

**JOURNAL OF THE PROCEEDING OF THE  
REGULAR CITY COUNCIL MEETING  
January 11, 2022**

**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 January 11, 2022.

**2) Pledge of Allegiance**

**3) Roll Call**

Roll Call indicates the following:

Present:                   6     Johnson, Fahrenwald, Montoya, McGee,  
Carr, Roll

Absent:                    1     Rita

Present Also:                Raeann Cantelo-Zylman, City Clerk  
Erin Blake, City Attorney

**4) Presentation of Journal of Proceedings**

**Motion by Alderman Carr, second by Alderman McGee to approve the minutes of the December 14, 2021, Regular Meeting of City Council.**

Ayes:                    6     Johnson, Fahrenwald, Montoya, McGee, Carr, Roll

Nays:                    0

Absent:                  1     Rita

Abstention:            0

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

**5) Public Comment**

Blue Island resident inquired the entity with jurisdiction over the property known as Metro South hospital. Resident indicated that she would like to see the hospital re-open in some capacity.

6) **Old Business**

No old business.

7) **New Business**

No new business.

8) **Report of City Officials**

Mayor:

**a. Motion for Approval of Payroll for December 24, 2021 for \$339,667.74 (gross).**

**Motion by Alderman Fahrenwald, second by Alderman Roll to approve Payroll for December 24, 2021 for \$339,667.74 (gross).**

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

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

**b. Motion for Approval of Payroll for January 7, 2022, for \$411,190.02 (gross).**

**Motion by Alderman Fahrenwald, second by Alderman Carr to approve Payroll for January 7, 2022, for \$411,190.02 (gross).**

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

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

**c. Motion for Approval of Accounts Payable for \$717,747.38.**

**Motion by Alderman Fahrenwald, second by Alderman Roll to approve Accounts Payable for \$717,747.38.**

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

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

**d. Pension Board Appointment.**

The Mayor sought approval of his appointment of Mr. David Haywood Jr. to the Pension Board.

**Motion by Alderman McGee, second by Alderman Carr to consent and approve Mr. Haywood's appointment to the Pension Board.**

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

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

Alderman Johnson inquired regarding Mr. David Haywood's general knowledge regarding pensions. Haywood indicated that he is up-to-date and knowledgeable on the subject.

**e. Library Board Appointment.**

The Mayor sought approval of his appointment of Sara Nunez to the Library Board.

**Motion by Alderman Roll, second by Alderman Fahrenwald to consent and approve Sara Nunez's Appointment to the Library Board.**

Ayes: 6 Johnson, Fahrenwald, Montoya, McGee, Carr, Roll

Nays: 0  
Absent: 1 Rita  
Abstention: 0

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

**f. Proclamation – School Choice Week.**

**Motion by Alderman Roll, second by Alderman McGee to approve School Choice Week.**

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

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

The Mayor declared January 23-29, 2022 as School Choice Week.

**g. Mayor’s Announcements.**

The Mayor stated that the City applied for a \$3 million State of Illinois grant for streetscaping set to begin in August 2022.

The Mayor informed the Aldermen that the Interim Fire Chief is applying for a federal grant to assist with the purchase of an additional fire truck. Interim Chief Haywood was able to gather letters from Congressman Rush and Durbin to support the grant application.

The Mayor informed the Aldermen that the City also applied for a grant to replace all lighting within municipal buildings that is intended to cover 80% of the upgrade cost.

The Mayor stated the Forestry Board held a meeting and reported that they have successfully received grants and have a strategy for this summer.

The Mayor informed Aldermen that the construction on Olde Western is set to begin once IDOT approves it.

The Mayor informed the Aldermen that an ice cream parlor has expressed interest in a storefront on Olde Western.

The Mayor mentioned that the Lyric Theater's construction is progressing, and they hope to be open by summer or fall 2022.

The Mayor informed Council that while the administration was reviewing records in relation to an IRMF issue, it came to his attention that in 1998 the City employed 253 people. Today, the City employees approximately 180 people. He expressed his opinion that the City is doing more work with less people, just like other municipalities.

