

**JOURNAL OF THE PROCEEDING OF THE  
REGULAR CITY COUNCIL MEETING  
FEBRUARY 14, 2023**

1) **Call to Order**

The Regular Meeting of the City Council of the City of Blue Island was called to order by Mayor Bilotto at 7:00 p.m. on February 14, 2023.

2) **Pledge of Allegiance**

3) **Roll Call**

Roll Call indicates the following:

Present:	5	Fahrenwald, Rita, McGee, Carr, Roll (7:07 pm)
Absent:	2	Johnson, Montoya
Present Also:		Raeann Cantelo-Zylman, City Clerk Jairo Frausto, Treasurer Erin Blake, City Attorney Thomas Wogan, City Administrator Mark Patoska, Deputy City Administrator

4) **Presentation of Journal of Proceedings**

**Motion by Alderman Carr, second by Alderman McGee to approve the City Council Minutes from the January 24, 2023 Regular Meeting of City Council.**

Ayes:	4	Fahrenwald, Rita, McGee, Carr
Nays:	0	
Absent:	3	Johnson, Montoya, Roll
Abstention:	0	

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

Alderman Rita asked that an update be made to the minutes to reflect her agreement with the suggested garbage ordinance amendment.

5) **Public Comment**

Mr. Allan Stevo, a resident of Blue Island, claimed that public feedback is ineffective. He asked when the hospital would re-open, where the money came from to resurface the streets, whether a bidding procedure was conducted for the street project, and why there hadn't been monthly statements from the city treasurer available to the public.

6) **Old Business**

No old business.

7) **New Business**

- a. Proclamation regarding former Mayor, Richard Withers.

The Mayor stated former Mayor, Richard Withers, was born in Blue Island on 6/12/1931. He served in the US Army after graduating from Eisenhower High School. From 1963 to 1965 he was an alderman for the 4th ward. He was elected mayor of Blue Island in 1965 and served in that capacity until 1977. During that time, he built Blue Cap and bought the property that would later become the John D. Rita Center.

- b. Proclamation to Declare March 15, 2023 Intellectual and Developmental Disability Awareness Day in the City of Blue Island, Illinois.

The Mayor declared 3/15/2023 as Intellectual and Developmental Disability Awareness Day and urged everyone to support the inclusion of persons with intellectual disabilities.

- c. Fire Department – Promotion of Larry Bethscheider.
- d. Fire Department – Swearing in of Eric Hacker.
- e. Police Department – Swearing in of Mitchell Soto-Rodriguez.

8) **Mayor's Report**

- a. **Motion for Approval of Payroll for February 3, 2023, for \$390,837.64 (gross).**

**Motion by Alderman Roll, second by Alderman Rita to approve Payroll for February 3, 2023, for \$390,837.64 (gross).**

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

Abstention: 0

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

**b. Motion for Approval of Accounts Payable for \$832,122.70.**

**Motion by Alderman McGee, second by Alderman Fahrenwald to approve Accounts Payable for \$832,122.70.**

Ayes: 5 Fahrenwald, Rita, McGee, Carr, Roll

Nays: 0

Absent: 2 Johnson, Montoya

Abstention: 0

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

Alderswoman Rita inquired about the payment to GEMT and the purchase of an antique vehicle.

Alderman Fahrenwald stated that he understands that rebate payments must be made to Thorntons; however, he stressed his desire for Thorntons to become better corporate citizens in terms of their garbage issue.

**c. Ordinance No. 2023-009: An Ordinance of the City of Blue Island, Cook County, Illinois Requiring Northbound Vehicular Traffic to Stop in the Alley Adjacent to 2337 Prairie Street and Providing Penalties for the Violation Thereof.**

**Motion by Alderman Roll, second by Alderman Fahrenwald for Adoption of Ordinance No. 2023-009.**

Ayes: 5 Fahrenwald, Rita, McGee, Carr, Roll

Nays: 0

Absent: 2 Johnson, Roll

Abstention: 0

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

Alderman Fahrenwald thanked Tom Wogan, Erin Blake, and Michael Schroeder from Public Works for their assistance with this stop sign.

