

**JOURNAL OF THE PROCEEDING OF THE  
REGULAR CITY COUNCIL MEETING  
December 14, 2021**

**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 December 14, 2021.

**PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE**

**ROLL CALL**

Roll Call indicates the following:

Present:	4	Johnson, Fahrenwald, Montoya, Carr
Absent:	3	Rita (arrived 7:02 p.m.), McGee (arrived 7:04 p.m.), Roll
Present Also:		Raeann Cantelo-Zylman, City Clerk Erin Blake, City Attorney

**JOURNAL OF PROCEEDINGS:**

**MEETING MINUTES**

**Motion by Alderman Fahrenwald, second by Alderman Carr to approve the minutes of the November 23, 2021, City Council meeting.**

Ayes:	5	Johnson, Fahrenwald, Rita, Montoya, Carr
Nays:	0	
Absent:	2	McGee (arrived 7:04 p.m.), Roll
Abstention:	0	

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

Alderman Fahrenwald stated he appreciated the effort made in drafting the minutes.

**PUBLIC COMMENT**

A Blue Island resident spoke regarding her experiences and concerns relating to landlord/tenant laws and enforcement of the same.

**OLD BUSINESS**

No old business.

**NEW BUSINESS**

No new business.

**REPORT OF CITY OFFICIALS**

**Mayor:**

**a. Swearing in of City of Blue Island Police Officer Jaila Cole-Clark.**

Officer Jaila Cole-Clark thanked the City and indicated that she is excited to start her journey as a police officer.

**b. Motion for Approval of Payroll for November 26, 2021, for \$332,158.73 (gross).**

**Motion by Alderman Rita, second by Alderman Fahrenwald to approve Payroll for November 26, 2021, for \$332,158.73 (gross).**

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

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

**c. Motion for Approval of Payroll for December 10, 2021, for \$372,517.25 (gross).**

**Motion by Alderman Rita, second by Alderman Fahrenwald to approve Payroll for December 10, 2021, for \$372,517.25 (gross).**

Ayes:	6	Johnson, Fahrenwald, Rita, Montoya, McGee, Carr
Nays:		

Absent: 1 Roll

Abstention: 0

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

**d. Motion for Approval of Accounts Payable for \$600,652.16.**

**Motion by Alderman Fahrenwald, second by Alderman Carr to Approve of the Accounts Payable for \$600,652.16.**

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

Nays: 0

Absent: 1 Roll

Abstention: 0

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

**e. Ordinance No. 2021-058: An Ordinance Levying Taxes in the City of Blue Island, Cook County, Illinois for the Fiscal Year beginning January 1, 2022, and ending December 31, 2022.**

**Motion by Alderman Carr, second by Alderman McGee for the Adoption of Ordinance No. 2021-058.**

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

Nays: 0

Absent: 1 Roll

Abstention: 0

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

**f. MAYOR'S ANNOUNCEMENTS**

The Mayor invited to enjoy holiday gifts he, the City Clerk, and Treasurer purchased themselves from Misericordia and Butter Upon Bacon.

The Mayor stated that he and Jim Poelsterl have had multiple meetings regarding the Western Avenue bridge; and that the City would be getting additional lighting and re-

paving on Canal Street. Also, the City would be provided with landscaping in the spring and the bridge would be painted.

The Mayor stated that Metra is remodeling the 123<sup>rd</sup> Street station in 5<sup>th</sup> Ward. Metra has requested that the City pay a portion of the cost for repaving areas surrounding the remodel. Burke Engineering is reviewing the request. The Mayor also took Burke Engineering through the City to demonstrate the poor condition of the roads and the City's need to remediate the same.

The Mayor informed the Aldermen that the Police and Fire Department roof repair was delayed due to issues with powerlines on the roof which have to be addressed by ComEd.

The Mayor stated that the City would host Rock Around the Clock on New Year's Eve. The street would be closed from 11:30 p.m. until 12:30 a.m.

The Mayor thanked the Alderman, Treasurer, City Clerk and the administration for their hard work and dedication in 2021.

City Clerk:

**a. City Clerk's Announcements**

City Clerk Raeann Cantelo-Zylman stated that there will be a coat drive and Christmas dinner at the Recreation Center Saturday at 12 p.m. Alderman Johnson stated that there would be free winter coats available for all ages.

City Clerk Raeann Cantelo-Zylman stated that City Hall will be closed Thursday 12/23/21 and Friday 12/24/21.

City Clerk Raeann Cantelo-Zylman announced Interim Chief Farr's birthday.

City Clerk Raeann Cantelo-Zylman stated that she is looking for people to join the Black History Committee.

City Treasurer:

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

**Motion by Alderman Fahrenwald, second by Alderman Rita for approving Treasurer's Report for November 2021.**

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

Nays: 1 Johnson

Absent: 1 Roll

Abstention: 0

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

**b. Treasurer's Announcements.**

No announcements.