The Mayor thanked everyone for their excellent work on handling the first snow fall. He informed the Aldermen that the City lost three trucks; but Public Works had them fixed and they are now up and running. However, the City still needs new equipment. The trucks ordered previously likely will not arrive until 2023; and so, the administration is speaking with IDOT and other agencies regarding the potential need to lease trucks in the future.

The Mayor stated the liquor license are up-to-date and during the process of license renewal, the City determined that one of the taverns has been paying sales taxes to Alsip instead of Blue island. The staff is looking into a remedy.

The Mayor stated that Burke Engineering has finished its initial draft survey of street conditions. You can find the map at the Clerk's office.

The Mayor stated that Chicago Fire will be filming the last week of the month on Western Avenue bridge. They are waiting on permission from IDOT.

The Mayor stated that the City is planning to renegotiating its lease with MWRD.

The Mayor stated he attended the police and fire union meetings and that he updated the alderman individually regarding the same.

City Clerk:

**a. City Clerk's Announcements**

City Clerk Raeann Cantelo-Zylman thanked all involved for a great job on New Year's Eve. She noted that the event was a team effort from Public Works, Police, Fire, Kim St. Ledger, Ray Thomas, and the community.

City Clerk Raeann Cantelo-Zylman stated the Clerk's office is working on a Black History Program for 2/26/22 at 4 p.m. She encouraged participation in the same.

City Clerk Raeann Cantelo-Zylman stated that the Clerk's office is also working on a community wide clean up date.

City Clerk Raeann Cantelo-Zylman informed the Alderman that she is working on bringing a Christmas Tree Farm back to Blue Island.

City Clerk Raeann Cantelo-Zylman informed the Aldermen that she is considering starting a Hometown Hero program, similar to neighboring communities, to honor the veterans and current members of the armed forces living in Blue Island.

City Clerk-Raeann Cantelo-Zylman informed us the Clerk's office will be closed in the observance of Martin Luther King holiday.

City Clerk-Raeann Cantelo-Zylman wished all Blue Island Police a happy Law Enforcement Appreciation Day.

City Treasurer:

**a. City Treasurer's Report December 2021.**

**Motion by Alderman Montoya, second by Alderman Roll for approving Treasurer's Report for December 2021.**

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

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

City Attorney:

**a. Resolution No. 2022-001: A Resolution of the City of Blue Island, Cook County, Illinois, Supporting a Class 8 Real Estate Tax Assessment Classification Application by Nick Karnavas for the Property Located at 13747 S. Western Ave.**

**Motion by Alderman Johnson, second by Alderman McGee for Adoption of Resolution No. 2021-001.**

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

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

- b. Ordinance No. 2022-001: An Ordinance of the City of Blue Island, Cook County, Illinois Amending Title XI, Chapter 115 “Food and Food Dealers” of the Code of Blue Island, Illinois.**

Ordinance No. 2022-001 – TABLED by unanimous vote of Aldermen.

- c. Resolution No. 2022-002: A Resolution of the City of Blue Island, Cook County, Illinois, Authorizing the County of Cook No Cash Bid Program Applications to Secure Tax Certificates of Purchase for Nonpayment of Real Estate Taxes on Certain Parcels of Land (PIN: 25-30-127-026-0000, 25-31-314-001-0000, 25-31-314-002-0000, 24-25-312-036-0000, 24-36-227-021-0000).**

**Motion by Alderman Roll, second by Alderman Fahrenwald for Adoption of Resolution No. 2022-002.**

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

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

Alderman Johnson inquired about the addresses for which the County would be seeking these tax certificates.

- d. Ordinance No. 2022-002: An Ordinance of the City of Blue Island, Cook County, Illinois, Amending Section 30.01, “Meetings of City Council” of Chapter 30, “City Council” of Title III, “Administration” of the Code of Blue Island, Illinois.**

**Motion by Alderman Johnson, second by Alderman Fahrenwald for Adoption of Ordinance No. 2022-002.**

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

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

- e. **Resolution No. 2022-003: A Resolution of the City of Blue Island, Cook County, Illinois, Authorizing the Execution of a License Agreement for use of City Property at 13009 Gregory.**

**Motion by Alderman Roll, second by Alderman Carr for Adoption of Resolution No. 2022-003.**

Ayes: 6 Johnson, Fahrenwald, Montoya, McGee, Carr, Roll

Nays: 0

Absent: 1 Rita

Abstention: 0

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

- f. **Resolution No. 2022-004: A Resolution of the City of Blue Island, Cook County, Illinois, with Regard to Executive Session Meeting Minutes.**