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

The Mayor stated IDOT streets in town are out for bid for installation of LED lights.

In addition, televising of street sewers in anticipation of the 2023 Street Program would be initiated soon.

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

**a. City Clerk's Announcements**

City Clerk, Raeann Cantelo-Zylman, informed the City Council that a Black History event will be held on 2/26/23 at 3 pm at the John D. Rita Center.

City Clerk, Raeann Cantelo-Zylman, stated that Val Kehoe will be hosting Seed Saturday at the Blue Island Public Library on 3/11/23 from 2-4 pm.

City Clerk, Raeann Cantelo-Zylman, told the City Council that the Best of Blue Island Awards Dinner Banquet will be held by the Chamber of Commerce on March 18, 2023, at 6 p.m. at the Lyric Theater.

City Clerk, Raeann Cantelo-Zylman, informed the City Council that the Clerk's office is accepting applications until 4/1/23 for Hometown Heroes. The flags will be displayed from Memorial Day until Veterans Day.

City Clerk, Raeann Cantelo-Zylman, informed City Council that the Blue Island Park District will be hosting several Easter events. She urged that residents reserve their spot now before they are sold out.

City Clerk, Raeann Cantelo-Zylman, suggested that everyone mark their calendars for the Community Cleanup on April 29, 2023.

City Clerk, Raeann Cantelo-Zylman, reminded everyone there will be a river cleanup on 5/13/23.

City Clerk, Raeann Cantelo-Zylman, notified the City Council that the Blue Island American Legion Post 50 will be having their annual "Poppy Days" sale on 5/19 and 5/20.

City Clerk, Raeann Cantelo-Zylman, requested that all businesses that intend to hold an outdoor event submit a Special Events request application to the Clerk's office.

City Clerk, Raeann Cantelo-Zylman, instructed everyone hosting a block party celebration to complete a block party application and submit it to the Clerk's office.

City Clerk, Raeann Cantelo-Zylman, reminded the City Council that they have mail at the Clerk's office; and asked that they please stop by and pick it up.

**10) Treasurer's Report**

**a. Motion to Approve Treasurer's Report for January 2023.**

**Motion by Alderman Roll, second by Alderman Fahrenwald for the January 30, 2022, Treasurer's Report.**

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

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

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

No comments.

**11) City Attorney's Report**

**a. Attorney's Announcements/Comments**

No comment.

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

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

City Administrator, Thomas Wogan, stated a one-page flyer for bulk pickup was developed to raise public awareness and educate the public on incremental changes.

City Administrator, Thomas Wogan, indicated that a job posting for a code enforcement officer will be advertised soon.

**13) Aldermanic Announcements/Reports/Comments**

Alderman Rita praised the opening ceremony for the David Schultz police training facility. Additionally, she requested records of the 2022 and 2023 revenue/expense reports.

**14) Motion for Adjournment**

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

Ayes: 5 Fahrenwald, Rita, McGee, Carr, Roll

Nays: 0

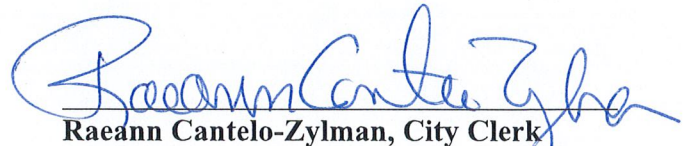
Absent: 2 Johnson, Montoya

Abstention: 0

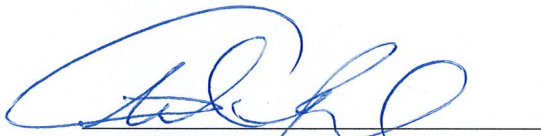
There being five (5) Affirmative Votes, the Mayor declared the motion carried.

The meeting was adjourned 7:35 p.m.

The next regular meeting of the City Council is scheduled March 14, 2023, at 7:00 p.m.

  
Raeann Cantelo-Zylman, City Clerk

**APPROVED BY ME THIS  
28<sup>TH</sup> DAY OF FEBRUARY, 2023**

  
Fred Bilotto, Mayor