City Attorney:

- a. Ordinance No. 2021-059: An Ordinance of the City of Blue Island, Cook County, Illinois Granting a Special Use Permitting Alisha Battle to Operate Perfect Reflection Daycare, LLC. at 12128 S. Western.**

**Motion by Alderman Fahrenwald, second by Alderman Carr for Adoption of Ordinance No. 2021-059.**

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

Nays: 0

Absent: 1 Roll

Abstention: 0

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

- b. Ordinance No. 2021-060: An Ordinance of the City of Blue Island, Cook County, Illinois Granting a Special Use Permitting Steven Barnas to Operate Chicagoland Diesel Sales at 13816 Harrison.**

**Motion by Alderman Fahrenwald, second by Alderman Johnson for Adoption of Ordinance No. 2021-060.**

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

Nays: 0

Absent: 1 Roll

Abstention: 0

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

Alderman Johnson requested that he be notified whenever there is something new going on in his ward.

- c. **Ordinance No. 2021-061: An Ordinance of the City of Blue Island, Cook County, Illinois Amending the City Zoning Map to Expand the Uptown-Transit Oriented District.**

**Motion by Alderman Rita, second by Alderman Fahrenwald for Adoption of Ordinance No. 2021-061.**

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

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

- d. **Ordinance No. 2021-062: An Ordinance of the City of Blue Island, Cook County, Illinois Amending the City Zoning Map to Add Definitions and Designations as Permitted or Special Uses in Existing Zoning Districts.**

**Motion by Alderman Rita, second by Alderman Johnson for Adoption of Ordinance No. 2021-062.**

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

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

- e. **Ordinance No. 2021-063: An Ordinance of the City of Blue Island, Cook County, Illinois, Amending Title VII the City Code by Adding Chapter 75: Overweight and Oversize Vehicles.**

**Motion by Alderman Johnson, second by Alderman Carr for Adoption of Ordinance No. 2021-063.**

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

Nays: 0  
 Absent: 1 Roll  
 Abstention: 0

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

Officer Rhodes, the City’s new truck enforcement officer, explained how this law will be implemented and fielded questions from the Aldermen regarding the same.

**f. Attorney’s Report.**

**CITY ADMINISTRATOR ANNOUNCEMENTS/REPORTS/COMMENTS**

City Administrator, Thomas Wogan, stated that City Hall will be closed 12/23/21, 12/24/21, and 12/31/21 for New Year’s Eve.

City Administrator, Thomas Wogan, reported that liquor license renewal notices have been mailed. He thanked both Mark Patoska and Reyna Alvarado for distributing the notices.

City Administrator, Thomas Wogan, discussed payment of the golf course water bill.

City Administrator, Thomas Wogan, stated that implementation of the COVID-19 policy for employees is underway.

City Administrator, Thomas Wogan, informed the Alderman that the City would be starting contract negotiations for all three collective bargaining units in the new year.

**ALDERMANIC ANNOUNCEMENTS/REPORTS/COMMENTS**

Alderman Rita thanked everyone, including the City Clerk’s office, the Police Department, Calumet Township, Eisenhower High School, and Representative Rita’s office, for collecting cereal boxes for Angel’s Touch. She wished everyone happy holidays.

Alderman Fahrenwald informed Council that the 4<sup>th</sup> ward neighborhood watch would be meeting the second Wednesday of each month, with the next meeting taking place on January 12, 2022 at the police station. He noted that the captain of the group would be Marie Mindeman.

Alderman Johnson gave his condolences to former Alderman Jackson for the passing of his wife. He also informed Council that former Public Works employee Marshall O’Brien’s brother, Russell O’Brien, also passed away. Alderman Johnson also mentioned a missing stop sign in the Deer Point area.

**ADJOURNMENT TO ENTER EXECUTIVE SESSION**

**Motion by Alderman Rita, second by Alderman Johnson to enter Executive Session.**

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

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

**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, to discuss the appointment, employment, compensation, discipline, performance, or dismissal of specific employees, and discussion of minutes of meetings lawfully closed under this Act for purposes of approval by the body of the minutes and semi-annual review of the minutes as mandated by Section 2.06.

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

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

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

The Mayor stated that they reviewed past Executive Session Minutes and a property damage claim during executive session.

**ADJOURNMENT**

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

Ayes: 6 Johnson, Fahrenwald, Rita, Montoya, Carr

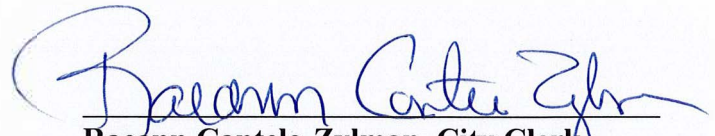


Nays: 0  
Absent: 1 Roll  
Abstention: 0

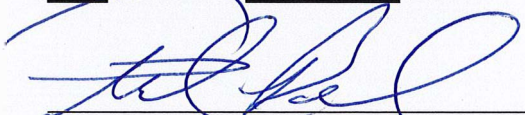
There being six (6) Affirmative Votes, the Mayor declared the motion carried.

The meeting was adjourned 8:06 p.m.

The next regular meeting of the City Council is scheduled January 11, 2022, at 7:00 p.m.

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

**APPROVED BY ME THIS  
11th DAY OF JANUARY 2022**

  
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Fred Bilotto, Mayor