**Motion by Alderman Fahrenwald, second by Alderman Johnson for Adoption of Resolution No. 2022-004.**

Ayes: 6 Johnson, Fahrenwald, Montoya, McGee, Carr, Roll

Nays: 0

Absent: 1 Rita

Abstention: 0

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

- g. **Ordinance No. 2022-003: An Ordinance of the City of Blue Island, Cook County, Illinois, Amending Section 166.027 of Chapter 166 of the Code of Ordinances regarding Accessory Buildings, Structures, and Uses.**

**Motion by Alderman Fahrenwald, second by Alderman McGee for Adoption of Ordinance No. 2022-003.**

Ayes: 6 Johnson, Fahrenwald, Montoya, McGee, Carr, Roll

Nays: 0



Absent: 1 Rita

Abstention: 0

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

**h. Ordinance No. 2022-004: An Ordinance of the City of Blue Island, Cook County, Illinois, Approving Two Sign Variances for Blue Cap to Install a Sign with Channel Lettering and Internal Illumination at 2155 Broadway Street.**

**Motion by Alderman Johnson, second by Alderman Carr for Adoption of Ordinance No. 2022-004.**

Ayes: 6 Johnson, Fahrenwald, Montoya, McGee, Carr, Roll

Nays: 0

Absent: 1 Rita

Abstention: 0

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

**i. Ordinance No. 2022-005: An Ordinance of the City of Blue Island, Cook County, Illinois, Approving a Special Use Permit for an Automobile Repair Shop in the I-2 General Industrial District at 13844 South Harrison.**

**Motion by Alderman Johnson, second by Alderman Roll for Adoption of Ordinance No. 2022-005.**

Ayes: 6 Johnson, Fahrenwald, Montoya, McGee, Carr, Roll

Nays: 0

Absent: 1 Rita

Abstention: 0

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

**j. Attorney's Report.**

No Report.

9) **City Administrator Announcements/Reports/Comments**

City Administrator, Tom Wogan, stated that the 2020 audit has been completed.

City Administrator, Tom Wogan, explained that the Enterprise lease for a new police vehicles was no longer an option due to the City's lack of vehicle insurance. The Interim Police Chief and the administration are looking into alternative options to improve the police fleet.

City Administrator, Tom Wogan, reported that the Chicago Fire television show will be filming in the City and there will be street closures on the south bound lane of Western. He indicated that there would be online notifications to residents regarding the same.

City Administrator, Tom Wogan, informed the Aldermen that the City's auditing contract expired 12/31/2021 and that a new contract would be put out for bid.

City Administrator, Tom Wogan, thanked Mark Patoska and Reyna Alvarado for completing and improving the liquor license renewal process for the City.

10) **Aldermanic Announcements/Reports/Comments**

Alderman Johnson thanked the Reverend, the city, and the Recreational Center for a holiday event wherein 200 winter coats were collected, turkey breasts were provided to residents, and full meals were served with help from members of Reverend's church.

Alderman Fahrenwald mentioned Metro South garage lights are off at night.

11) **Motion for Adjournment**

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

Ayes: 6 Johnson, Fahrenwald, Montoya, McGee, Carr, Roll

Nays:


Absent: 1 Rita

Abstention: 0

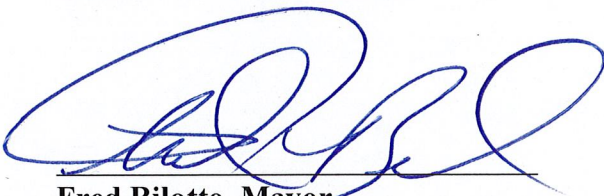
There being six (6) Affirmative Votes, the Mayor declared the motion carried.

The meeting was adjourned 7:48 p.m.

The next regular meeting of the City Council is scheduled January 25, 2022, at 7:00 p.m.

  
\_\_\_\_\_  
Racann Cantelo-Zylman, City Clerk

**APPROVED BY ME THIS  
25th DAY OF JANUARY 2022**

  
\_\_\_\_\_  
Fred Bilotto, Mayor