets need the City's immediate attention.

**5. 127<sup>TH</sup> STREET – TRAFFIC/ACCIDENT SOLUTIONS & FLORENCE**

Officer Esparza and former alumni of Dwight D. Eisenhower High School presented different scenarios to alleviate traffic issues surrounding the high school. Some of the suggested changes were to make certain streets on way in the morning and during dismissal, designate certain streets as residential parking only, and request that IDOT give more control of traffic lights. The school went to forty-eight homes, and all agreed, except for one home, with the suggested changes.

In regard to Florence Street – the City was planning to conduct a survey for another month to see if the residents wanted to implement a restriction on left turns permanently or just during specific hours.

**6. CODIFICATION AGREEMENT WITH AMERICAN LEGAL**

The City Administrator reported that this service will charge a little over \$17,000 to codify the City's ordinances since 2014; but that moving forward, the fee would be \$500 annually.

**7. EQUIPMENT NEEDS AND QUOTES FOR ROOF REPAIRS AT GOLF COURSE**

City Administrator stated they received a quote for \$36,000 and they will try to get at least two more quotes prior to taking action.

**8. VEHICLE NEEDS – PUBLIC WORKS; AND LOADER TRUCK PURCHASE**

At the present time, whatever it is ordered now for the Public Works Department will not be received until next year. Therefore, the City wants to getting the orders for basic necessities through the state joint purchase program as soon as possible.

**REPORT OF CITY OFFICIALS**

**9. MAYOR'S REPORT**

The Mayor stated Joe's Fruit Market has received 70 citations and about \$200,000 in fines. He noted that property compliance will be a focus of the Building Department. The Mayor stated the City is speaking to the bank owner on Gregory regarding its property, as the City has been maintaining it for the last five years. A health care provider is interested in purchasing it, but nothing is for certain.

**CITY CLERK REPORT:**

- A. The Blue Island Park District will have a car show at the Falls on 9/11/2021.
- B. Blue Cap will conduct their Rose Walk on 9/12/2021.
- C. Blue Cap will have a car show on 9/18/2021.
- D. There are eleven businesses who have signed up for the Scarecrow Event at York and Western and nine participants will be putting scarecrows outside their businesses.

- E. Mr. Ray Thomas will try to fix the clock for New Years and see how much a new one is going to be.
- F. The Park District will conduct a competition for best Scarecrow in town.
- G. The Clerk indicated she wanted to start a program for cleaning up Blue Island. She indicated that Carol Green had ideas that she would review and then begin working on.

**CITY TREASURER:**

- A. No report.

**CITY ATTORNEY:**

1. **IGA WITH SCHOOL DISTRICT 218.** Attorney Blake will request payment for amount due and finalize the agreement for this Year's resource officer.
2. **MOU WITH FLOCK GROUP.** The police department explained that FLOCK Group is five-year-old company based out of Atlanta which is a system that will provide the Police Department with car, make, color, and license plate of a vehicle. This database is used nationally and some of the cities that are currently using it include Harvey, Riverdale, Oak Forest, Alsip, and Posen. Flock will install and maintain the cameras. For example, if a car is stolen the police department will get notification via text message, phone call, police vehicle and provide them with location and picture.
3. **DELIQUENT WATER BILLING.** Pre-Covid the customer would receive red tag and then their water would be shut off for delinquent payment. During Covid, the City held off on shutting off water for delinquent accounts. The administration is seeking guidance on when the City should begin enforcing water payment again.
4. **DOG REGISTRATION ENFORCEMENT.** This is a rarely enforced issue in the City that the Clerk would like to address. The plan is to start with impounded dogs and to charge \$50 to release a dog to its owner, which includes registration of a dog with the City.
5. **VEHICLE REGISTRATION CODE AMENDMENT.**

Tabled.

6. **COVID-19 RESPONSE.** The City Attorney stated the Governor is requiring EMS personnel to be vaccinated or undergo weekly testing. The City needs to determine its policy regarding vaccination and testing.
7. **BULK PICK-UP CODE AMENDMENT.** The City needs to change the verbiage in the Code to implement a 24-hour removal rule for those homes that do not have an alley. The administration is also looking into a process by which residents will be charged by cubic yard for bulk pickups. Furthermore, these are some of the things to think about when garbage contract ends July 2022.
8. **CONTRACT WITH H&H FOR COMED LED REPLACEMENT STREET LIGHT GRANT.** Contract with H&H to get 565 streetlights done by 11/19/2021. However, if they are not done due to material shortage only 70% of the cost will be covered.
9. **RECOMMENDATION OF PZBA TO APPROVE ZONING CODE AMENDMENT.** The PZBA will hold a public hearing relating to changes in the zoning code which would consolidate the planning commission and the zoning board.
10. **COMMERICAL LEASE INSPECTION FEE.** The Building Department currently doesn't charge an inspection fee for commercial structures; and so the code needs to be updated to account for the same.
11. **ENTERPRISE FLEET LEASING.** The police department is requesting to lease new vehicles.


**CITY ALDERMEN:**

**1 Reports of Aldermen**

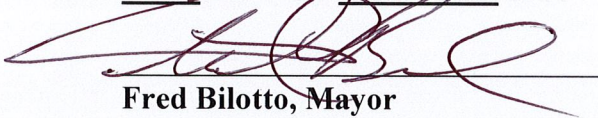
- A. Alderman Johnson is concerned for both Golf Course and Recreational Center. In his opinion, the staff at these facilities are not acting professionally. He stated staff was drinking on the job.
- 7) **Executive Session: Adjourn to Executive Session pursuant to 5 ILCS 120/2(c)(11) to discuss litigation that has been filed and is pending before a court or an administrative tribunal and actions of probable or imminent litigation.**
- A. The Mayor and Aldermen unanimously voted to adjourn the meeting.

**8) Motion for Adjournment**

A. The Mayor and Aldermen unanimously voted to adjourn the meeting.

  
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Raeann Cantelo-Zylman, City Clerk

**APPROVED BY ME THIS  
13TH DAY OF OCTOBER 2021**

  
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Fred Bilotto, Mayor